



Department of Community Development
City of Jonesboro

SUBJECT: 2009 CDBG Plan Approvals

REQUESTED ACTION: Placed on City Council Agenda/Approval

Council Communication

Date Submitted:	12/9/08
Submitted By:	GAYLE VICKERS – 933-4635
To Be Presented to Finance Committee:	12/18/08
Approved By:	Citizen’s Advisory Committee, Mayor, Crego
Background:	The City has access to CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) annually and while the use of these monies are strictly mandated, it is also required that an annual action plan be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development for their approval in accordance with Title 1 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990.
Synopsis:	Request placement of CDBG Action Plan on the City Council January 6, 2009 Agenda for adoption. (Required by HUD.)
Staff Request and/or Recommendation:	Placement on City Council January 6 th Agenda. Note: The staff would like to thank you for supporting the department’s efforts to get the City’s CDBG Program in accordance with both the intention of the grant and the mandated procedures and requirements. In a meeting with HUD Director last week he again commended the improved Jonesboro program and how well it meets the intention of the grant. Jonesboro has HUD’s full support. Thank you for your part in this endeavor.
Fiscal Impact:	None
Community Impact:	\$545,251 Community Development Block Grant.
Attachments:	Legistar – City Council Communication, Resolution, Action Plan, Project/Activity Listing, and Goals & Objectives as identified in City’s CDBG 5-Year Consolidated Plan.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE, YEAR 13 2009 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE FY 2009 ACTION PLAN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the City of Jonesboro to allocate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in such a manner that the maximum feasible priority is given to activities which will benefit low to moderate income families and eliminate slum and blight.

WHEREAS, the use of these monies are strictly mandated including the mandate that an annual action plan be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development in accordance with Title 1 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, and

WHEREAS, there is a projected total of \$545,251.00 for Year 13 funds allocated to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for budgetary purposes; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS THAT:

SECTION 1: The Year Thirteen Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program totaling five hundred, forty-five thousand, two hundred and fifty one dollars (\$545,251.00) for budgeting purposes is adopted by reference to the attached project/activity budget table;

SECTION 2: The Department of Community Development Grants Coordinator is authorized to prepare, and submit the 2009 Action Plan, to carry out the activities and projects in said plan as identified in the 5 – Year Consolidated Plan to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for review and approval. Once the approval by HUD has been obtained, the Mayor is authorized to execute contractual agreements, approved by the City Attorney, with his signature being attested by the City Clerk, for the execution of the Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Community Development Block Grant Action Plan as per attached project/activity budget table to undertake said activities.

SECTION 3: All approved agencies of CDBG funds will use the city's procurement procedures for any services or contracts.

THIS RESOLUTION APPROVED THIS APPROVED:

CDBG 2009 PROJECT/ACTIVITY BUDGET

The City of Jonesboro's 2009 allocation is \$545,251.00 for the Thirteenth Year Community Development Program. The plan was developed using an all inclusive citizen participation process in compliance with the regulations set forth in 24 CFR Part 91. The City has evaluated all projects, conducted public hearings, held citizen advisory committee meetings, invited public comments and suggestions, and obtained the Mayor and City Council approval for the expenditures of the following projects:

Housing

1. Homeowner Rehabilitation	Emergency Owner Occupied Rehabilitation – maintaining current housing stock	95,000
2. Homeownership Assistance	Homeownership Assistance – assistance to low income home buyers	20,000
3. Rehabilitation Administration	Various inspection fees (i.e. termite), staff salaries	30,000

Neighborhood Revitalization

4. Demolition & Clearance	Elimination of slum and blight	73,251
5. Code Enforcement	Demolition	25,000
6. Sidewalk	Bridge Street Sidewalk Improvements	55,000
7. Sidewalk	Word Street Sidewalk Improvements	30,000

