



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

R-24

May 5, 2009

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a second amendment to the Fiscal Year 2008 - 2009 Action Plan incorporating the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's (ARRA) Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), and authorize the City Manager to (i) execute all necessary documents with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other entities necessary to receive HPRP funds, (ii) increase appropriations in the Community Development Grants Fund (SR 150) in the Department of Community Development (CD) by \$3,566,451, and (iii) execute all necessary documents with eligible non-profit agencies necessary for HPRP implementation. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

To receive Block Grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the City of Long Beach (City) prepares an annual Action Plan that describes how the funding for low-income residents will be used. On July 15, 2008, the City Council approved the FY 09 Action Plan. This FY 09 Action Plan is the fourth annual implementation plan under the five-year 2005 - 2010 Consolidated Plan. The Plan is required to assess community needs and to prioritize the use of HUD grant funds received by the City to address identified needs by principally benefiting low income Long Beach residents.

Pursuant to Title XII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), which became effective on February 17, 2009, HUD has established a new program called the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). Under this program, the City is eligible to receive an additional \$3,566,451 of federal funding to provide temporary support for persons who are still housed but who are at risk of becoming homeless, and persons who are already homeless. HUD expects that these resources will be targeted and prioritized to serve households that are most in need of temporary assistance to regain stability in housing. Individuals and families expected to require long-term assistance are expected to be triaged into other programs providing long-term support. Grantees must expend 60 percent of the funds within two years, and

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

May 5, 2009

Page 2

100 percent within three years. Because this is a new program, the City must amend the FY 09 Action Plan in order to participate in the HPRP. The substantial amendment and a summary of HPRP regulations is provided. (Attachment A)

On April 15, 2009, the Community Development Advisory Commission conducted a Public Hearing to solicit public comment on the substantial amendment to the FY 09 Action Plan. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council approval of the substantial amendment to the FY 09 Action Plan. Notices regarding the Public Hearing and the availability of the substantial amendment to the FY 09 Plan were published in the *Press Telegram*. In addition, the program announcement was posted on the Department of Community Development website. All of the public comments received at the public hearing and during the public comment period, April 3, 2009 to April 22, 2009, are included in the Amended Action Plan, along with copies of written responses from staff.

The program calls for recipient jurisdictions to develop prevention and/or rapid re-housing programs that meet locally-defined needs; however, HUD also expects that these resources will be targeted and prioritized to serve households that are most in need of this temporary assistance and are most likely to achieve stable housing, whether subsidized or unsubsidized, outside of HPRP after the program concludes. Because HPRP funds must be obligated no later than September 30, 2009, the Department of Community Development, in conjunction with the Health and Human Services Department, is recommending that the City Manager be authorized to enter into subcontracts for the HPRP funds with eligible non-profit agencies funded by the Continuum of Care.

There are four categories of eligible activities for the HPRP program: financial assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services, data collection and evaluation, and administrative costs. These eligible activities are intentionally focused on housing, by either providing financial assistance to help pay for housing, or services designed to keep people in housing or to find housing. Generally, the intent of HPRP assistance is to rapidly transition program participants to stability, either through their own means or through public assistance, as appropriate. HPRP assistance is not intended to provide long-term support for program participants, nor will it be able to address all of the financial and supportive services needs of households that affect housing stability. Rather, assistance should be focused on housing stabilization, linking program participants to community resources and mainstream benefits, and help them to develop a plan for preventing future housing instability.

This item as reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Richard Anthony on April 14, 2009 and by Budget and Performance Management Bureau Manager David Wodynski on April 20, 2009.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on May 5, 2008, as the Amended Action Plan must be submitted to HUD no later than May 18, 2009.

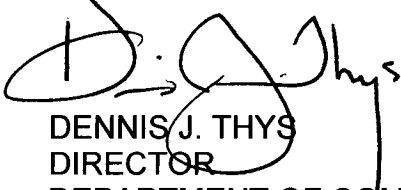
FISCAL IMPACT

An appropriation increase of \$3,566,451 is requested in the Community Development Grants Fund (SR 150) in the Department of Community Development (CD). The increase is included in the recommendation. There is no impact to the General Fund.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,



DENNIS J. THYS
DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



RONALD R. ARIAS
DIRECTOR
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DJT/AR/ah
5-5-09 HPRP v5.doc

