

ACTION PLAN

YEAR 2001

JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

**JONESBORO, ARKANSAS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
FIFTH YEAR
ACTION PLAN
STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES
AND PROJECTED USE OF FUNDS
OCTOBER 16, 2000**

The City of Jonesboro, Arkansas is beginning it's Fifth Year Community Development Block Grant Program. The City began it's first year program July 1, 1997, it's second year program July 1, 1998, it's third year program July 1, 1999 and it's fourth year program January 1, 2000. In August, 1999 we received approval from HUD to change our fiscal year to January 1 of each year. Therefore, our third year program was for six months and our fourth year program began on January 1, 2000 and ends on December 31, 2000. Our fifth year program will begin as of January 1, 2001. We have carried out a number of community improvement projects in the past four years.

The City of Jonesboro expects to provide meaningful site improvements, public improvements, and community development activities in the fifth year program, essential to achieve a wholesome level of community development programs at the neighborhood level. The needs of the City of Jonesboro continue to far exceed the financial resources available through the Community Development Block Grant Program and the Cities financial means.

The City of Jonesboro is working on the implementation of a well-rounded Community Development Program that maximizes benefits to low and moderate income persons and/or eliminates slums and blight and prevents the recurrence of blighting influences.

The present Statement has been prepared in light of the existing regulations governing the Community Development Program and the Consolidated Plan format.

1. STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

Through the implementation of the Fifth Year Program, as described below, the City of Jonesboro intends to achieve as many of the following community development objectives as possible.

1. To design and carry out a Community Development Block Grant Program annual increment with maximum feasible benefit to persons of low and moderate incomes.
2. To eliminate slums and blight and to prevent the recurrence of blighting conditions wherever they exist within the City of Jonesboro.

3. To provide parks and recreation services to the children in low income areas.
4. To minimize displacement of site occupants through the program, recognizing that should displacement occur, the City will provide technical and financial assistance to relocate the displaced person's in replacement housing.

Among the many available Community Development Objectives, these are the ones that the City of Jonesboro will strive to satisfy by carrying out under the Fifth Year Community Development Program, as described herein.

In carrying out the Fifth Year Program the City of Jonesboro will conduct its activities in a manner designed to benefit the low and moderate income persons and areas.

The City of Jonesboro proposes to begin and carry out the improvements different than in the first, second, third and fourth year programs were presented. The drainage improvements and the sewer improvements are being eliminated, but now we propose to continue with demolition and park improvements. The Committee and City feels that we need to strive to develop our park system to help the kids in our community.

II. PROJECTED USE OF FUNDS

The City of Jonesboro expects to receive \$609,000 for the Fifth Year Community Development Program.

The City of Jonesboro has evaluated all projects, held three public hearings, held citizen committee meetings, and approved said expenditures for the following projects approved by the City Council.

1. **Substandard Housing Demolition**— provide the means to tear down additional substandard housing units that are an eyesore and health and safety problems. This project will help eliminate slum and blight condition.
2. **Miles Park Improvement**— includes the renovation of the parks and the purchase of equipment to maintain this facility as a park; and for the construction of a baseball-softball field, soccer field, park pavilions, basketball courts, tennis court, shelter areas, and parking.
3. **Earl Bell Community Center Renovation**— purchase and installation of new backstops and glass backboards for basketball estimated to cost \$11,000, and purchase and installation of new gym flooring at center to cost \$15,000..
4. **Allen Park Community Center Renovation**— proposes to renovate the Allen Park Community building which will include office space, storage, restrooms, heat and air conditioning units.
5. **Administration**— provide the normal and customary administrative costs for the Fifth Year 2001 Community Development Program.

