



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## City Planning & Community Investment

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City Opens Application Process for Approximately \$15 Million in Community Development Grant Funding**

*Mayor's Reform Efforts Instituted; New Regulations Outlined for FY'09 Application Process*

SAN DIEGO – Applications are now available for approximately \$15 million in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for nonprofits and other eligible organizations that provide services and projects that benefit low- and moderate-income residents in the City of San Diego.

Each year, the City of San Diego receives grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to dedicate to services and capital projects for low- and moderate-income residents.

New to the program this year are a number of changes to eligibility requirements and the application process. After working with HUD officials on some areas of concern regarding the City's program, the Mayor established a CDBG Task Force late last summer to explore and recommend potential reforms to the process. Earlier this week, the San Diego City Council approved the first phase of the Mayor's recommended reforms to the City's CDBG Program, which are designed to enhance the integrity of the application process, ensure compliance with federal regulations, better utilize limited grant funding and reduce the amount of overhead spent on administering a large number of small contracts. Initial reforms include:

- No allocation of CDBG funds will be made to a project for which a CDBG application has not been received by the City.
- No allocation of CDBG funds will be made to a project of less than \$25,000, unless funding at a lesser amount is necessary to complete a project.
- A Community Based Development Organization (CBDO) certification process will be conducted in an effort to fund eligible project activities, as defined in the applicable U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations.
- No allocation of CDBG funds will be made to a subrecipient project in the category of "Planning," except for those subrecipients certified by the City as a Community Based Development Organization.
- All CDBG applicants shall attend mandatory workshops hosted by City staff during the annual CDBG application period.
- All CDBG funds allocated to projects shall be used within three years of the date of the allocation, or such funds are subject to being reprogrammed by the City Council.

To ensure a thorough application process, several technical assistance workshops for applicants have been scheduled. The workshops are identical, so mandatory attendance to only one of the workshops is necessary. The workshops will be held:

- **Wednesday, February 13, 2008, 10 am – 11:30 am and 2 pm - 3:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, February 26, 2008, 10 am and 2 pm**  
War Memorial Building, Auditorium, 3325 Zoo Drive, San Diego

**The submittal deadline for CDBG applications is 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 28, 2008.** To obtain an electronic template of the CDBG application that can be downloaded and electronically completed, applicants should contact the CDBG Office at [CDBG@sandiego.gov](mailto:CDBG@sandiego.gov). Additionally, application materials and guidelines are also available on the City's website at [www.sandiego.gov/cdbg/apps/index.shtml](http://www.sandiego.gov/cdbg/apps/index.shtml). Applicants may also call the City Planning & Community Investment Department at (619) 236-5990 for a hard copy of the application, or for more general information and workshop details.

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