

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(2)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: April 5, 2011

SUBJECT: A Discussion of the HOME Program Allocation Process

DEPARTMENT: TOWN MANAGER	PUBLIC HEARING: NO
ATTACHMENTS: N/A	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Stewart (918-7314)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to discuss the process used to allocate HOME Program funds.

INFORMATION

Alderman Coleman, who represents the Board on the review committee, has asked that this year's process be reviewed before the Board considers approving the proposed allocations. The HOME Program was established to provide funding for various types of housing programs to benefit low-income families. This funding is in addition to the existing federal Community Development grants, rental assistance through the Section 8 Program, The Carrboro Affordable Housing Fund and public housing operating and improvement funding. In 1992, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Hillsborough and Orange County formed the Orange County HOME Consortium with Orange County acting as the lead entity. The Consortium was established as a local partnership to develop affordable housing. The Board of Aldermen, along with the other participating governments, adopted a resolution to participate in a HOME Program Review Committee. The purpose of this Committee is to allow elected officials to have more involvement in the development of the annual HOME Program plan and to review the progress of HOME funded activities on a regular basis. The HOME Program Review Committee met on March 4, 2011 at a time when Alderman Coleman could not meet and developed recommended funding for the 2011-2012 HOME Program allocations. The HOME Consortium Agreement is up for renewal, and the Agreement must be renewed prior to May 13 in order to continue to participate in the HOME Investment Partnership Program for the next three years. The Consortium agreed at the March 4, 2011 meeting that the new Agreement will contain an automatic renewal clause and the match proportions contained therein would reflect the population numbers from the newly released 2010 Census.

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT

The Community and Economic Development Director is the staff liaison to the HOME Consortium and attends the meetings of the group and the HOME Program Review Committee meetings. However, the position was vacant when the committee met. There is no fiscal impact associated with this item, however the Board will be asked in the future to approve a cash match based on the HOME Program Review Committee's recommended allocation.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board hold a discussion of the HOME Program allocation process.