

**PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN
PY 2011 ACTION PLAN
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT SECOND ALLOCATION
30 DAY COMMENT PERIOD AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA**

In accordance with 24 CFR Part 91, as amended, the City of Birmingham, Alabama (the City) is publishing a summary of a Proposed Substantial Amendments to its Program Year (PY) 2011 (July 1, 2011 thru June 30, 2012) Action Plan One Year Use Of Funds, for citizen comment for a period of at least thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this publication. The Proposed Substantial Amendments are published in order to afford affected citizens an opportunity to examine its contents and to submit comments relating thereto.

I. BACKGROUND:

In 1995 the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) introduced a consolidated application process involving four HUD Community Planning and Development (CPD) formula programs: Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). This process replaced at that time all current HUD-CPD planning and application requirements with a single submission, and satisfied the minimum statutory requirements for the four referenced HUD-CPD formula programs.

In summary, the Consolidated Plan actually serves four separate, but integrated, functions. The Consolidated Plan is 1) A planning document for the City, which builds on a participatory process; 2) An application for federal funds under HUD's formula grant programs referenced above; 3) A strategy to be followed in carrying out HUD programs, and lastly; 4) An action plan that provides a basis for assessing performance. The City's current Five Year Consolidated Plan covers the period July 1, 2010 thru June 30, 2015 and contains six basic components: (1) housing and homeless needs assessment, (2) housing market analysis, (3) strategies and priority needs and objectives, (4) action plan, (5) certifications, (6) monitoring. The action plan and certification portions of the document must be submitted annually to HUD for approval.

Copies of the City's PY 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan are available for inspection in the City's Community Development Department, 710 North 20th Street, Room 1000, Birmingham, Alabama from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays. Copies are also available for inspection at the Birmingham Public Central Library, 2100 Park Place, Birmingham, Alabama, during regular business hours. Copies are also available for inspection on the City's website at www.birminghamal.gov.

II. PY 2011 ACTION PLAN:

The City's Proposed Action Plan is an annual description of the City's Federal and other resources that are expected to be available to address its priority needs and how the Federal funds will leverage other resources. The description includes proposed activities for Program Year (PY) 2011 (July 1, 2011 thru June 30, 2012) to address the needs identified in the City's PY 2010 thru 2015 Five Year Consolidated Plan. The Action Plan explains where the assistance will be directed by geographic area during PY 2011.

The Action Plan also includes narrative, maps and tables which identify the geographic areas in which it will direct assistance, a description of homeless and other special needs activities, as well as a description of other proposed actions to foster affordable housing, public housing improvements and resident initiatives, evaluation and reduction of lead-based hazards, reducing the number of persons below the poverty line, development of the City's institutional structure, efforts to enhancing coordination between housing and service agencies, and assistance to public housing.

Copies of the PY 2011 Action Plan are available for inspection in the City's Community Development Department, 710 North 20th Street, Room 1000, Birmingham, Alabama from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays. Copies are also available for inspection at the Birmingham Public Central Library, 2100 Park Place, Birmingham, Alabama, during regular business hours. Copies are also available for inspection on the City's website at www.birminghamal.gov.

III. CONSOLIDATED PLAN AMENDMENT POLICY:

In accordance with the City's (HUD) Approved Consolidated Plan and Citizen Participation Plan, the City shall amend its Consolidated Plan Statement whenever it decides not to carry out an activity described in the Plan, or decides to carry out an activity not previously described or decides to substantially change the purpose, scope, location beneficiaries, or budgeted dollar amount of an activity. The amendment of a budgeted dollar amount of an activity in an existing Action Plan by more than 25 percent, plus or minus, shall be considered to be a substantial change for purposes of requiring a written amendment.

Prior to amending its Consolidated Plan, the City shall provide citizens with reasonable notice of, and opportunity to comment on such proposed changes in its use of funds. The City will consider any such comments, and if the City deems appropriate, modify the proposed changes. The city will make available to the public, and shall submit to HUD, a description of any changes adopted.

Additionally, the City will provide a period, not less than thirty (30) days, to receive comments, written or oral, on the substantial amendment prior to its adoption. A summary of comments and views are attached to the substantial amendment of the Consolidated Plan.

IV. PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO PY 2011 ACTION PLAN AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

The Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Pub. L. 112–10, Division B) appropriated at least \$225 million for the Emergency Solutions Grants program for FY 2011. Accordingly, HUD used its discretion to allocate \$250 million in FY 2011 funds for the ESG program. However, because the program regulations were still being revised when this funding became available, HUD chose to release the funding in a two-stage allocation process. The first allocation was made available immediately, to avoid a lapse in funding for existing Emergency Shelter Grants activities. This allocation, which equaled the FY 2010 ESG funding level of \$160 million, was made in May 2011 and was subject to the Emergency Shelter Grants regulations in effect at that time. The amounts for each recipient for the second allocation of \$90 million, which reflects the national increase in ESG funding from FY 2010 to FY 2011, were posted on HUD’s Web site on November 15, 2011, the same day that the Interim Rule was posted on HUD’s Web site.

The City is putting forth this request for proposals in response to being allocated **\$164,609** as the second allocation for PY 2011 Emergency Solutions Grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The City also proposes the following substantial amendment to its PY 2011 Action Plan based on this new allocation:

A. PROJECT: EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM (ESG): **\$457,248**

Project ID/Local ID 10; Project Title: Emergency Solutions Grant Program; Priority Need 3-Provide housing and services for populations with special needs; Priority Need 4- Provide housing and supportive services for homeless populations; Help Prevent Homelessness? Yes; Help the Homeless? Yes; Help those with HIV or AIDS? Yes; Eligibility Citation: ESG Program; Objective; Benefit to low and moderate income persons; Sub-recipients: No; Location(s): City Wide.; HUD Matrix Code: 03-T-Operating Costs of Homeless Programs.

