

DRAFT

**Substantial Amendments to the County of Santa Barbara's
2015-2020 Five Year Consolidated Plan and
Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 Action Plan**

A. General Information

The County of Santa Barbara (County) is proposing Substantial Amendments to its 2015-2020 Five Year Consolidated Plan (Consolidated Plan) and FY 2016-17 Action Plan as required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), outlined in 24 CFR Part 91. Per HUD regulations and the County's Citizen Participation Plan, a Substantial Amendment is required when any of the following changes are made:

- To make a change in its allocation priorities or a change in the method of distribution of funds;
- To carry out an activity, using funds from any program covered by the consolidated plan (including program income), not previously described in the action plan;
- To change the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity;
- To increase the funding level of a previously approved activity or program by 50% or more;
- To change the purpose, scope, location or beneficiaries of an activity to the extent that it would be considered a new activity, at the discretion of HCD;
- To change the types of beneficiaries proposed to be served by the activity, such as from homeless persons to elderly persons, when more than 50% of the original beneficiary types will be changed.

The proposed change will add a beneficiary preference to the Consolidated Plan and 2016-17 Action Plan. Therefore, the Substantial Amendments are required and subject to public notice and comment period, formal approval by the County Board of Supervisors (Board), and submittal to HUD.

B. Proposed Substantial Amendments to 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan and FY 2016-17 Action Plan

The County proposes to add veterans as a beneficiary preference category in the 2015-2020 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2016-17 Action Plan (Substantial Amendments). Veteran preference will be given to applicants of housing units that received federal HOME Investment and Partnerships (HOME) funds from the County, and the County's HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program.

A Veterans Preference means that a qualifying applicant who applies for a HOME housing unit, or an applicant of TBRA may move to the top of a waiting list, if applicable, or may be served ahead of other applicants. To qualify for a Veterans Preference, the Head of Household or Spouse must have served in active duty in the United States Armed Forces for a minimum of six (6) continuous months, and if separated from military service, received other than dishonorable discharge. The veteran preference will also be given to a widow of a veteran, as defined above. Verification of veteran status will be by the submittal of a copy of the veteran's DD-214.

C. Citizen Participation and Public Comment

In order to solicit and receive feedback for the proposed Substantial Amendments and to address community concerns, the County followed the public input process as detailed in its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP).

Substantial Amendments require advance notice to the public and opportunity for public comment. A

summary of the proposed Substantial Amendments was published to solicit public comments over a 30-day period before the Substantial Amendments are considered for approval by the County Board of Supervisors (Board). The publication clearly stated the start and end date for the comment period, where to access the document for review, and how to submit written comments in accordance with the procedures outlined in the CPP. Any and all comments received in writing or orally prior to and during the public hearing will be considered by the Board. A summary of any comments received, and a summary of any comments not accepted and reasons therefor, will be attached to the Substantial Amendments, which will then be submitted to the Los Angeles HUD field office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Substantial Amendments will be considered at the November 8, 2016 Board of Supervisors public hearing, and County HCD staff will be present to answer questions about the proposed Substantial Amendments. The submission of written comments is encouraged. When finalizing the Substantial Amendments, HCD will include a summary of the comments received from citizens in writing and orally prior to and during the public hearing for this item, as well as a response to any comments not accepted.

Prior to the public hearing, the draft Substantial Amendments will be available for review at the following locations:

- www.countyofsb.org/housing
- County of Santa Barbara Community Services Department, Division of Housing and Community Development, 123 E Anapamu St, 2nd Floor, Santa Barbara, CA 93101
- City of Buellton Community Development Department, 107 W Highway #246, Buellton, CA 93427
- City of Carpinteria Community Development Department, 5775 Carpinteria Ave, Carpinteria, CA 93013
- City of Goleta Community Development, 130 Cremona Dr, Suite B, Goleta, 93117
- City of Solvang Community Development Department, 411 Second St, Solvang, CA 93464
- Santa Barbara County Public Library, Main Branch, 40 E. Anapamu St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101
- Santa Barbara County Library, Goleta Valley Branch, 500 N. Fairview Ave., Goleta, CA 93117
- Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton, CA 93427
- Santa Maria Library, 420 S. Broadway, Santa Maria, CA 93454

Written public comments regarding these amendments can be provided from October 8, 2016 through 5:00 P.M. November 7, 2016, to County of Santa Barbara, Community Services Department, Housing and Community Development, Attn: Deputy Director, 123 E Anapamu St, 2nd Floor, Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

D. Summary of Public Comments

To be completed after the public hearings and public comment period.

Summary of Comments Received	Response

All comments received at the public hearings are listed below.

Citizen Comments and Response to Comments (TO BE LISTED HERE AFTER HEARINGS)