

Good morning. I am Pete Munroe, the CDBG and HOME Program Manager. We are here this morning to take public comments on the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan and 2015 Action Plan, which describes the use of funds for Clark County Community Development Block Grant Program and Clark County HOME Program.

The 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan and 2015 Action Plan were advertised in the Columbian on April 11, 2014 sent to area libraries, and posted on the county web site. Comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM May 11. The groups that were consulted are listed under section PR-10 of the plan. Comments can be directed to pete.munroe@clark.wa.gov

The Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan identified three broad goals.

A. COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD SUSTAINABILITY

- 1. Public Facilities.** Acquisition and/or improvements to facilities that provide services to people who are low-income, elderly, or have special needs.
- 2. Community Infrastructure.** Infrastructure improvements (streets, sidewalks, storm drainage, water, and sewer) needed in eligible low income neighborhoods and communities. Acquisition and/or improvements to parks and recreation facilities to improve the livability of low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. Facilities should meet sustainability standards and all improvements should be consistent with neighborhood and/or community plans.
- 3. Economic Vitality.** Encourage community economic vitality through activities that build a diverse economic base, enhancing the opportunity for low-income persons to become financially independent.

B. AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVATION

- 1. Increase Housing Supply.** Increase the supply of housing in urban growth areas that is affordable to renter households earning 60 percent or less of Area Median Family Income (AMFI). Projects should serve households with a range of incomes, provide a variety of unit sizes, incorporate universal design, and meet recognized sustainability standards.
- 2. Preserve Housing.** Preserve existing affordable housing threatened with loss due to condition, location, expiring federal contracts, redevelopment efforts, lead-based paint, or other situations, through acquisition and/or rehabilitation.
- 3. Promote Homeownership.** Promote homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income households, including persons with disabilities and first-time homebuyers.

C. ALLEVIATION OF HOMELESSNESS

- 1. Maintaining and Improving the Response to Homelessness.** Including: A) Homelessness Prevention, B) Outreach, C) Emergency Shelter, D) Rapid Re-Housing, E) Transitional Housing, F) Permanent Supportive Housing, and G) System Coordination.
- 2. Homelessness among Families with Children.** Alleviating homelessness for this population by: A) Growing and aligning resources to best meet the needs of families with children who are

homeless; and B) Strengthening rental assistance programs that are targeted to families with children to ensure that once a family is helped it does not fall back into homelessness.

3. **Chronic Homelessness.** Efforts in this element fall into three categories: A) Improving access to housing first programs; B) Increasing the amount of housing first capacity; and C) Providing ongoing training to housing first providers.
4. **Unaccompanied Youth who are Homeless.** Efforts will include: A) Improving access to services; and B) Creating programs that serve the unique needs of this population to move them out of homelessness for good.

The CDBG program expects to allocate approximately \$1,834,342 for the 2015 program year. This sum consists of \$1,427,501 from the HUD, \$359,699 from reprogrammed funds, and anticipated program income of \$47,143.

Funds for the Clark County HOME Program are made available through Title II (Home Investment Partnerships Act) of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. The sum of \$556,596 will be available for the program year. This consists of \$399,417 from HUD, \$40,000 in anticipated program income and \$117,179 in reprogrammed funds.

Goal A: Community and Neighborhood Sustainability

1. **City of Battle Ground SE 1st Street Sidewalk Improvements.** This project places curb, gutter, and sidewalk on the north side of NE 1st Street from N Parkway Avenue to NE 3rd Avenue. CDBG Budget: \$229,200 from 2015 entitlement.
2. **City of Camas Franklin Neighborhood Improvements.** Improvements on NE Franklin Street from NE 15th to NE 19th Avenues. Improvements include upgrading water and sewer systems, replacement of two sub-standard fire hydrants, and reconstruction of sidewalks and asphalt roadway. The affected section is about 750 feet in length. CDBG Budget: \$225,000 from 2015 entitlement.
3. **Bridgeview Resource and Education Center.** Construction of a Resource and Education Center at 500 Omaha Way, Vancouver, WA 98661. Vancouver Housing Authority's case-managed programs and resident services will begin to be delivered by Bridgeview in 2015. CDBG budget: \$93,601 from 2015 entitlement and \$6,399 from reprogrammed funds.
4. **Columbia River Mental Health Clinic Rehabilitation.** CRMHS Main Clinic is located at 6926 NE Fourth Plain Boulevard. Rehabilitation will include: HVAC control system upgrade, ADA improvements, new Child & Family-Friendly intake and reception area and begin to reconfigure CRMHS facility to accommodate expected growth. CDBG Budget: \$110,000 from 2015 entitlement and \$15,000 from program income.
5. **City of Ridgefield N. 4th Place Improvements.** Construction of street and storm drainage improvements on N. 4th Place between Division and Mill Streets. The project will re-open

