



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: May 22, 2012

Prepared By/Phone Number: Christy Moffett, LMSW 854-3460

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:

Sherri E. Fleming, County Executive of Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Consider and take appropriate action on a request to set the public comment period and public hearings to receive comment on the proposed Program Year 2012 Action Plan, the substantial amendment to the Program Year 2011-2013 Consolidated Plan, and the substantial amendments to Program Years 2006-2010 Action Plans related to the Community Development Block Grant funds available through HUD:

- A. Approve public comment period to commence on June 18, 2011 at 8:00 am and end of July 17, 2012 at 5:00 pm;
- B. The following public hearing dates for the public to provide input:
 1. Travis County Commissioners Courtroom at 9 AM on June 26, 2012;
 2. Travis County Commissioners Courtroom at 9 AM on July 10, 2012; and
- C. Approve the advertisements announcing the public comment period and hearing dates in newspapers of general circulation: The Villager, Pflugerville Pflag, Hill Country News, Lake Travis View, Oak Hill Gazette, West Lake Picayune, Austin Chronicle, Ahora Si and El Mundo.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Please see the attached memorandum for a summary of the background and attachments.

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to Cheryl Aker in the County Judge's office, Cheryl.Aker@co.travis.tx.us by Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. for the next week's meeting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff recommends approval. See memorandum for more detailed information.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Please see the attached memorandum for a summary of the issues and opportunities.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

None. Grant funds will pay for the cost of advertising.

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

None.

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**TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES
And VETERANS SERVICE**

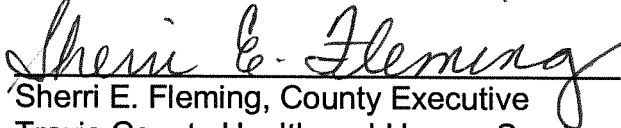
100 North I.H. 35
P. O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767

**Sherri E. Fleming
County Executive
(512) 854-4100
Fax (512) 854-4115**

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 15, 2012

To: Members of the Commissioners Court

From: 
Sherri E. Fleming, County Executive
Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service

Subject: Community Development Block Grant: Setting of 30 day comment period and public hearing dates for the PY 2012 Action Plan and Substantial Amendments and related advertising.

Proposed Motion:

Consider and take appropriate action on a request to set the public comment period and public hearings to receive comment on the proposed Program Year 2012 Action Plan, the substantial amendment to the Program Year 2011-2013 Consolidated Plan, and the substantial amendments to Program Years 2006-2010 Action Plans related to the Community Development Block Grant funds available through HUD:

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Summary and Background:

- A. Under the provisions of Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 USC 5301), the Federal government through the U.S Department of Housing sponsors a program that provides Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and by expanding economic opportunities for low and moderate income persons. Since 2006, Travis County has received CDBG funds from HUD on an annual basis. Community engagement and participation is an essential goal of this program.

Consolidated Plans are completed every 3, 5 or 6 years based on the County's interest and include data on community needs and strategic goals. The County is currently working under a three year Consolidated Plan spanning from program years 2011-2013.

Travis County anticipates receiving an estimated \$896,341 for Program Year 2012, and is required to turn in an Action Plan which details how the County intends to use the funds. Additionally, a substantial amendment to the current Consolidated Plan has been proposed to add the Village of Webberville to the CDBG service area. The Village of Webberville signed a cooperative agreement in June of last year to be a part of our Urban County Entitlement beginning October 12, 2012. Furthermore, substantial amendments to several action plans are proposed to reprogram project savings and to delete one public service project that has not been implemented since 2009. All of these actions require public input.

- B. For Travis County to be in compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) and 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 91, a 30-day public comment period must be held to allow the public to comment on the proposed uses for CDBG funds for the 2012 program year, the 2012 Action Plan and the Substantial Amendments. Staff recommends June 18, 2012 – July 17, 2012, for the comment period. During this time, residents, community organizations, agencies and any other stakeholders will have an opportunity to send CDBG staff comments in writing via postal mail, or e-mail or by attending a public hearing.
- C. For Travis County to be in compliance with its CPP and 24 CFR Part 91, two public hearings must be held during the Commissioners Court's approved 30-day comment period. Staff recommends these dates:

**Travis County Granger Building
Commissioners Courtroom**
314 W. 11th St.
Austin, TX 78701

Tuesday, July 26, 2012 @ 9:00 am

**Travis County Granger Building
Commissioners Courtroom**
314 W. 11th St.
Austin, TX 78701

Tuesday, July 10, 2012 @ 9:00 am

Those that are not able to attend the public hearings will have an opportunity to provide their input in writing by email or postal mail.

