

ATTACHMENT D

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2008, 2010 and 2011 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AMENDMENTS
Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium & CDBG Urban County Partnership

Introduction

The County of Santa Barbara is the lead agency of the Urban County Partnership, which also includes the cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Lompoc and Solvang, and is also the lead agency of the HOME Consortium, which includes the members of the Urban County as well as the cities of Goleta and Santa Maria. To receive a final reservation of funds, all projects must undergo an application process, staff review, evaluations by review committees, and approval by City Councils and the County Board of Supervisors. The 2008, 2010 and 2011 Action Plan Amendments, including the reprogramming of prior year reservations, are subject to approval by the County Board of Supervisors.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awards federal grant funding annually to the Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium and Urban County Partnership through three programs administered by HUD. The HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program provides limited subsidies designed to leverage public and private funds necessary to enable the financial feasibility of affordable housing projects. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides funding to develop viable communities and assist low and moderate income persons. The Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) program provides homeless persons with basic shelter, homeless prevention and rapid re-housing and essential services.

County of Santa Barbara HOME Consortium & CDBG Urban County 2008, 2010 and 2011 Action Plan Substantial Amendment Recommendations for Unspent Funds:

The purpose of the 2008, 2010 and 2011 amendments is to update the funding allocations proposed in the Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium and CDBG Urban County Partnership's 2008, 2010 and 2011 Annual Action Plans, and to reprogram unspent funds that were reserved for projects that did not move forward due to unforeseen circumstances. The 2011 Action Plan is also being amended to incorporate an ESG Substantial Amendment required by HUD for a second allocation of ESG funding for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing activities.

HUD imposes strict expenditure requirements under its HOME and CDBG Program regulations. The ability to acquire sufficient funding necessary for development, and the identification of ready projects are necessary to avoid deobligation under HOME and CDBG Program expenditure requirements. Therefore, the County may occasionally be required to shift funding commitments from one year to another and/or from one project to another to ensure timely expenditure of funds.

2008, 2010 and 2011 Action Plan Amendments:

The Board of Supervisors considered proposed Amendments to the 2008, 2010 and 2011 Annual Action Plans during the May 1, 2012 and May 8, 2012 Board hearings. Per the County's Citizen Participation Plan, Substantial Amendments require a 30 day public comment period which is scheduled from April 4, 2012 to May 4, 2012. HUD defines a substantial amendment to an action plan to include the addition of a new project not described in an action plan; the deletion of a project described in an action plan; a change in the funding amount of a project by 50% or more; a change in the purpose or scope that it would be considered a new project; a change in the location of a project; or a change of 50% or more of beneficiaries.

Specifically, the County proposes amendments to the following Annual Action Plans to re-allocate unspent funds on other eligible projects and/or activities that meet the County's 2010 – 2015 Consolidated Plan and one or more of HUD's National Objectives. This will assist in meeting timely expenditures of CDBG funds as required by HUD and ensure that any unspent CDBG funds are used to meet County's goals and objectives.

a. 2008 Action Plan Amendment

On August 9, 2011, the Board approved an amendment to the 2008 Annual Action Plan. Specifically, the Board approved reprogramming \$50,000 from the North County Rape Crisis Center since a property acquisition was not moving forward. Of the \$50,000, \$15,845 was reprogrammed into the 2011 Action Plan for capital projects. However, the remaining \$34,155 was not reprogrammed for a specific purpose. The Board may reprogram the funds to 2012 capital projects for eligible activities that meet HUD National Objectives. On May 1, 2012, the County Board of Supervisors approved the reprogramming of \$34,155 to the Casas de las Flores project in Carpinteria.

b. 2010 Action Plan Amendments

The City of Solvang received \$90,000 for three Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvement projects totaling \$90,000 in the 2010 Action Plan. Per the request of the City of Solvang, it is recommended that the funding for the Solvang Veterans' Memorial Building ADA Accessibility improvements (\$54,000) be reprogrammed into the other two existing ADA projects, the Solvang Annex ADA Accessibility Improvements and the City Hall ADA Accessibility Improvements. On May 1, 2012, the County Board of Supervisors approved the reprogramming of the three projects into two.

The Casmalia Water Project was completed in program year 2010 and \$7,318.43 remains to be reprogrammed. The Board may reprogram the funds to 2012 capital projects for eligible activities that meet HUD National Objectives. On May 1, 2012, the County Board of Supervisors approved the reprogramming of \$7,318.43 to the Casas de las Flores project in Carpinteria.

The 2010 Action Plan includes funding for housing activity costs, which provides funding to support HOME Consortium affordable housing projects with services such as housing counseling, energy auditing, and loan processing. It is recommended that \$7,900 be reprogrammed to pay for costs of title reports, appraisals and inspections of the Bridgehouse Shelter. The Board may reprogram the remaining \$71,687 for 2012 capital projects for eligible activities that meet HUD National Objectives. On May 1, 2012, the County Board of Supervisors approved the reprogramming of funds to the Bridgehouse Shelter (\$7,900) and the Casas de las Flores project in Carpinteria (\$71,687).

The 2010 Action Plan allocated ESG funds to Bridgehouse and Marks House for shelter operations. The project activity, funding amount and location remain unchanged; however, the responsible agency is amended to reflect Good Samaritan Shelter.

c. 2011 Action Plan Amendments

HUD required the County to complete an ESG Substantial Amendment as part of the 2011 second allocation of ESG funding to go toward Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing activities. The draft ESG Substantial Amendment to the 2011 Action Plan is also available for public review on the CSD website, www.CountyofSB.org/housing.