

**CITY OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2008-09 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

THE CDBG-R SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT

Jurisdiction: City of Buffalo, NY Lead Agency: Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency Jurisdiction Web Address: www.city-buffalo.com	CDBG-R Contact Person: Brian Reilly Address: 920 City Hall, 65 Niagara Sq. Telephone: 716-851-5035 Fax: 716-854-0172 Email: breilly@city-buffalo.com
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ENSURING RESPONSIBLE SPENDING OF RECOVERY ACT FUNDS

Funding available under the Recovery Act has clear purposes – to stimulate the economy through measures that modernize the Nation’s infrastructure, improve energy efficiency, and expand educational opportunities and access to health care. HUD strongly urges grantees to use CDBG-R funds for hard development costs associated with infrastructure activities that provide basic services to residents or activities that promote energy efficiency and conservation through rehabilitation or retrofitting of existing buildings. While the full range of CDBG activities is available to grantees, the Department strongly suggests that grantees incorporate consideration of the public perception of the intent of the Recovery Act in identifying and selecting projects for CDBG-R funding.

A. SPREADSHEET FOR REPORTING PROPOSED CDBG-R ACTIVITIES

Grantees must provide information concerning CDBG-R assisted activities in an electronic spreadsheet provided by HUD. The information that must be reported in the spreadsheet includes activity name, activity description, CDBG-R dollar amount budgeted, eligibility category, national objective citation, additional Recovery Act funds for the activity received from other programs, and total activity budget. An electronic copy of the spreadsheet and the format is available on HUD’s recovery website at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery>.

B. CDBG-R INFORMATION BY ACTIVITY (COMPLETE FOR EACH ACTIVITY)

(1) Activity Name:

- a) Housing Rehabilitation – Single Family
- b) Housing Rehabilitation – Multi Family
- c) Infrastructure Improvements – Citywide
- d) Public Facilities Rehabs
- e) Job Training Program
- f) Infrastructure Improvements – Mid City NRSA
- g) General Administration

(2) Activity Narrative:

In addition to the Spreadsheet for Reporting Proposed CDBG-R Activities, grantees must provide a narrative for each activity describing how the use of the grantee's CDBG-R funds will meet the requirements of Title XII of Division A and Section 1602 of ARRA. The grantee's narrative must also state how CDBG-R funds will be used in a manner that maximizes job creation and economic benefit in relation to the CDBG-R funds obligated, and will address the Recovery Act, by:

- Preserving and creating jobs and promoting economic recovery;
- Assisting those most impacted by the recession;
- Providing investment needed to increase economic efficiency;
- Investing in transportation, environmental protection, or other infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits;
- Minimizing or avoiding reductions in essential services; or
- Fostering energy independence.

The Community Development Block Grant Program enables local governments to undertake a wide range of activities intended to create suitable living environments, provide decent affordable housing and create economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low to moderate income.

On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) (Public Law 111-5) was signed into law. The Act provides \$4,311,494 in supplemental CDBG funds to the City of Buffalo for housing and community development activities.

Under the Recovery Act, the City of Buffalo will give priority to projects and activities that can award contracts within 120 days from the date the funds are made available to the recipients. The projects chosen are poised for rapid implementation and have an accelerated implementation schedule. The City of Buffalo is investing in funds in owner occupied housing rehabilitation, job training, energy efficiency improvements to public facilities, and infrastructure improvements. For infrastructure projects, there is a goal of at least 50% of the funds for activities that can be initiated not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act. The City chose to fund projects involving infrastructure improvements and job training programs to maximize job creation and economic benefit. As per the attached Activity Data Spreadsheet, 100% of the activities (after deducting funds for Administration) will meet Low/Mod Income national objectives. Per Recovery guidelines, less than 10% of the funds may be used for General Administration.

To receive funding, the City of Buffalo prepared a substantial amendment to the 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan. The substantial amendment gives the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed use of the supplemental CDBG funding. The substantial amendment also serves as the application for funding.