Attachment A: FY 2008-2009 Action Plan Substantial Amendment and Summary of HPRP Regulations

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
FY 2008-2009 ACTION PLAN
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**



ALLOCATING FEDERAL RESOURCES OF:

**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program
(HPRP)**

Table of Contents

Background.....	2
Timeline	2
Administrative Requirements	2
Reporting and Tracking.....	2
Eligible Participants.....	2
HPRP Uses	3
Eligible Activities	3
Ineligible Activities	4
Key Activities and Dates	5
Local Guiding Principles and Objectives.....	5
Proposed Estimated Budget Summary – City of Long Beach.....	7
Notice of Interest (NOI).....	7
Appendix	8

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

Background

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) into law, providing \$1.5 billion to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program, referred to as **HPRP**. The purpose of the HPRP is to provide financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or rapidly rehouse and stabilize those who are experiencing homelessness.

Timeline

On March 19, 2009, HUD issued a Notice detailing the requirements for the HPRP. The Notice may be accessed at http://www.hudhre.info/documents/HPRP_Notice_3-19-09.pdf. In order to receive HPRP funds, each jurisdiction must submit a substantial amendment to its Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan to HUD by **May 18, 2009**. HUD will complete its review of correctly completed documentation no later than July 2, 2009.

Administrative Requirements

Funds must be applied for through a substantial amendment to the jurisdictional Consolidated Plan, and obligated by September 30, 2009. This is one-time, three-year funding. Grantees must expend 60% of funds within two years, and 100% within three years.

Reporting and Tracking

The grantee must collect information on the persons served with HPRP funding using an HMIS (Homeless Management Information System).

Grantee performance tracking will be required quarterly, with the first Quarterly Report due October 10, 2009. Specific data to be reported are noted in Section VI. C. of the Notice. The Annual Performance Report will report on outputs, such as the number of persons served and the demographic characteristics of persons served, HPRP funds expended by activity type, number of jobs created and retained, as well as outcomes related to housing stability of participants receiving assistance, to be specified by HUD (Section VI.C.2.c.).

Eligible Participants

Eligible participants (clients) for the program include:

1. Persons who are still housed but who are at risk of becoming homeless, and
2. Persons who are already homeless.

HUD expects that these resources will be targeted and prioritized to serve households that are most in need of **temporary** assistance to regain stability in housing. Individuals and families expected to require long-term assistance are expected to be triaged into other programs providing long-term support.

Whether homeless or housed, eligible participants must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Household income at or below 50% of Area Median Income (HUD 2009 income limits for Los Angeles-Long Beach are \$27,750 for a one-person household and \$39,650 for a four-person household).
- No appropriate subsequent housing options have been identified; AND
- Lacks the financial resources and support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in existing housing.

HUD strongly encourages grantees and subgrantees to target prevention to “those who would be homeless **but for** this assistance.” HUD lists a set of criteria to assist communities to determine if somebody is at risk and eligible for assistance. (See Section IV.D.3. of the Notice).

Jurisdictions who do not utilize the funds as intended or on ineligible participants are subject to multiple sanctions, including de-obligation and/or repayment of amounts received. (See Section V. H. of the Notice.)

HPRP Uses

The HPRP funds can be used for two types of assistance:

1. **Prevention:** Prevention targets individuals and families who need temporary rent or utility assistance to prevent them from becoming homeless, or who need help moving to another unit.
2. **Rapid re-housing:** Rapid re-housing targets individuals and families who are already homeless who need temporary assistance in order to obtain and retain housing.

Eligible participants are limited to up to 18 months of assistance, after which they are expected to be self-sustaining in housing.

Eligible Activities

Eligible HPRP activities that may be undertaken for prevention or rapid re-housing include:

- Financial Assistance, such as:
 - Short-term or medium-term rental assistance (up to 18 months maximum) with shallow, deep (deeper than Section 8), and declining subsidies allowed;
 - up to six months of back rent (which counts against the 18 months)
 - security and utility deposits;
 - up to 18 months of utility payments, which may include up to six months of back utility payments;
 - moving cost assistance, but not furnishings;
 - motel and hotel vouchers for no more than thirty days if no appropriate shelter is available and rental housing has been identified but is not ready to be moved into.
- Services that assist people with housing stability and placement, such as:
 - Case management, including counseling;
 - service coordination;
 - monitoring and evaluating program participant performance;

