

# City of Gresham 2012-2013 Action Plan

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Gresham is an entitlement jurisdiction, receiving an annual allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City of Gresham's Fiscal Year 2012-2013 funding allocation includes \$867,201 in CDBG Funds and \$28,842 in carryover funds and \$10,000 in estimated program income for a total of \$906,043.

The one-year *Action Plan* is an annual document that describes the City of Gresham's HUD-funded projects and community development related activities that will be conducted within the community to implement the Multnomah County Consortium *2011-2016 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development* in the upcoming fiscal year.

Funding will be used for public services including transitional housing, mentoring for elementary school aged children and support programs for Latino families. Funding will also be used to provide needed infrastructure in the Rockwood Neighborhood and blight abatement throughout the neighborhoods of Gresham. A youth center in Rockwood will receive funding for roof repair. Funding has also been allocated to make critical home repairs and accessibility adaptations for low income and senior homeowners.

Community Development Block Grant funding in 2012/2013 will also be used for job training, placement and coaching of income eligible residents and will provide funding for a storefront improvement program in a blighted portion of the downtown.

The City of Gresham also receives HOME funding as part of the Multnomah County, Gresham and Portland Consortium. The City's Fiscal Year 2012-2013 funding allocation includes \$401,347 in HOME funds and \$408 in carryover funds for a total of \$401,755. Funding is allocated for the provision of tenant based rental assistance, and for the rehabilitation of a 72-unit low- and moderate-income apartment complex in Gresham.

## Citizen Participation and Consultation

The City of Gresham allocated its CDBG and HOME funds through a competitive process. The Community Development and Housing Subcommittee, a seven-person citizen advisory group, along with a Technical Advisory Group reviewed and scored all applications. The CDHS forwarded its funding recommendations to the Gresham City Council. The public comment period for the draft 2012/2013 Action Plan began on March 31<sup>st</sup> and ran through April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The draft plan was posted on the City's website and was available to the public at City Hall and the local libraries. A public hearing was held on May 1, 2012.

The public comment period and the public hearing were noticed in the Legal Notices of *The Oregonian* and *The Gresham Outlook*.

## **Geographic Distribution and Allocation Priorities**

In the City of Gresham, six census tracts showed areas with more than 20 percent of the individuals living at or below the poverty level with four of those tracts showing a poverty level of above 34%. The sidewalk infill project is located in the high poverty census tract, 97.02 showing a poverty rate of 24.3%. The intersection of SE 182<sup>nd</sup> and Main borders the Census Tract 98.01 with a poverty level of 34.1% and which is 29% Hispanic.

The PAL Youth Center, located at 424 NE 172<sup>nd</sup> is in the high poverty census tract of 96.06 (39% in poverty), which is also heavily Hispanic (34% of the population). Many of the clientele who come for services at El Programa Hispano and Human Solutions live in the high poverty census tracts in Gresham. And those being served by El Programa Hispano, over 4000 annually, are Hispanic.

The Foster Grandparent Program provides mentors for elementary school children at Hall Elementary School, located in Census Tract 98.01 which exhibits a poverty rate of 34.1% It is 29% Hispanic.

The Blight Abatement Crew will be operating throughout Gresham but primarily in the CDBG qualified Census Tracts, which are high poverty census tracts. Much of the work will be done in the downtown slum and blight designated area and in the Rockwood Urban Renewal Area.

Approximately 25 % of the 2012/2013 CDBG funds will be used in the Rockwood URA and the designated areas of slum and blight in Gresham.