The above listed activities are the proposed and approved projects for the Fifth Year 2001 program year. The Mayor and City Council approved the action plan and projects by Resolution on October 16, 2000 and allocated the following amounts to the projects:

| | | |
|----|--|------------------|
| 1. | Demolition of Substandard Housing | \$ 40,000 |
| 2. | Miles Park Improvements | 103,000 |
| 3. | Earl Bell Center Renovation | 26,000 |
| 4. | Allen Park Community Center Renovation | 350,000 |
| 5. | Program Administration | 90,000 |
| | Total Project Expenses | <u>\$609,000</u> |

The proposed projects listed above were approved by the City and are being submitted to HUD for approval by January 1, 2001. These projects are designed with maximum feasible benefit for low and moderate income persons, and for elimination of slum and blight conditions. The demolition of sub-standard housing represents approximately 7% benefit to slum and blight conditions. Administration is \$90,000, which represents 15% of total funds. This constitutes an amount of \$479,000 or 79% of the activities benefitting low and moderate income persons. We will continue to strive in meeting the national objectives.

III. EFFECTIVENESS

The 2001 Action Plan coincides with the national objectives and the Consolidated Plan completed and approved in 1997. We are continuing to stay with the priority needs of the City. The City of Jonesboro held its first Public Hearing on May 16, 2000 to receive input on the 2001 Fifth Year Program activities and to discuss the 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000 program progress. Notices were published in the Jonesboro Sun Newspaper concerning the public hearing date and time. We developed proposed amounts of expenditures during the time from 5-16-00 to the Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting that was held on September 12, 2000. A second Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting was held on September 12, 2000 to discuss the 2001 projects. A third Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting was held on October 9, 2000 to review and select the next years' projects. The Committee proposed several projects to be presented at a Second Public Hearing on September 12, 2000. The purpose of that public hearing was to present the proposed projects to the citizens and receive input on those proposed projects and any other projects from the year's 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000. A notice of the public hearing on May 16, 2000, September 30, 1999, and for October 9, 2000 was published in the Jonesboro Sun Newspaper. Citizen's were urged to attend the Public Hearing and make the City aware of their concerns, prior to the City approving it's plan and submitting it to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for approval. The City Council approved the 2001 action plan on October 16, 2000.

Copies of the complete Statement and Action Plan are available for public review and inspection during normal business hours Monday through Friday in the offices of the Mayor of Jonesboro and the Community Development Grants Coordinator, located at City Hall, 515 West Washington, Jonesboro, Arkansas.

APPROVED YEAR 2001 PROJECTS

CDBG PROGRAM,

JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

| | | |
|----|---|------------------|
| 1. | Allen Community Center & Park Improvements on Race St. | \$ 350,000 |
| 2. | Earl Bell Center : | |
| | Purchase and installation of new backstops and glass backboards | \$ 11,000 |
| | Purchase and installation of new gym flooring | \$ 15,000 |
| 3. | Demolition of Substandard Housing | \$ 40,000 |
| 4. | Miles Park improvements | \$ 103,000 |
| 5. | Administration | <u>\$ 90,000</u> |
| | Total | \$ 609,000 |

**2001 Community Development Administrative Budget
Jonesboro, Arkansas**

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 201 | Salaries | |
| | CD Grants Coordinator | \$52,662.00 |
| 202 | Holiday Pay | 811.00 |
| 203 | Group Insurance | 3,556.00 |
| 204 | Pension Contributions - City | 2,204.00 |
| 206 | Payroll Taxes | 4,121.33 |
| 209 | Expenses - Travel | 3,681.81 |
| 210 | Part Time/ Grants Assistant | 13,000.00 |
| 279 | Unemployment / Workman's Comp | - 0- |
| 284 | Medicare Contributions | <u>963.86</u> |

Total Personnel Expense **\$81,000.00**

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------|
| 213 | Telephone | \$ 1,200.00 |
| 215 | Insurance | 1,100.00 |
| 217 | Professional | 2,000.00 |
| 218 | Office Expense / Postage | 500.00 |
| 219 | Printing | 100.00 |
| 220 | Advertising | 900.00 |
| 223 | Repair Parts / Auto | 400.00 |
| 224 | Supplies | 400.00 |
| 225 | Fuel | 600.00 |
| 226 | Oil & Grease | 60.00 |
| 227 | Tires | -0- |
| 228 | Dues & Subscriptions | 950.00 |
| 231 | Miscellaneous | 790.00 |
| 232 | Fixed Assets | <u>-0-</u> |

Total Operations **\$ 9,000.00**

Total Administration **\$90,000.00**