- developing housing and service plans;
- outreach and engagement;
- housing search and placement such as tenant counseling, rep. payee services with respect to housing costs, mediation and outreach to landlords;
- legal services to help people stay in their housing, but not assistance with mortgages;
- credit repair, including money management and resolving personal credit issues (but not payment of credit card debt – see ineligible activities below).
- Data Collection and Evaluation:
 - operating HMIS for purposes of HPRP;
 - analyzing data and patterns of use of HPRP;
 - purchase of HMIS software or licenses;
 - equipment;
 - developing new software;
 - and (if the community has no HMIS) HMIS implementation and start up activities.
- Administration:
 - Pre-award administrative costs;
 - accounting and audits;
 - training for staff and case managers.

Ineligible Activities

Ineligible activities under the HPRP include:

- Financial assistance or services to pay for expenses covered by other Recovery Act resources (although coordination of benefits from other programs is strongly encouraged);
 - Mortgage costs;
 - construction or rehabilitation;
 - credit card bills or other consumer debt;
 - car repair or transportation;
 - travel costs;
 - food;
 - medical, dental, or medicines;
 - clothing and grooming;
 - home furnishings;
 - pet care;
 - entertainment;
 - work or education related materials;
 - cash assistance;
 - developing discharge planning programs in mainstream institutions; certifications,
 - Licenses and general training classes.

Further, the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program cannot be used for:

- Renovation, major rehabilitation, or conversion of a building to a shelter.
- Operations of homeless shelters.
- Supplanting other funding.

Key Activities and Dates

- Development of the Substantial Amendments to the jurisdictional Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan – locally determined
- **April 3, 2009** – Beginning of public comment period
- **April 15, 2009** – Public forum – Community Development Advisory Commission 10am
- **April 22, 2009** – End of public comment period
- **May 5, 2009** – City Council Meeting
- **May 18, 2009** – Two copies of the substantial amendment (HUD-40119), Form SF-424, and required certifications must be postmarked no later than May 18, 2009. **One copy is sent to HUD Headquarters, Washington D.C., the other to the appropriate HUD Field Office.**
- **July 2, 2009** – HUD will complete its review of correctly completed substantial amendments (within 45 days of receipt). Plans not meeting HUD award criteria will be returned and jurisdictions provided an additional 15 days to perfect the plan.
- **September 30, 2009** – Grantee must award or enter into legally binding grant agreements with all sub grantees by September 30, 2009.
- **24 Months from Grantee Agreement execution** – 60% of funds must be expended.
- **36 Months from Grantee Agreement execution** – 100% of funds must be expended.

Local Guiding Principles and Objectives

The following statements were discussed during a Continuum of Care Stakeholders meeting on April 3, 2009:

Homeless Prevention is cost efficient and must be achieved as early as possible in the crisis to prevent the need for deep subsidies to remedy.

Prevent evictions, because evictions are a significant barrier to future housing opportunities.

Community wide outreach will be critical to ensure the citywide safety net is effective in preventing a crisis and thus reducing disruption for individuals and families with children.

HPRP will promote movement within the existing system of care, increasing the number of households that achieve stable permanent housing.

Risk assessment will be critical in matching the system of care resources to the level of need for the presenting households.

Emphasis must be placed on sustainability with the least amount of assistance required to bridge the gap.

Skill sets are different for people experiencing situational vs generational poverty; customize interventions to promote the greatest level of self reliance.

The current system of care for homeless services will be required to adapt to the changing demographics resulting from the economic crisis; The HPRP will afford greater flexibility to assist an at risk population that was previously not well served.

Focus on neighborhood stabilization, not just homeless populations, while supporting the current workforce in Long Beach.

Community outreach, Case Management and Housing Locators are necessary to coordinate and connect the important links required to implement both homeless prevention and rapid-rehousing components of the HPRP.

Promote citywide access to the HPRP resources in non traditional service locations to reduce stigma of assistance.

HPRP must be used in collaboration with other stimulus programs in order to leverage and strengthen outcomes for Long Beach residents.

Proposed Estimated Budget Summary – City of Long Beach

HUD requires the grantee to complete the following table so that participants in the citizen participation process may see the grantee’s preliminary estimated amounts for various HPRP activities. Enter the estimated budget amounts for each activity in the appropriate column and row. The grantee will be required to report actual amounts in subsequent reporting.