the alley to through traffic, improving access for emergency vehicles and residents. CDBG Budget: \$178,600 from reprogrammed funds.

6. **Town of Yacolt Recreation Park Improvements.** Yacolt Recreation Park is located east of Spruce Ave at the east end of Hoag Street. The project will complete 1,900 feet of asphalt surfacing of the remaining path. CDBG Budget: \$25,000 from reprogrammed funds.
7. **City of Washougal Community Center Kitchen.** Remodel of the kitchen at the Washougal Community Center located at 1701 C Street. The kitchen is used for Meals on Wheels and will be renovated to Clark County Health Code Standards and City of Washougal Building Code standards. CDBG Budget: \$149,700 from reprogrammed funds.

Goal B: Affordable Housing Development and Preservation

Clark County - Housing Rehabilitation Program

Low-interest deferred loans provided to homeowners throughout the county, except within the city limits of Vancouver, to rehabilitate their homes. Program is for small emergency repairs, accessibility improvements, major rehabilitation, and mobile homes. Twenty-two households are projected to be served. CDBG budget: \$250,000 from 2014 entitlement.

Affordable Housing Solutions Freedom's Path at Vancouver. Freedom's Path will consist of a four-story building of approximately 49,260 square feet. The building includes 14 efficiency and 36 one-bedroom units, each with a private bath. Twenty units will be affordable to households earning less than 30% AMFI, 15 units will be affordable to those earning between 31-40% AMFI and 15 units will be available for households earning 41-60% AMFI. Located on the Veterans Administration campus at 1601 E. 4th Plain Blvd Vancouver, WA 98661. HOME Budget: \$121,742 from 2015 entitlement.

Goal C: Alleviation of Homelessness

Projects funded to support this goal:

1. **Share ASPIRE Tenant-Based Rental Assistance.** Funds will provide tenant-based rental assistance for approximately 32 households who are at or below 50% of AMFI. Tenants can receive assistance and case management for up to 24 months. HOME Budget: \$167,821 from 2015 entitlement, \$40,000 from program income and \$42,179 from reprogrammed funds.
2. **Janus Youth The Nest Tenant-Based Rental Assistance.** Funds will provide tenant-based rental assistance for approximately 15 households who are at or below 30% of AMFI. Tenants can receive assistance and case management for up to 24 months. HOME Budget: \$75,000 from reprogrammed funds.

3. **Share ASPIRE Transitional Housing Case Management.** Staffing of a tenant-based housing counselor and case manager for Share's ASPIRE program. The goal of the program is to transition families from shelters into permanent housing through the use of rental subsidies and on-going case management. CDBG Budget: \$50,000 from 2015 entitlement.
4. **Janus Youth The Nest Housing Case Management.** Staffing of a tenant-based housing counselor and case manager for Janus Youth's The Nest Housing Program. The goal of the program is to transition youth from shelters into permanent housing through the use of rental subsidies and on-going case management. CDBG Budget: \$30,000 from 2015 entitlement.

Many other projects to Alleviate Homeless are funded with Community Funds, the Consolidated Homeless Grant, Community Services Block Grant and Emergency Solutions Grant.

Administration

1. **Clark County CDBG General Program Administration.** Funds for the overall management and coordination of the CDBG program by Clark County. Total CDBG Budget \$285,500.
2. **Clark County CDBG Direct Project Management \$50,000.**
3. **Clark County HOME Program General Program Administration.** Funds for the overall management and coordination of the HOME program by Clark County. Total HOME budget: \$39,941.
4. **Clark County HOME Direct Project Management \$10,000.**

The Consolidated Plan will be before the Board of Councilors on May 12 as a staff report and given the board approval submitted to the Seattle HUD office May 15 along with any comments received.