- D. The attached advertisement notifies the public of the public hearings and public comment period to provide input on the PY 2012 Action and Substantial Amendments. Notification to the public must occur 14 days prior to the public hearings in newspapers of general circulation and must target the areas the grant serves: the unincorporated areas of the county and the Village of Webberville.

To meet these criteria, the following papers will be targeted for advertising in English.

The Villager
Hill Country News
Oak Hill Gazette
West Lake Picayune

Pflugerville Pflag
Lake Travis View
Austin Chronicle

To reach the Spanish speaking population the ad will be advertised in the Spanish language newspapers *Ahora Sí* and *El Mundo*. A copy of the ad is currently being translated into Spanish.

Recommendations:

Staff recommends approval of the public comment period, hearings and related ads.

Budgetary and Fiscal Impacts:

- A. N/A
- B. N/A
- C. Costs for the public notice will be paid for with the CDBG budget resources.

Issues and Opportunities:

Moving forward with the public comment period allows the County to be in compliance with CDBG requirements and Travis County's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan.

cc: Leslie Browder, PBO
Diana Ramirez, PBO
Cyd Grimes, Purchasing Office
Jason Walker, Purchasing Office
Mary Etta Gerhardt, County Attorney's Office
Christopher Gilmore, County Attorney's Office
Susan Spataro, County Auditor's Office
DeDe Bell, County Auditor's Office
Janice Cohoon, County Auditor's Office
Christy Moffett, HHS/VS – CDBG
Steven Manilla, TNR
Lee Turner, TNR

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

INVITATION TO COMMENT ON THE PY12 ACTION PLAN, SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE PY11-13 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO PY06-PY10 ACTION PLANS

Travis County is eligible to receive an estimated \$896,341 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to benefit Travis County low- to moderate-income residents who live in the unincorporated areas of the county or the Village of Webberville. The funds are for the program year 2012 which goes from October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013. Additionally, Travis County is amending its PY11-PY13 Consolidated Plan to add the Village of Webberville. Furthermore, the County is amending its PY06-PY10 Action Plans to delete one project and to direct project savings totaling \$227,937.96.

CDBG activities are aimed at revitalizing neighborhoods, improving affordable housing options and providing improved community facilities and services. You can comment on the proposed amendments, projects and actions by attending one of two public hearings or by sending your comments in writing via postal mail or e-mail.

COMMENT PERIOD AND DRAFT DOCUMENT

Comments will be accepted for 30 days beginning June 18, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. and ending July 17, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Beginning June 18, 2012, drafts of the proposed substantial amendments and action plan and related summaries will be available for download on the Travis County CDBG page www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG or available for review at any of the seven Travis County Community Centers:

SOUTH RURAL COMMUNITY CENTER	TRAVIS COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER	WEST RURAL COMMUNITY CENTER	NORTHWEST RURAL COMMUNITY CENTER	EAST RURAL COMMUNITY CENTER	PALM SQUARE COMMUNITY CENTER	POST ROAD COMMUNITY CENTER
3518 FM 973, Del Valle	15822 Foothills Farm Loop, Bldg D, Pflugerville	8656 - A Hwy 71 W., Suite A, Oak Hill	18649 FM 1431, Jonestown	600 W. Carrie Manor, Manor	100 N. IH-35, Suite 1000, Austin	2201 Post Road, Suite 101, Austin

PUBLIC HEARINGS

You can provide your comment by attending any of two Public Hearings scheduled for Tuesday, June 26, 2012 at 9:00 AM or Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 9:00 AM at Travis County Granger Building, Commissioners Courtroom, 314 W. 11th St, Austin, TX.

MAILING YOUR COMMENTS

You can mail your comments to: CDBG Program, Travis County, HHSVS P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767 or e-mail them to: cdbg@co.travis.tx.us

Travis County is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call 854-3460 for assistance.