HPRP Estimated Budget Summary			
	Homelessness Prevention	Rapid housing	Re- Total Amount Budgeted
Financial Assistance ¹	\$967,561	\$995,251	\$1,962,812
Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services ²	\$600,000	\$540,000	\$1,140,000
Subtotal (add previous two rows)	\$1,567,561	\$1,535,251	\$3,102,812

Data Collection and Evaluation ³	\$285,316
Administration (up to 5% of allocation)	\$ 178,323
Total HPRP Amount Budgeted⁴	\$3,566,451

¹Financial assistance includes the following activities as detailed in the HPRP Notice: short-term rental assistance, medium-term rental assistance, security deposits, utility deposits, utility payments, moving cost assistance, and motel or hotel vouchers.

²Housing relocation and stabilization services include the following activities as detailed in the HPRP Notice: case management, outreach, housing search and placement, legal services, mediation, and credit repair.

³Data collection and evaluation includes costs associated with operating HUD-approved homeless management information systems for purposes of collecting unduplicated counts of homeless persons and analyzing patterns of use of HPRP funds.

⁴This amount must match the amount entered in the cell on the table in Section A titled “Amount Grantee is Requesting.”

Notice of Interest (NOI)

The City posted a request for NOI responses from stakeholders that are interested in participating in the HPRP implementation, either as a referring agency or as a sub grantee recipient of a designated component for the implementation strategy in Long Beach. A copy of the NOI can be viewed in the appendix of this document.

Appendix

Notice of Interest:



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

2525 GRAND AVENUE • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90815 • (562) 570-4003 • FAX: (562) 570-4006

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) Notice of Interest (NOI)

Background

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) into law, providing \$1.5 billion to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program, referred to as HPRP. The purpose of the HPRP is to provide financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or rapidly re-house and stabilize those who are currently experiencing homelessness.

The purpose of the Notice of Interest is to provide a mechanism for stakeholders in the Long Beach community to express interest for participation and collaboration with the City of Long Beach on the local planning, development and implementation of the HPRP resource.

The local objective is to provide the greatest level of access for this resource, hence the City is seeking collaborative partners that may or may not receive subcontract funding under the HPRP, but will be valuable referral partners, ensuring that citywide access for Long Beach residents is available to alleviate housing crisis during these challenging economic times, as intended by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The City of Long Beach, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is the lead entity for the Continuum of Care, a homeless system of care that is principally funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. As lead agency, the City competitively funds 16 nonprofit agencies within the City that provide a broad array of services located at the Multi-Service Center for the Homeless, the Villages at Cabrillo, the Mental Health America (MHA) Village and other scattered site programs to address the needs of those experiencing homelessness in Long Beach. All collaborative partners cross-refer to specific agencies that fulfill specific roles within the system of care.

In an effort to leverage the impact of already existing services and experience, the City has elected to limit Homeless Prevention and Rapid-Rehousing Program funding to existing CoC partner agencies. The Continuum of Care (CoC) competitive process occurs annually, and has a longstanding tradition of promoting a system of care that seeks to minimize duplicative service delivery. CoC partner agencies currently operate programs that serve people currently experiencing homelessness and have the infrastructure in place to operationalize the HPRP funds within the short allotted time frame established by HUD. Additionally, the existing CoC partnerships are subject to and in compliance with the City's financial policies and procedures related to the use of Federal funding including: stringent financial oversight; compliance with Federal Single Audit and other funding guidelines and requirements that ensure funds are spent appropriately.

General Requirements:

Development and Implementation of the HPRP must adhere to the posted "Local Guiding Principles and Objectives"

The Homeless Services Division is committed to ensure that a broad network of referring entities, citywide, are engaged in the planning, development and implementation of this program.

Regular meetings will be conducted by the DHHS Homeless Services Division to develop and refine ~~assessment tools, conduct staff training, assess progress with program delivery, and make budget allocation~~ adjustments to ensure 60% of funds are expended in 24 months and 100% by 36 months, for maximum benefit to the Long Beach community.

