



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of April 25, 2009**

DATE: April 3, 2009

SUBJECT: Approval of the County's Annual Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010, which includes the FY 2010 Annual Consolidated Plan for the City of Falls Church.

C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the FY 2010 Annual Consolidated Plan for Arlington (Attachments 1 and 2).
2. Approve the FY 2010 Annual Consolidated Plan for the City of Falls Church (Attachment 3) and the allocation of CDBG and HOME funds for the City of Falls Church.
3. Authorize the County Manager to submit the approved FY 2010 Annual Consolidated Plan and its required certifications to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and sign contracts and documents required for the approval and implementation of the Annual Consolidated Plan and its component programs.
4. Appropriate \$9,071 in FY 2010 from the HOME American Down Payment Initiative (101.371900.91102) to the Affordable Investment Housing Fund (101.495130.91102) to be used for the Moderate Income Purchase Assistance Program.
5. Approve revisions to the Consolidated Plan Community Participation Plan: Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee Role and Composition in order to respond to the Virginia DSS recommendations regarding community action agency governance.

ISSUE: Approval of the County's FY 2010 Annual Consolidated Plan

SUMMARY: The FY 2010 Annual Consolidated Plan describes allocations, objectives, activities, and performance measures for goals identified in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2006-2010. Both are planning documents designed to guide housing, homeless and community development goals and strategies within the County. The plans are required by HUD to continue receiving federal funds shown on the following table.

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: Jane M. Eboch, Joel Franklin, DCPHD/Housing Division

The following table shows the estimated HUD allocations for FY 2010 and the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) allocation. Final HUD grant amounts have not been made available as of this time. When final grant amounts are known, Board action may be required to adjust the final appropriation amounts.

Estimated Federal funding	
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$1,753,768
HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)	\$1,143,664
HOME American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI)	\$9,071
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	\$113,000
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	\$275,376
Total	\$3,281,879

BACKGROUND: The Annual Consolidated Plan for FY 2010 (Attachments 1-5) focuses on activities planned for the coming fiscal year that will implement the goals of the 5-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2006-2010 related to affordable housing, homelessness, neighborhood strategy areas, community development, citizen participation, and institutional structure. The Annual Consolidated Plan, including all the attachments, will be submitted to HUD no later than May 15, 2009. Attachment 1 serves as the executive summary and Attachment 2, HUD Narratives, provides more detail on the range of initiatives involving the HUD and related funding.

City of Falls Church: The County administers funding for the CDBG and HOME programs for the City of Falls Church through a Cooperation Agreement. Of the FY 2010 estimated federal funds shown above, Falls Church will receive \$130,184, including \$82,607 of the CDBG allocation and \$47,577 of HOME. The Falls Church City Council formally approved the City's FY 2010 Annual Consolidated Plan on February 23, 2009 (Attachment 3). Staff has reviewed the attached plan and recommends County Board approval.

Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG): The County's FY 2010 allocation is added to the State of Virginia's Nonentitlement ESG allocation and the County will apply for its ESG funding through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

CSBG: Arlington County is designated the Community Action Agency responsible for the administration of the County's share of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds. The federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provides formula grant funds to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities. The County pooled its FY 2010 CSBG funds with the CDBG funds for the application process.

Public Services: To maximize the impact of neighborhood revitalization efforts, the County's strategy continues to be to concentrate CDBG and other programs in the Neighborhood Strategy Areas (NSAs). The four Neighborhood Focus Areas (those with the most intensive need and

level of service) are eligible for neighborhood-specific CDBG funded-activities. Those neighborhoods are Buckingham, Columbia Heights West, Pike Village Center, and Nauck.

Attachment 4 describes the community and housing services projects proposed for funding from the various federal programs and from the Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF). The table includes the level of funding and the expected accomplishments.

Affordable Housing: As part of the budget the County Manager recommends leveraging federal HOME funds with local general funds and local recordation tax revenues providing the Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF) with a total of \$5,228,532 for the development and preservation of affordable housing. The Manager's proposed Community Development program allocates an estimated \$1.2 million for affordable housing development, rehabilitation, homeownership, and housing services. Housing subsidies are provided through four programs: the federal Section 8 rent assistance (\$16 million) and HOPWA (\$0.1 million) programs and the local Housing Grants (\$4.9 million), Homeowner's Grant (\$0.9 million) and Real Estate Tax Relief (\$4.9 million) programs.

Community Participation Plan: The revisions to CDCAC Role and Composition (Attachment 5) are necessary to respond to Virginia DSS recommendations regarding community action agency governance. As a local government Community Action Agency, Arlington's CDCAC functions as a board, and the Role and Composition serve as by-laws. Recent review by the State DSS Office of Community Services revealed the need for several minor changes to the document. Most significant is the decreased term length from 3 years to 2 ½ in order to comply with the rule that members may not serve longer than five consecutive years.

Community Comment: Attachment 6 provides a summary of community comments on the draft Consolidated Plan and its components. CDCAC reviewed the revised Role and Composition document on April 1, 2009 and approved it unanimously.

FISCAL IMPACT: All allocations of FY 2010 CDBG and CSBG funding and general revenues covered by the Annual Consolidated Plan are reviewed by the County Board as part of the FY 2010 budget. The Plan that will be submitted to HUD will reflect the County Board Budget action.