

**PLANNING and ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 12, 2008**

The Planning and Administration Committee met on Tuesday, February 12, 2008 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building beginning at 1:50 p.m. Mr. Jeffcoat, Committee Chairman presided.

Members Attending:

Johnny W. Jeffcoat, Chairman	George H. Smokey Davis, V Chairman
Debra B. Debbie Summers	John W. Carrigg, Jr.
William B. Banning, Sr.	William C. Billy Derrick

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator; Joe Mergo, Deputy County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

FY 2008-09 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program - Community Development - Ronald Scott, Director – Mr. Scott presented the FY 2008-09 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funding recommendations. The proposed allocation total is \$1,418,214 and is included in the current Federal FY 2007-08 budget. The funds will not be made available until July 1, 2008. Fourteen requests for funding were reviewed and evaluated by the CDBG Advisory Committee and staff. Mr. Scott presented the recommendations for project funding requests. The FY2008-09 Recommended Projects are as follows: 1) Town of Lexington - \$395,000 - Gibson Road Sidewalk; 2) City of West Columbia - \$40,000 – Alexander Road Sidewalk Phase II; 3) Habitat for Humanity - \$135,000 – Leica Lane Affordable Housing; 4) Central Midlands Council of Governments - \$30,000 – Lexington County Needs Analysis; 5) Sistercare - \$27,000 – Pick-up Truck and Trailer; 6) Town of Gilbert - \$58,000 – Main Street Property Clearance; 7) Town of South Congaree - \$140,000 – Pine Street Paving; 8) CMCOG/Midlands Workforce Development Board - \$11,988 – Lexington Economic Advancement Project; 9) Lexington-Richland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council (LRADAC) - \$19,500 – Women’s Community Residence Van; 10) City of Cayce – \$206,249 – State Street Streetscaping Phase III; 11) City of West Columbia - \$220,000 – Triangle City Façade Improvements; 12) Joint Water and Sewer Commission - \$75,000 – Pelion Area Sewer Study; 13) Town of South Congaree - \$44,000 – Sewer Study; and 14) City of Cayce - \$50,000 – Senior Center Feasibility Study. Staff has requested Council’s approval for the proposed CDBG Program allocation for the projects recommended.

A motion was made by Mr. Banning, seconded by Ms. Summers to recommend to full Council to approve staff’s recommendations for the FY 2008-09 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program allocation of \$1,418,214 for the projects presented.

The vote was in favor. Mr. Carrigg was not present at the time the vote was taken.

FY 2008-09 HOME Investment Partnership Program - Community Development - Ronald Scott, Director – Mr. Scott presented the FY 2008-09 HOME Investment Partnership Program. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has notified the County of its qualification to become a Participating Jurisdiction (PJ) for the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME). The Program is similar to the CDGB Program in that it is a grant allocation given to the County on an annual basis but it is designed exclusively to target affordable housing efforts in the County. Mr. Scott cited the examples of HOME Program activities that include providing site improvements such as water/sewer taps, housing rehabilitation or replacement, support of Community Housing Development Organization, down-payment assistance, home loan assistance, and new housing development. The allocation from HUD will be \$541,471, however HUD requires that in the first year a participating jurisdiction has this program, the program must operate at \$750,000. The State Housing Finance and Development Authority (SHA) will provide an additional \$208,529 match to meet the \$750,000. The federal government requires that the County provide a 25% match of those funds on an ongoing basis. This year's match would be approximately \$168,750. Mr. Scott indicated that the match could be raised through a number of ways on a yearly basis. Staff requests Council's approval to set aside \$168,750 in the general fund for the program, acceptance of \$541,471 from HUD and acceptance of \$208,529 from the SHA for the FY 2008-09 HOME Investment Partnership Program grant. Additionally staff requests permission to proceed with developing an Annual Action Plan and budget for the new program that must be submitted to HUD by May 15, 2008, along with the Annual Action Plan for the CDBG Program.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Banning to recommend to full Council to approve staff's request to proceed with the FY 2008-09 HOME Investment Partnership Program.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Old Business/New Business - Landscape Ordinance, Amendment to Building Codes –Mr. Ronald Scott, Director of Community Development reported that Mr. Charlie Compton, Director of Planning and GIS, has been working with Community Development staff as well as the Planning Commission on the Landscape Ordinance. He also reported that the amendment to the Building Codes is under review by the County Attorney. Mr. Scott said the updates will be available at the February 26 Committee meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

Johnny W. Jeffcoat
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk