

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Planning and Building	(2) MEETING DATE 10/21/2014	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Suzan Ehdai, Planner II/781-4974	
(4) SUBJECT Public needs hearing to consider the proposed annual 2015 Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Act (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board receive a staff presentation on unmet community development needs.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) CDBG, HOME, and ESG	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? No
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT { } Consent    { } Presentation    {X} Hearing (Time Est. <u>30</u> )    { } Board Business (Time Est. <u>    </u> )			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS { } Resolutions    { } Contracts    { } Ordinances    {X} N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: { } 4/5 Vote Required    {X} N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY {X} N/A    Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Lisa M. Howe			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Planning and Building / Suzan Ehdaie, Planner II

VIA: Trevor Keith, Division Manager

DATE: 10/21/2014

SUBJECT: Public needs hearing to consider the proposed annual 2015 Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Act (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs. All Districts.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board receive a staff presentation on unmet community development needs.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **The 2015 Action Plan**

The County is the lead agency administering the CDBG, HOME and ESG grant programs for the County and the six participating cities. The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is in the process of designating the County and six participating cities (Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Morro Bay, Pismo Beach, Paso Robles and San Luis Obispo) as an "Urban County". This designation will be completed by July 1, 2015, to allow the Urban County to receive formula-based CDBG, HOME, and ESG grants on an annual basis.

The County is preparing its annual 2015 Action Plan which outlines projects and activities to be funded through the CDBG, HOME, and ESG grant programs. The 2015 Action Plan is the first action plan of the five year Consolidated Plan (2015-2019). The Consolidated Plan serves as a strategic plan identifying priority needs in community development and affordable housing as well as establishing goals and objectives to meet the priority needs. The purpose of the 2015 Action Plan is to identify and focus grant funds to specific projects that align with the Consolidated Plan priority needs. Since HUD has not informed the County of the actual 2015 funding allocations, staff assumes a 5% reduction in the 2015 program funds from the 2014 funding levels. HUD will most likely inform the County of the actual 2015 funding allocations over the next four to five months.

HUD requires the County to conduct public participation for the preparation of the Consolidate Plan and the 2015 Action Plan. The Community Participation Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors outlines specific steps for the public participation process. Per the Community Participation Plan, the County is required to hold a public hearing to obtain public input on housing and community development needs. In addition to today's public hearing, the County and participating cities conducted three public workshops in September to gain input on housing and community development needs.

The major themes of public comments from these meetings included the need for affordable housing, transitional housing, emergency shelter, and homeless supportive services. Participants had general questions about the grant programs. This report summarizes public input received at these workshops. Most attendees at the workshops commented on the need for transitional housing and affordable rental housing for extremely low and very low-income persons.

Through public workshops, stakeholders meeting and the needs assessment survey, local nonprofit groups expressed support for funding public services, particularly homeless services and shelter. See the attached Exhibit A for more details on the public comments.

The objective of this hearing is to hear public input regarding community development needs, priorities and goals for next year's grant cycle. Staff will consider all public comments received today and evaluate them in view of criteria established by the Board. Staff will return to your Board with funding recommendations in December 2014. Public input received at today's hearing and the September community workshops will help guide staff's funding recommendations. Another important consideration in staff's recommendations will be the priorities established in the Countywide 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness.

#### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

County staff consulted with the participating cities and nonprofit agencies to identify needs and potential projects. Staff also provided technical advice to the cities to facilitate their decision on the grant application process.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The CDBG and HOME programs provide funding to cover most of the administrative costs incurred by staff. HUD has not released final funding allocations for the County and participating cities for the 2015 CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs, which starts July 1, 2015. In 2014, the Urban County received approximately \$1.6 million in CDBG funds. The 2014 funding for the HOME and ESG programs were \$726,163 and \$135,496 respectively.

#### **RESULTS**

Part of the County's vision is to promote a prosperous community by striving to keep the economy strong and viable and assure all shares in this economic prosperity. The outcome of this public hearing furthers the vision of prosperous community as it helps with making funding available to projects that address community needs and affordable housing for the vulnerable population of our community.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Attachment 1 - Exhibit A