



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Housing & Community  
Development  
Department No.: 055  
For Agenda Of: 5/11/2010  
Placement: Departmental  
Estimated Time: 30 minutes  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department David Matson, 568-2068  
Director(s) Housing and Community Development Director  
Contact Info: Carlos Jimenez, 568-3523  
HCD Grants Administration Division Chief

**SUBJECT:** Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium and CDBG Urban County Partnership  
Draft 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan

---

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a.) Receive and file a staff report and update regarding the development and submittal of the Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium and Urban County Partnership draft 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan (Attachment A), a United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)-required five-year strategic planning document describing the priorities, goals and objectives for allocation and expenditure of federal community development entitlement funding over the next five years.
- b.) Direct staff to return to the Board on May 25, 2010 for final consideration of the Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium and Urban County Partnership 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan and related documentation.

**Summary**

The 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan is a mandated five-year strategic planning document, in the form of a federal grant application to HUD, that describes the goals, priorities and objectives of the Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium and CDBG Urban County Partnership for three federal entitlement grant programs provided to the County through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG),

- HOME Investment Partnerships Act (HOME), and the
- Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG).

The submittal of the Consolidated Plan is a federal requirement enabling the region to maintain eligibility for approximately \$19 million in funding, which supports over 40 organizations that provide a variety of community development and public services to Santa Barbara County (County) residents. As the lead agency under both the Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium and CDBG Urban County Partnership, the County is responsible for the development and submittal of the Consolidated Plan application on behalf of its six partner cities, which include Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Lompoc, Santa Maria, and Solvang.

### **Background:**

The County of Santa Barbara serves as the lead administrative agency for two federal funding partnerships:

- The *CDBG Santa Barbara Urban County Partnership* (Urban County), the members of which include the cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Lompoc, Solvang, along with the County; and,
- The *Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium* (HOME Consortium), which includes the five members of the Urban County as well as the cities of Goleta and Santa Maria.

To facilitate these two partnerships, the County assumes responsibility for funding management, administration, and regulatory compliance associated with three HUD programs: CDBG, HOME, and the ESG program. It is important to note that the region qualifies to receive this entitlement funding as a result of the two partnerships; therefore, the non-participation of any one of the partner cities or the County has the potential to disqualify the region from continuing to receive HUD program funding.

The development, approval and implementation of the Consolidated Plan and the correlated Annual Action Plans are mandated elements of the community development entitlement funding programs summarized above. The Consolidated Plan, as a long-form federal grant application, provides narrative responses to a series of questions presented by HUD, as well as the funding anticipated to be received under the 2010-2015 period. The Annual Action Plan is a component of the Consolidated Plan that details the partnership's annual allocations and the proposed local uses of funds to expand the availability of affordable housing and community development projects and programs, consistent with federal goals and objectives.

### **Community Development Programs:**

As noted, the County administers three programs under HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development that are included in the Consolidated Plan (CDBG, HOME and ESG). These programs are summarized below.

***Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)*** – The CDBG program provides funding to benefit primarily low- and moderate-income residents. CDBG can fund a variety of activities to benefit low-income people and neighborhoods such as community services, infrastructure, housing rehabilitation, economic development, and business assistance. The implementing goals of the local program are consistent with the congressionally approved community development goals to provide

decent housing, suitable living environments and expanded economic opportunity. To qualify for funding local projects and programs must meet at least one of three federal objectives:

- Benefit low- and moderate-income persons
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight
- Meet other community development urgent needs (resulting from a local emergency or disaster)

Currently, the Urban County Partnership receives approximately \$2 million annually, which is distributed by formula among the members of the partnership.

***HOME Investment Partnerships Act (HOME)*** – The purpose of the HOME program is to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households. Eligible uses of funds include housing construction, housing rehabilitation, first-time homebuyer assistance, and rental assistance. The HOME Consortium receives approximately \$1.8 million annually, which is distributed by formula among the members of the Consortium.

***Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)*** – The ESG program provides funding for basic shelter and essential supportive services for homeless persons. Funds may be used for operations and maintenance of homeless shelters, essential supportive services, and homelessness prevention. The County receives approximately \$90,000 in ESG funding annually.