1ST ESG Allocation Activities & Description:

1. Essential Services Including Service Related To Health, Drug Abuse, Education (30% Maximum): \$32,600

-Family Connection: \$25,450

1323 7th Avenue, North
Birmingham, Al 35203

Provision of the Hope Mobile which disseminates essential living items such as food, clothing, blankets, jackets, and personal hygiene to homeless youth living on the streets

of Birmingham. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 400 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

-Urban Ministry, Inc.: \$7,150

1229 Cotton Avenue, SW
Birmingham, Al 35211

Provision of food, shelter, and medicine to homeless persons through its Community Kitchen and Emergency Care programs. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 30 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

**2. Maintenance/Operation Expenses: \$225,883
(No Salary Expenses are included.)**

-Pathways/Downtown Path Center: \$26,406

409 Richard Arrington, Jr. Blvd., North
Birmingham, Al 35203

Provision of housing for homeless individuals as a part of their transitional shelter program. Also provides support services for homeless women at their day shelter such as counseling, job readiness skills, and life management skills. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 1,100 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

-Pathways/Transitional Shelters: \$35,532

409 Richard Arrington, Jr. Blvd., North
Birmingham, Al 35203

Provision of expanded shelter and supportive services for homeless women and children. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 120 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

-Cooperative Downtown Ministries, Inc: \$35,965

1501 3rd Avenue, North
Birmingham, Al 35203

Provision of a homeless shelter for men in the Old Firehouse Shelter on 3rd Avenue North. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 1,205 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

-Family Connection: \$48,640

1323 7th Avenue, North

Birmingham, Al 35203

Provision of the Hope Mobile which disseminates essential living items such as food, clothing, blankets, jackets, and personal hygiene to homeless youth living on the streets of Birmingham. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 400 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

-First Light, Inc.: **\$19,495**
2230 Fourth Avenue, North
Birmingham, Al 35203

Provision of an emergency shelter for homeless women and children. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 1,000 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

-YWCA: **\$27,770**
309 North 23rd Street
Birmingham, Al 35203

Program was previously administered by Interfaith Hospitality House when they ceased operations in 2007. Provision of transitional housing for homeless families including food, clothing, life skills training, case management, counseling, day care, school placement, and after school child care. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 100 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

-YWCA: **\$32,075**
309 North 23rd Street
Birmingham, Al 35203

Provision of housing for homeless women and children. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 50 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

**3. Homeless Prevention Activities: \$33,305
(30% Maximum)**

- Bridge Ministries: **\$26,665**
1016 19th Street South
Birmingham, Al 35205

Provision of homeless prevention activities to assist families that have received eviction notices or notices of termination of utility services. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 165 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

-Urban Ministry, Inc.: \$ 6,640
1229 Cotton Avenue SW
Birmingham, Al 35211

Provision of homeless prevention activities to assist families that have received eviction notices or notices of termination of utility services. Proposed Accomplishments: Serve 30 people. Start Date: 7/1/2011; Completion Date: 6/30/2012; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

2nd ESG Allocation Activities & Description:

4. Homeless Prevention, Rapid Re-housing Assistance and HMIS: \$165,460

Provision of the second allocation of ESG for PY 2011. Start Date: 7/1/2012; Completion Date: 6/30/2013; Performance Measure Objective: #1-Suitable Living Environment; Performance Measure Outcome: #1-Availability/Accessibility.

ESG PROGRAM TOTAL: \$457,248

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD & NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

The City encourages its citizens to participate in the development of the City's Final Substantial Amendments to its PY 2011 Action Plan described herein regarding its proposed use of CDBG funding and will accept written comments for a period of at least thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the publication. Copies of the City's Final Substantial Amendment are available for inspection in the City's Community Development Department, 710 North 20th Street, Room 1000, Birmingham, Alabama from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays. Copies are also available for inspection at the Birmingham Public Central Library, 2100 Park Place, Birmingham, Alabama, during regular business hours and a copy is posted on the City's website at www.birminghamal.gov under the Community Development Department.

The City's Community Development Department will be conducting a public hearing on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in the Birmingham City Council Chamber, 710 North 20th Street, 3rd Floor City Hall; Birmingham, Alabama. The purpose of the hearing will be to obtain comments regarding the proposed use of PY 2011 Program Funds. Also, citizens will be afforded an

opportunity to 1) identify housing and community development needs and priorities; 2) review proposed uses of funds; and 3) comment on and review the City's program performance. All comments received will be considered in the development of the City's Final PY 2011 Substantial Amendment and submission to HUD.

The hearing location is accessible to persons with disabilities; however, anyone who requires further information or has a disability which might require special materials, services, or assistance should notify the Community Development Department at the referenced address no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled hearing dates. The City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. The City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices as mandated by Title 11 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Written comments regarding the City's Proposed PY 2011 Substantial Amendment should be submitted to James F. Fenstermaker, Director; Community Development Department at the address referenced herein. All written comments must be received at the referenced address **no later than Monday, April 9, 2012; 4:00 p.m.** to be considered in the development of the City's Final PY 2011 Action Plan Substantial Amendment. No comments submitted by e-mail or fax transmission will be accepted or considered.

James F. Fenstermaker, Director
Department of Community Development
710 North 20th Street
10th Floor City Hall
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

March 8, 2012

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