



***Neighborhood Improvement Department
Housing & Community Development Division***

**2008 – 2009
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
SECOND AMENDMENT**



Submitted to: The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
Community Planning & Development Representative
Charles Bennett Federal Building
400 West Bay Street, Suite 1015
Jacksonville, FL 32202-4410

**City of Gainesville
Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan
Second Amendment- April 2009**

**FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2008-2009 ACTION PLAN
SECOND AMENDMENT**

A. INTRODUCTION

This is the second Amendment to the City of Gainesville's Fiscal Year (FY) 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan (AAP), which was submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in August 2008. This Amendment is necessary to allow the utilization of additional federal HUD program funds; all of the elements of the City's current FY 2008-2009 AAP are hereby incorporated into this second Amendment.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) was signed into law on February 17, 2009, and appropriates \$787 billion for measures that will modernize our nation's infrastructure, enhance energy independence, expand educational opportunities, preserve and improve affordable health care, provide tax relief and protect those in greatest need. The purpose of this FY 2008-2009 AAP Second Amendment is to describe the City's proposed use of these additional federal HUD program funds summarized in Sections B and C.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT RECOVERY PROGRAM (CDBG-R)

The City of Gainesville is eligible to receive \$371,003 in Community Development Block Grant-Recovery (CDBG-R) funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA or "the Recovery Act"). This funding, referred to as "CDBG-R," is separate from the regular, annual CDBG funds that the City of Gainesville receives every year

The CDBG-R funds constitute a special allocation of FY 2008-2009 CDBG funding to support a broad range of housing and community development projects that are "shovel-ready," i.e., can be implemented as soon as possible. The City must give priority to projects that can award contracts within 120-days of the date of the funding award.

HUD is expected to issue a "CDBG-R Notice" to provide additional guidelines and requirements for the use of CDBG-R funding. This Notice has not yet been issued; however, it is anticipated to be issued in the near future, and the content of this substantial amendment may change as a result.

The City expects to use its CDBG-R funds on the following activity:

Acquisition of Property - One Stop Homeless Center – \$371,003

The City has identified the assistance of homeless persons and families and the prevention of non-homeless persons and families from becoming homeless, as priority needs. Additionally, one of the City Commission's strategic initiatives is to continue implementation of the City of Gainesville/Alachua County 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. As such, the City plans to utilize the CDBG-R funds to acquire vacant property to construct a One-Stop Homeless Center facility. The City continues an on-going collaboration via an inter-local agreement between Alachua County and the Alachua County Housing Authority to provide services related to the oversight and implementation of the City/County 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness, which includes the establishment of a One-Stop Homeless Assistance Center.

The purpose of the One-Stop Homeless Center is to provide technical assistance and services to include, but not limited to, expanding shelter capacity to accommodate more homeless individuals and families; to provide medical services, to provide counseling and supportive services, such as, case management, educational and life skills training, and to provide homeless individuals an opportunity to obtain self-sufficiency. The City will accomplish this initiative through a continued collaboration with Alachua County, the GRACE Marketplace, the Office on Homelessness, non-profit organizations and other local providers. The establishment of a One-Stop Homeless Center will further the goals of the City/Alachua 10-year Plan to End Homelessness.

C. HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM (HPRP)

The City will receive \$567,404 in the HPRP funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA or "the Recovery Act"). These funds constitute a special allocation of the FY 2008-2009 funding to provide financial assistance and other assistance to either prevent individual and families from becoming homeless or to help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized.

The City expects to use its HPRP funds (\$567,404) on the following activities:

This program will focus on housing for homeless and at-risk households, and is designed to provide temporary financial assistance and housing relocation and stabilization activities to individuals and families who are homeless or would be homeless but for this assistance. Two populations are targeted:

- Individuals and families currently in housing, but who are at risk of becoming homeless and need temporary rent or utility assistance to

prevent them from becoming homeless or assistance to move to another housing unit (Prevention); and

- Individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness and need temporary assistance in order to obtain housing and retain it (Rapid Re-Housing).

This program will be designed to provide housing-related assistance. Eligible program activities may include, but not limited to, the following:

- **Financial assistance (\$450,000)**
 - Short Term and Medium Term Rental Assistance;
 - Security deposits and utility deposits
 - Utility payments,
 - Moving cost assistance;
 - Motel/Hotel vouchers.
- **Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (\$89,034)**
 - Housing Stability and Placement
 - Case management Activities
 - Outreach and engagement
 - Housing search and placement
 - Legal Services
 - Credit repair
- **Data Collection and Evaluation (\$0)**
- **Administration Costs (\$28,370)**

The City of Gainesville has identified agencies with experience and a good record of accomplishment in providing financial assistance and homeless prevention services.

Following HUD's review and approval of this amendment, the City of Gainesville will select sub-recipients that can implement the proposed HPRP strategy in the most effective and expedited manner by contracting with agencies that currently offer homeless prevention services similar to eligible activities under the HPRP. The implementation of this program will further the goals of the City/Alachua County 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

D. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

To expedite the prompt use of the CDBG-R and HPRP funds and allow reasonable citizen participation, HUD has established a condensed 12-day citizen participation requirement to receive comments on the proposed amendment. The FY 2008-2009 AAP Second Amendment was released for citizen review and comment on April 16, 2009. During the public comment period from April 16-April 28 2009, the Amendment was made available to the public at

the City's Housing & Community Development Division office and was distributed via public press release by the City's Communication and Marketing Office.

[Subject to Pending Action]

On April 21, 2009 the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development (CACCD) held a Public Hearing to provide City of Gainesville residents an opportunity to review and comment on the FY 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan Second Amendment. The CACCD recommended that the City Commission approve the FY 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan Second Amendment.

[Subject to Pending Action]

Following the public comment period and the CACCD recommendation, the City Commission approved the FY 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan Second Amendment on May 7, 2009.

E. CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional information on the CDBG-R and HPRP funds, please contact Deneace Joshua, HCD Supervisor, at (352) 334-5026, Ext. 5864, or by email at joshuadm@cityofgainesville.org.

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