



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony and Fiscal Impact Statement for:
Resolution No. 51 - 2016
Adopting the FFY2016-FFY2020 Consolidated Plan /
FFY2016 Annual Action for Community Development
Block Grant (CDBG) & HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

To: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Thomas P. Carbo *TPC*
Director
Department of Housing and Community Development

Date: April 12, 2016

Resolution No. 51-2016 approves the FFY2016-FFY2020 Consolidated Plan/FFY2016 Annual Action for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME). The FFY2016-FFY2020 Consolidated Plan is Howard County's document used for identifying housing and community development needs along with long-term strategies. The FFY2016 Annual Action Plan, contained within this document, is Howard County's application to the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for CDBG and HOME funding. The FFY2016-FFY2020 Consolidated Plan/FFY2016 Annual Action Plan is required as a precondition to receiving the County's annual entitlement of CDBG and HOME funds from HUD.

BACKGROUND

In 2011, Council Resolution 45-2011 adopted Howard County's previous Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan is a planning document that summarizes local housing and non-housing needs, housing market and inventory conditions; outlines a five-year strategy; identifies available federal, state and local resources needed and anticipated to implement the strategies; and presents specific goals and objectives for each strategy. The Annual Action Plan is the implementing document for strategies in the Consolidated Plan.

The primary objective of the CDBG and HOME Programs are to develop viable communities by providing decent affordable housing, creating suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income.

This year, in order to receive the annual entitlement grants for FFY2016, which will begin on July 1, 2016, and to continue to be eligible as an Urban County Entitlement community, Howard County must adopt another 5-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. The Action Plan outlines the proposed activities that will be undertaken for the upcoming program year. The FFY16 Action Plan is the first year under this Consolidated Plan.

Howard County Housing has developed the draft Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Action Plan in consultation with multiple county agencies, various nonprofit agencies, local advocates, the Housing and Community Development Boards and several local and regional service providers of housing and human services. The attached schedule identifies the various milestones in the planning development including funding solicitations and required public notices and needs hearings.

Three public comment/needs hearings were held February 23-25, 2016 with tremendous turn-out from both the local nonprofits and advocacy groups. Each session had in excess of 20 participants who assisted in identifying the needs in our community. Each person attending was allowed time to identify areas of concern and special populations that are at-risk in Howard County.

The draft FFY2016-FFY2020 Consolidated Plan/FFY2016 Action Plan will be available for the required 30-day public review and comment period at Howard County Housing's offices at the Gateway building and Sterrett Place locations. The comment period runs from March 31 thru April 29, 2016. The Plan is also available on the County's website on the department's webpage at www.howardcountymd.gov.

FISCAL IMPACT

The entitlement awards to Howard County will provide funding in the total amount of \$1,367,271.00 (CDBG: \$1,034,767; HOME: \$332,504). The grants cover both program and related administrative costs. The amounts have been incorporated into the County Fiscal Year 2017 budget.

The Department recommends approval of this Resolution.

Cc: Allan H. Kittleman, Howard County Executive (w/draft Con Plan/Action Plan)
B. Diane Wilson, Chief of Staff (w/draft Con Plan/Action Plan)
Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator (w/draft Con Plan/Action Plan – 8 copies)
Gary W. Kuc, County Solicitor (w/draft Con Plan/Action Plan)
Holly Sun, Budget Administrator
Ada Best, Chief Financial Officer
Elizabeth Meadows, Chief, Community Planning and Grants Management
Housing and Community Development Board

FFY16-FFY2020 Consolidated Plan Schedule

Public

December 3, 2015	Consolidated Plan Organizational Meeting
December 17, 2015	Public Notice/Notice of Public Meeting Published/Posted on Web-page
January 6, 2016	Public Meeting (Providers and General Public) / Needs Assessment
February 4, 2016	Notice of Public Hearing #1 Published
February 11, 2016	RFP Submission Deadline
February 12- 18, 2016	Grant Review Committee Convened
February 19, 2016	Grant Review Committee Discussions and Selections
February 23, 2016	Public Hearing #1 – Housing and Community Development – Gateway Building Room #303 Community Goals and Strategies Discussion
February 23 -25, 2016	Public Assessment/Public Meeting/Stakeholder Interviews/Housing Staff Interviews
February 26, 2016	Funding Recommendations to Housing Director
March 17, 2016	Conditional Selection/Rejection Letters to Applicants
March 23, 2016	Deadline Pre-file Package to Legislation Coordinator
March 28, 2016	Con Plan Draft Public Display Date
March 31, 2016	Public Notice/Notice of Public Hearing #2 and #3 Published; 30 day Public Review and Comment Period Published; 30 day Public Review and Comment Period begins
April 4, 2016	FFY16-FFY20 Consolidated Plan Legislation Introduced to Council
April 7, 2016	Public Notice Published – Action Plan Draft / Initial 30 day Public Review and Comment Period begins
April 14, 2016	Public Hearing #2 (Howard County Housing Board Meeting)
April 18, 2016	Council Hearing (Public Hearing #3)
April 29, 2016	30 day Public Review and Comment Period ends
May 2, 2016	County Council votes on resolution regarding Consolidated Plan
May 13, 2016	Final HUD Submission
July 1, 2016	Projected Con Plan Approval by HUD