

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. B(2)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2008

TITLE: Annual Update of the 2005-2010 Consolidated Housing Plan for Orange County

DEPARTMENT: Economic and Community Development	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ___ NO <u>x</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Annual Update	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: James Harris 918-7319

PURPOSE: The purpose of this item is to present to the Board of Aldermen the annual update to the Consolidated Housing Plan. The staff requests adoption of the attached resolution authorizing submission of the 2008-2009 update of the FY2005-2010 Consolidated Housing Plan for Orange County to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

BACKGROUND: In 2005, a Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development Programs in Orange County was developed and approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This document details the housing needs of very low income, low income and moderate-income families and special population groups in addition to outlining the strategies and plans for addressing those needs. The Consolidated Plan is required for all communities receiving HOME funds (Orange County HOME Consortium) and CDBG entitlement funds (Town of Chapel Hill).

Each year, local communities are required to submit an Annual Update to the Consolidated Plan to the State HUD Office by May 15th. This update includes the 2008-2009 Community Development Plan for the Town of Chapel Hill and the 2008-2009 HOME Program Action Plan or the Orange County HOME Consortium. Public hearings were held by the Chapel Hill Town Council on January 30 and March 26 and by the BOCC on February 5, 2008 to receive citizen comments regarding the update prior to development and subsequent submission to HUD.

The current Orange County HOME Consortium Agreement establishes a HOME Program Review Committee to provide general oversight of the program. Specifically, the Committee is authorized to provide policy oversight for planning, operations, and evaluation of OHC and the HOME Program. The Manager or his/her designee from each participating unit of local government and one (1) elected official from each jurisdiction shall be a member. The OHC Program Review Committee shall prepare a proposed HOME program design each year and consortium program application to HUD, in compliance with the Act, the Regulations, and the Federal Program Requirements, including reallocation of any funds from previous years not expended or any repayments or other program income consistent with this Section. Each year's proposed HOME program design and the consortium program application should be consistent with the Consolidated Plan. Each year's program design shall be subject to the approval of each consortium member's elected board. The proposed HOME program design will define a strategy in sufficient detail to accommodate the collective and individual needs and priorities of the County and Towns.

This year, as required by the Consortium Agreement, the HOME Program Review Committee reviewed applications for HOME Program funding and developed the proposed HOME Program Design for the 2008-2009 Program Years. A total of seven (7) applications were received from local non-profit organizations and other local governmental units requesting approximately \$934,119. There is approximately \$810,652 in HOME funds and HOME Program match funds available for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 for projects and administration. The recommended program design is detailed in the attached resolution.

A public comment period as required by HUD was established for April 11 – May 12, 2008 by notice in the Chapel Hill Herald. Copies of the Annual Update were made available at the Chapel Hill and Orange County Public Libraries.

Further, in accordance with the Orange County HOME Consortium Agreement approved in June 2005, the HOME Program Design for each year must be approved by all jurisdictions prior to submission to HUD. The Program Design is scheduled for approval by Chapel Hill on April 23, by Carrboro on May 13, and by Hillsborough on May 12th.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The Orange County HOME Consortium is scheduled to receive approximately \$661,756 in federal housing program funding. The Town of Carrboro approved the 2008-09 HOME Program allocation on April 15, 2008.

RECOMMENDATION: The town staff recommends adoption of the attached resolution authorizing submission of the annual update to the 2005-2010 Consolidated Housing Plan for Orange County to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.