PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

City of Brownsville

Notice of Proposed Substantial Amendment to the PY 2011, PY 2012, PY 2013, and PY 2014 Annual Action Plans

Comment Period: June 21, 2015 through July 21, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the City of Brownsville is considering a Substantial Amendment to the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) PY 2011 through PY 2014 Annual Action Plans.

The City of Brownsville is a Participating Jurisdiction in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's HOME Investment Partnerships Program ("HOME"). As part of the City of Brownsville Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), public notice and public hearings are required for Substantial Amendments to the City's Annual Action Plan. As per the City's CPP and 24 CFR Part 91, the City will amend its approved plan whenever it makes one of the following decisions:

1. To make a change in the goal, priority, or activity of the Consolidated Plan; or
2. To carry out an activity, using funds from any program covered by the Consolidated Plan " (including program income), not previously covered in the Action Plan; or
3. To change the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity included in the annual action plan.

Further, a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan is defined by the City as a transfer between two or more Plan activities that is greater than 50% of the ESG program funds, 30% of the HOME program funds, and 20% of the CDBG program funds.

Proposed Changes

1. **Allocation:** Approximately $50,000 will be allocated to Architecture for Charity of Texas (ACT), a community housing development organization (CHDO), for operating expenses.

2. **Allocation:** Approximately $180,000 will be allocated to Architecture for Charity of Texas (ACT), a community housing development organization (CHDO), for the acquisition of a minimum of 10 scattered lots within Brownsville City limits.

3. **Allocation:** Approximately $75,000 will be allocated to Brownsville Affordable Homeownership Corporation (BAHC), a community housing development organization (CHDO), for operating expenses.

4. **Allocation:** Approximately $1,272,468 will be allocated to the City of Brownsville's Homebuyer Assistance Program to fund down payment assistance and closing costs.

5. **Reduction:** Approximately $705,000 will be reduced from the Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program.

6. **Reallocation:** Approximately $153,028 will be reallocated from the Homebuyer Assistance Program to the Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program.

7. **Reduction:** Approximately $510,554 will be reduced for the Poinsettia Gardens Multifamily Rental Project.

8. **Reduction:** Approximately $160,000 will be reduced for the Self Help Low Income Housing Program.

9. **Reduction:** Approximately $99,829 will be reduced for the Boot Camp Elderly Housing Replacement Program.

10. **Reduction:** Approximately $650,000 will be reduced for Land Acquisition of Scattered Lots located in Downtown Brownsville.

Activity Name	Current Budget	Change	New Funding Amount
CHDO Operating Expenses	$ -	$ 50,000.00	$ 50,000.00
Land Acquisition	$ -	$ 180,000.00	$ 180,000.00
CHDO Operating Expenses	$ -	$ 75,000.00	$ 75,000.00
Homebuyer Assistance Program	$ -	$ 1,272,468.21	$ 1,272,468.21
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	$ 1,875,000.00	$ (705,000.00)	$ 1,170,000.00
Homebuyer Assistance Program	$ 153,028.00	$ (153,028.00)	$ -
Poinsettia Gardens Multifamily Rental Project	$ 510,554.50	$ (510,554.50)	$ -
Self Help Low Income Housing Program	$ 160,000.00	$ (160,000.00)	$ -
Boot Camp Elderly Housing Replacement Program	$ 99,829.30	$ (99,829.30)	$ -
Land Acquisition of Scattered Lots	$ 650,000.00	$ (650,000.00)	$ -

NOTE: Funding is made available through HOME Entitlement Program funds as well as "Program Income" generated from HOME Program activities.

Substantial Amendment Process Schedule: A full description of the proposed Substantial Amendment may be reviewed on-line at http://grants.cob.us and at the following locations:

- Brownsville Public Library, 2600 Central Boulevard, Brownsville, TX
- Southmost Public Library, 4320 Southmost Boulevard, Brownsville, TX
- Southmost Community Network Center, 2900 Southmost Road, Brownsville, TX
- Westside Community Network Center, 1763 U.S. Highway 281, Brownsville, TX
- Brownsville Housing Authority, 24 Elm Street, Brownsville, TX

Comment Period: The City of Brownsville must provide for and encourage public participation, emphasizing involvement by low and moderate income people, especially those living in low and moderate income neighborhoods. Therefore, the City is accepting written comments on this proposed Substantial Amendment for a 30-day period beginning **June 21, 2015 ending at 5:00 pm on July 21, 2015.** Any interested party may submit their written comments to Ms. Marina Zolezzi, Director of Grant Management & Community Development, RE: Substantial Amendment Public Input, 1034 E. Levee Street, 2nd Floor, Brownsville, TX 78520; Phone: (956) 548-6164; e-mail: mzolezzi@cob.us; Fax: (956) 548-6161.

Public Hearings: In addition to the 30-day comment period, two (2) Public Hearings on the proposed changes will take place:

- July 8, 2015 (6:00 pm): Brownsville Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting
  1001 E. Elizabeth Street (City Hall, 4th Floor)

- August 4, 2015 (6:00 pm): Brownsville City Commission Meeting
  1001 E. Elizabeth Street (Commission Chambers)

Submission: The substantial amendment will be submitted to HUD on or around August 5, 2014.

The City of Brownsville does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission of, access to, treatment of, or employment in its programs, activities, or public meetings. Any individual with a disability in need of an accommodation is encouraged to contact the ADA Coordinator at (956) 548-6037 (voice or Relay TX). Please provide 2-3 days' notice so that proper accommodations can be provided.