Public Services – Housing/Non Housing

8. Public Service-Youth Mentoring	Mentor/Education: Helping Enhance Learning Processes for at risk/low income youth – City Youth Ministries	15,000
9. Public Service-Youth/Elderly/Disabled Low Income Individual Education	Education/self development/outreach/ programs and classes for elderly, disabled, youth – Foundation of Arts	20,000
10. Public Service- Community Services & Outreach	Translation Services/Spanish Classes- Hispanic Community Services, Inc.	10,000
11. Public Service-Housing/Financial Education	Counseling including credit repair, foreclosure, financial training, new homeownership assistance-JURHA	20,000
12. Public Service-Homeless/Potentially Homeless	Subsistence-Emergency one time utility/rent assistance preventing homelessness - Mid South Health	5,000
13. Public Services-Employment Training	Employment Training for mentally disabled- Mid South Health	5,000

Other

14. Unprogrammed Funds	Community Development Projects	33,000
15. Administration	CDBG Program Administration & Planning	109,000
	Total	545,251

The following are the Goals and Objectives to be addressed with the 2009 Program Year funding as they are stated in the Five Year Consolidated Plan:

AFFORDABLE HOUSING & PUBLIC HOUSING

1. Goal: Improve livability and availability of affordable housing and assist in the improvement of housing opportunities.
 - 1.1 Objective 1: Improve low income homeowner housing conditions.
 - 1.1a Provide funding for emergency homeowner rehabilitation repairs. 1.2
 - Objective 2: Increase homeownership opportunities.
 - 1.2a Continue Homeownership Program.
 - 1.2b Assist in the expansion of homeownership through financial, credit repair, foreclosure education to create new homeowners and retain current homeownership.
 - 1.3 Objective 3: Assist developers in determining incentives/financial partnerships to promote more affordable housing projects.

BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

2. Goal: Address barriers to affordable and fair housing.
 - 2.1 Objective 1: Increase the number of qualified homeowners through homebuyer education.

LEAD-PAINT HAZARDS - GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STRATEGIES

3. Goal: Increase lead safe housing stock.
 - 3.1 Objective 1: Maintain standards for lead-based paint abatement in all housing rehabilitation projects.

SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT - NON HOUSING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

4. Goal: Improve Livability, create better functioning, and more attractive neighborhoods
 - 4.1 Objective 1: Improve appearance and eliminate blight in low income neighborhoods.
 - 4.1a Demolition and Clearance.
 - 4.3 Objective 3: Provide public services to address the needs of low income citizens.
 - 4.3a Fund needed services for qualified low income citizens.
 - 4.4 Objective 4: Improve low-income neighborhood livability through citizen participation in Neighborhood Revitalization.
 - 4.4a Explore the advantages of creating neighborhood revitalization strategy areas.
 - 4.4b Investigate the need and public interest in local neighborhood networks.
 - 4.5 Objective 5: Economic Development and job creation for low income area.
 - 4.5b Encourage employment programs.

SPECIAL NEEDS - HOMELESSNESS

5. Goals: Increase housing and service opportunities extended to homeless persons.
 - 5.2 Objective 2: Address homeless prevention activities.
 - 5.2a Provide technical assistance for and/or actual funding assistance to non-profits addressing homeless prevention activities.
 - 5.3 Objective 3: Collaborate with homeless providers.
 - 5.3a Provide staff assistance for homeless counts.
 - 5.3b Develop partnerships with non-profits to expand current services.
 - 5.3c Attend quarterly meetings with service providers in Jonesboro.

ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY

6. Goal: To assist in the reduction of households with incomes below the poverty line.

- 6.1 Objective 1: Support services to prevent homelessness.
 - 6.1a Support services such as emergency rental/utility assistance, financial education, foreclosure resolution programs, and other educational services.
 - 6.1b Survival services needed to enable households to survive on their limited incomes.
- 6.2 Objective 2: Assist in the provision of job training and supportive services.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS

- 7. Goal: Explore the possibility of expanding services and/or access to services for our special needs populations.
 - 7.1 Objective 1: To work with services providers to assist special needs groups access needed services.

PERSONS WITH HIV/AIDS

According to NARAN (Northeast Arkansas Regional Aids Network), there remain approximately 50 residents in Craighead County recorded with AIDS. In addition, there have been an additional 100 plus recorded cases of people with HIV in the County. The City will continue to assist NARAN and their efforts to address this need.