Following is a summary:

a) Housing Rehabilitation – Single Family: Owner Occupied Single Family Rehabilitation Program including Warm & Dry Program, providing a roof, high efficiency Energy Star furnace, or weatherization for between 25 and 50 of the City’s elderly and low income households.

b) Housing Rehabilitation – Multi Family: Owner Occupied Multi Family Rehabilitation Program including Warm & Dry Program, providing a roof, high efficiency Energy Star furnace, or weatherization for between 25 and 50 of the City’s elderly and low income households.

c) Infrastructure Improvements – Citywide – Street and Sidewalk improvements in low/mod areas of the City’s neighborhoods.

d) Public Facilities Rehab – energy efficiency upgrades of community centers - \$175,000 per building retrofits – 3 buildings.

e) Job Training Program – Employment training in the construction trades industry. Eligible participants must be low to moderate income.

f) Infrastructure Improvements – NRSA: Street and sidewalk improvements in the Mid City Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area.

g) General Administration – General administration and coordination of the CDBG-R Program.

(3) Jobs Created*: (Report the number of full- and part-time jobs estimated to be created and retained by the activity (including permanent, construction, and temporary jobs).

a) Housing Rehabilitation – Single Family:

Permanent:	Full Time Created	0	Full-Time Retained	0
Construction:	Full Time Created	1	Full-Time Retained	7
Temporary:	Full Time Created	0	Full-Time Retained	0

b) Housing Rehabilitation – Multi Family:

Permanent:	Full Time Created	0	Full-Time Retained	0
Construction:	Full Time Created	1	Full-Time Retained	7
Temporary:	Full Time Created	0	Full-Time Retained	0

c) Infrastructure Improvements – Citywide

Permanent:	Full Time Created	0	Full-Time Retained	0
Construction:	Full Time Created	5	Full-Time Retained	5

Temporary: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0

d) Public Facilities Rehabilitation

Permanent: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0
Construction: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained .3
Temporary: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0

e) Job Training Program

Permanent: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0
Construction: Full Time Created 5 Full-Time Retained 0
Temporary: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0

f) Infrastructure Improvements – NRSA

Permanent: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0
Construction: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 1.5
Temporary: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0

g) Administration

Permanent: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0
Construction: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0
Temporary: Full Time Created 0 Full-Time Retained 0

*Calculated in Full Time Equivalent.

- (4) Additional Activity Information: (A description of how the activity will promote energy conservation, smart growth, green building technologies, or reduced pollution emissions, if applicable.)

The City will improve energy efficiency in the homes of low and moderate income homeowners under its Housing Rehabilitation Program for Single & Multi owner occupied structures (projects a & b). The City will improve energy efficiency in its public facilities (project d) by retrofitting its buildings with energy efficient windows and/or doors and replacement of outmoded heating units. These improvements include the following:

- Replace outmoded and energy inefficient heating units with an Energy Star Certified unit.
- Replace or provide home sealing (insulation) with Energy Star rated insulation material.
- Replace windows as required with insulated windows.
- Replace doors as required with insulated doors.

- (5) Responsible Organization: (Contact information for the organization that will implement the CDBG-R activity, including its name, location, and administrator contact information)

Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency
920 City Hall
Buffalo, NY 14202

Brian Reilly, Commissioner
716-851-5035

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Provide a summary of public comments received to the proposed CDBG-R Substantial Amendment.

Note: A Proposed CDBG-R Substantial Amendment must be published via the usual methods and posted on the jurisdiction's website for no less than 7 calendar days for public comment.

Response:

HUD has waived the requirements to follow the City's Citizen Participation Plan. The City took the following actions to encourage citizen participation in the Substantial Amendment:

- The Substantial Amendment is available at the Office of Strategic Planning, Room 214 City Hall, 65 Niagara Sq., Buffalo, NY
- On May 29, 2009, the substantial amendment was posted on the City's website at www.city-buffalo.com. Citizens will have seven (7) days for review and comment. Citizens are encouraged to comment on the Plan.
- A copy of the Substantial Amendment will be available at the Erie County & Buffalo Public Library, 1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY

A summary of the comments received will be included in the substantial amendment submitted to the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development.

Amendment Availability:

Copies of the Amendment are available at the following locations which are accessible to the disabled:

Office of Strategic Planning
214 City Hall
65 Niagara Sq.
Buffalo, NY 14202

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
1 Lafayette Sq.
Buffalo, NY 14203

Public Comment:

Comments on the amendment should be submitted to Lynn Urbanski, Office of Strategic Planning, Room 214 City Hall, 65 Niagara Sq., Buffalo, NY 14202 or lurbanski@city-buffalo.com by 4:00 p.m., June 5, 2009.