#### **Consolidated Plan:**

Every five years, participating jurisdictions under the three federal community development entitlement programs discussed above must prepare and submit a Consolidated Plan to HUD. The Consolidated Plan serves as a guiding document for allocation and expenditure of program funds to accomplish the performance goals and objectives established by the HOME Consortium and Urban County. HCD anticipates administering approximately \$19 million in federal community development grant funding from HUD over the five-year period of this Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan must detail how local objectives will be achieved in accordance with three specific federal goals:

- Goal I: Decent, affordable housing – Provide decent, affordable housing for the community's lowest income households.
- Goal II: Suitable living environment – Improve the living environment/quality of life in low-income neighborhoods.
- Goal III: Expanded economic opportunity – Create economic opportunities for residents and businesses in low-income areas of the community.

Accordingly, local jurisdictions develop funding priorities and objectives based on local needs that will facilitate meeting the federal goals identified above.

#### **Annual Action Plan:**

In addition to the Consolidated Plan, staff prepared the 2010 Annual Action Plan (Action Plan), which is the implementing document for actions undertaken during the first year of the 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan. The Action Plan is a required component of the Consolidated Plan. It is brought to the Board and submitted to HUD annually, by the County, on behalf of the HOME Consortium and Urban County as

an annual grant application to HUD for CDBG, HOME and ESG funding. The draft Action Plan includes funding recommendations made by various review committees and staff for allocation of 2010 funding to further federal goals and inter-related local priorities identified in the Consolidated Plan. The member cities have autonomy over award of their allocations to projects and programs, and the Action Plan includes the 2010 funding awards that have been approved by the respective city councils. The draft 2010 Action Plan, while associated with the 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan, is being considered as a separate item on the Board's agenda.

**Public Process:**

To determine how best to match federal goals with local priorities staff worked with community stakeholders from over 50 public, private and non-profit agencies and service providers, including experts from homeless shelters, supportive housing organizations, members of the public, and other local governments. A total of nine community forums and meetings were conducted during the development of the Consolidated Plan. Five workshops were held by the County. In addition, the cities of Lompoc and Santa Maria conducted a total of four community forums as a part of their respective funding processes. The meetings were held in locations throughout the County, and provided an open forum for stakeholder input. A needs assessment survey was also developed by HCD staff, provided in both English and Spanish, and distributed to over 200 parties. The survey was also made available on HCD's Internet site and at each of the five public forums conducted. Details of the consultations and public outreach conducted during the development of the plan are provided in Chapter II of the draft Consolidated Plan.

The needs identified by stakeholders during public outreach were discussed collectively with the HOME Consortium and Urban County membership. The funding priorities that are reflected in the draft 2010 Annual Action Plan (pages I-7 and I-8) represent the combined results of expert input from across the community as well as professional recommendations of Urban County and HOME Consortium staff from each of the participating jurisdictions.

**Conclusion:**

The Consolidated Plan is submitted by HCD to HUD on behalf of the HOME Consortium and Urban County every five years in order to maintain eligibility to receive funding under the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. The Action Plan is submitted every year in May, and serves as the HOME Consortium and Urban County's annual update to the five-year Consolidated Plan, as well as the formal annual grant application for community development entitlement funding provided by HUD. The draft Consolidated Plan and Action Plan will be finalized and brought back to the Board for final approval on May 25.

**Performance Measure:**

Safe and Healthy Families: Housing for all Segments of the Population; Maintain and Enhance the Quality of Life for all Residents; and Strengthen the Safety and Well-Being of Children and Their Families to Ensure a Strong Future for our Community.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized</u> <u>On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time</u> <u>Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Funds are “pass-through” to organizations providing affordable housing and housing-related activities (HOME), community development projects and programs (CDBG), and homeless services and shelters (ESG). The County retains 10% of HOME funds for grant administration and an additional 5% for program/project implementation expenses, 20% of CDBG funds for administration and 2.5 % of ESG funds for administration. Adoption of this document is required for the county to maintain eligibility for \$19 million in funding across the region.

**Attachments:**

A. 2010-2015 Draft Consolidated Plan

**Authored by:** Brooke Welch, Senior Housing Program Specialist

