

Attachment B

Summary of Proposed Revisions 2011 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Santa Barbara County Housing and Community Development

The funding process and related Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) have been revised to incorporate comments and suggestions by the community, the Board of Supervisors, and the Steering Committee which is comprised of the seven total member jurisdictions of the regional HUD-entitlement partnerships (HOME Consortium and Urban County).

1. The NOFA publication date moved up to November 15 (previously December 11), and application deadline extended to January 21 (previously January 14). This doubling of the application window provides applicants additional time to prepare applications and seek technical assistance from HCD staff.
2. The NOFA establishes and clarifies County funding eligibility requirements for projects located in partnering jurisdictions. The County may jointly fund eligible projects in member cities; however, the applicant must provide documentation demonstrating the City's support of the project, as well as the City's knowledge of the application being made to the County for additional funding. This may be in form of a letter from the City's community development or planning department. Applicants with questions regarding this requirement are asked to contact County HCD staff, who will work with city staff to review the project.
3. Information on additional notable federal requirements has been included in NOFA to provide applicants with a complete overview of federally mandated policies and regulations governing awardees.
4. Identification of the priority level of Consolidated Plan Funding Priorities established by the HOME Consortium and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County in the 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan has been highlighted:
 - HIGH Priority Need Level - activities to address needs that *will* be funded during the five-year consolidated plan period; versus
 - MEDIUM Priority Need Level - if funds are available, activities to address needs that *may* be funded during the five-year consolidated plan period.
5. Additional details have been added to strongly advise applicants to attend applicant workshops offered by County HCD, or contact HCD staff directly with questions. This will ensure applicants have a thorough understanding of program eligibility requirements and Consolidated Plan Funding Priorities. Important information on the funding process as well as federal requirements associated with HUD funding will also be provided at the workshops held during the funding process.
6. Clarification that applications which do not include a Board of Directors Affidavit, a current operating budget, complete answers to all applicable questions, and required application attachments, will be *deemed ineligible* for funding.
7. Clarification that applications may not be revised or submitted after the deadline to provide a fair and balanced opportunity for all applicants to receive due consideration by the public review committees.
8. Expanded section on the review and selection process, including information on application threshold requirements, review committees, and review and Selection criteria with definitions.