May 7, 2013

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Federal Fiscal Year 2013 Amendments to Consolidated Plan (Including Budgets for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA))

Dear Board Members,

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Hold a public hearing on May 7, 2013, for comment on:

   A. Marin County's housing and community development needs.

   B. Marin County's community development performance.

   C. The Consolidated Plan and amendments to the Consolidated Plan, including activities proposed for federal Fiscal Year 2013 funding from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA).

   D. The proposed budget for the use of federal Fiscal Year 2013 (2013-14 local program year) CDBG funds, included in the Consolidated Plan amendments.

   E. The proposed reprogramming of past years' CDBG funds to new activities and the proposed use of CDBG program income, included in the Consolidated Plan amendments.

   F. The proposed budget for the use of federal Fiscal Year 2013 (2013-14 local program year) HOME funds, included in the Consolidated Plan amendments.
G. The proposed reprogramming of past years’ HOME funds to new activities and the proposed use of HOME program income, included in the Consolidated Plan amendments.

H. The proposed budget for the use of federal Fiscal Year 2013 (2013-14 local program year) HOPWA funds, included as an information item in the Consolidated Plan amendments.

I. The Local Standard for Affordable Rents.

J. The Civil Rights Policy.

K. The Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation Assistance Plan.

2. Following public testimony, approve the Consolidated Plan amendments and related documents, as attached, including the items listed above, and authorize any budget changes necessary to implement these actions.

3. Following public testimony, approve the Resolution authorizing staff to submit the Consolidated Plan amendments to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with the understanding that staff will adjust the budget amounts for specific CDBG and HOME projects, in accordance with the previous recommendations of the CDBG Priority Setting Committee, after HUD announces our Fiscal Year 2013 formula grant amounts, and authorize staff to act in connection with the submission of the Consolidated Plan amendments and to provide such additional information as HUD may require.

4. Announce that copies of the Consolidated Plan (as amended) are available from the Community Development Agency, and that program files, records regarding past use of CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA funds, the Local Standard for Affordable Rents, the Civil Rights Policy, the Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, and the Nondiscrimination Policy are available for inspection at the Community Development Agency.

SUMMARY:
On May 4, 2010, the Marin County Board of Supervisors approved the Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Years 2010-14, the document required by HUD as our application for formula funding from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). The five-year Consolidated Plan included an analysis of needs and statements of policies for the entire period, as well as CDBG and HOME project budgets for the first year of the five-year period. In the second, third, fourth, and fifth years, the Consolidated Plan must be amended with an “Action Plan” to add each year’s CDBG and HOME project budgets. On July 1, 2013, we will begin the fourth year covered by the Consolidated Plan, so an annual amendment is required.

The attached amendments to Marin County’s five-year Consolidated Plan update the policy section and add budgets for the use of an estimated $1,072,758 in federal Fiscal Year 2013 CDBG funds and an estimated $547,722 in federal Fiscal Year 2013 HOME funds. The Consolidated Plan also reports on the planned use of an estimated $324,148 in federal Fiscal Year 2013 HOPWA funds. HUD allocates
HOPWA formula funds to San Francisco on behalf of Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties, so that Marin’s HOPWA allocation is formally included in San Francisco’s Consolidated Plan. Staff is recommending that the HOPWA funds available to Marin be used to continue an ongoing rental assistance program administered by the Marin Housing Authority. The budget also includes CDBG and HOME funds from prior years which are recommended for reprogramming (reallocating) to new projects, and allocations of CDBG and HOME program income. The federal Fiscal Year 2013 CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA funds become available to the County at the start of the local program year, which runs from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA grants are carried in Fund 22050, Fund Center 4000071000, where they will be held until the 2013-14 fiscal year begins, at which time they will be transferred to Fund Centers 4000991026 (CDBG), 4000992019 (HOME), and 4000993009 (HOPWA).

Compared to last year’s grants, the estimated 2013-14 grant amounts represent an 8% decrease in Marin’s CDBG allocation, an 8% decrease in HOME, and a 4% decrease in HOPWA.

The CDBG and HOME budget information in the attached Consolidated Plan was developed following two workshops, five public hearings held by the County in the Planning Areas, two hearings held by the Novato City Council, one hearing held by the San Rafael City Council, and one hearing held by the Countywide Priority Setting Committee on March 21, 2013. Because HUD has not yet announced its calculations of the County’s CDBG and HOME formula grant allocations, each hearing resulted in a set of instructions for staff on how to adjust the funding amounts for each project after the final grant amount is known. Staff will also adjust the HOPWA budget after HUD announces its formula grant allocations.

FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT:
The amendments to the Consolidated Plan serve as Marin County’s application for federal CDBG and HOME grants, which the County then distributes to eligible projects sponsored by local nonprofit organizations and public agencies. Acceptance of these awards has no impact on the General Fund.

REVIEWED BY:
[ ] Department of Finance [ x ] N/A
[ ] County Counsel [ x ] N/A
[ ] Human Resources [ x ] N/A

SIGNATURE:

Roy Bateman
Community Development Coordinator