Notice of Interest Submission Instructions

Long Beach Continuum of Care funded agencies and Collaborating and Referring Partner agencies responding to this Notice of Interest (NOI) must submit an agency specific interest statement corresponding to the appropriate section as detailed in this notice. The original Notice of Interest (NOI) must be **delivered** to the following address by **4:00 p.m. on May 1, 2009**:

City of Long Beach
2525 Grand Avenue, Room 235
Long Beach, CA 90815
Attention: Susan Price, Homeless Services Officer

The Notice of Interest (NOI) is not intended to be a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process and does not imply that funding will be allocated based upon responses received as a result of the NOI posting.

Any questions regarding these instructions or the completion of Notice of Interest should be directed in writing to Susan Price, either via email to Susan.Price@longbeach.gov, or via fax to (562) 570-4066.

Non-Continuum of Care Agencies Collaborating Partners and Referring Agencies NOI Statement: (2 page maximum)

- 1) Describe the type of organization, populations served, primary role in Long Beach etc.
- 2) Describe the HPRP eligible populations for which the organization has unique access.
- 3) What are the prevailing needs identified by the populations that you serve/interface with regularly?
- 4) How would the organization envision coordinating with the MSC/CoC system of care if the organization was selected as a satellite referring site for the HPRP resource?

Continuum of Care Agencies NOI Statement:

The following components are under consideration for HPRP subcontracts to CoC agencies:

- 1) Rapid Re-Housing for individuals and/or families:
 - Housing Locators (up to 2.0 FTE)
 - Landlord-Tenant Liaison (up to 1.0 FTE)
 - Short and Medium term Rental Assistance Program
- 2) Homeless Prevention:
 - Financial Literacy Case Manager (up to 1.0 FTE)
- 3) Homeless Prevention:
 - Homelessness Prevention Utility Deposits, Utility Payments, and Moving Costs Assistance

****Use annual budget figures to calculate the amount the agency would expend in a one year time frame**

NOI Narrative for HPRP components

(3.5 pages maximum)

Please be that the narrative proposal aligns with both the program guidelines as listed in the HUD "Notice of Allocations, Application Procedures, and Requirements for Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program Grantees under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009", available at <http://www.hudhre.info>, and the posted "Local Guiding Principles and Objectives."

- Narrative description of organization's existing program model that delivers the Homeless Prevention or Rapid ReHousing service in Long Beach.
- Proposed annual budget and narrative description/plan for how the funds will be expended within stated time frames.
- Scope of work outlining the deliverable service activities (proposed numbers served) the organization proposes to achieve annually.
- Identify any organizational adjustments needed to meet an increased demand for services from the proposed programs including number of employees needed and job descriptions.

**LONG BEACH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)
Notice of Interest (NOI) Cover Sheet**

I. ORGANIZATION INFORMATION		
Legal Organization Name:		
Administrative Address (street, city, state, & zip):		
Phone:	Fax:	Website Address:
Administrative Contact Person (name/title):		
Phone:	Fax:	Email:
II. LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> HPRP Referral / Access Collaboration		<input type="checkbox"/> HPRP Sub recipient Provider
Program Address (street, city, state & zip):		
Contact Person (name/title):		
Phone:	Fax:	Email:
III. PROPOSED HPRP ACTIVITIES		
HPRP Program Component	Annual Amount	Expenditure
1) Rapid Re-Housing for Individuals and families		
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Locator, 2.0 FTE		
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Locator, 1.0 FTE		
<input type="checkbox"/> Short/Medium term Rental Assistance Program (maximum 18 months)		
Homelessness Prevention		
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Literacy Case Manager, 1.0 FTE		
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness Prevention Utility Deposits, Utility Payments, and Moving Costs Assistance Program		
Total Amount Requested for HPRP		

Signature of Executive Director

Date

Name of Executive Director (Please Print)

Public Comment and Citizen Participation:

The Department of Community Development, which is principally responsible for the City of Long Beach Consolidated Plan, published a notice announcing the availability of the draft Substantial Amendment to the 2009 Action Plan and the upcoming public hearing. In addition, the amendment that contains the proposed summary budget and local guiding principles and objectives was posted in the City website during the public comment period, which started on April 3, 2009 and ended on April 22, 2009. Following the above outreach, the Community Development Advisory Commission (CDAC), the body responsible for compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, hosted a Public Hearing on April 15, 2009 and voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council approval of the Substantial Amendment to the FY 2009 Action Plan.

Public Comments from April 15, 2009 Public Hearing

Dora Jacildo, Children Today

Good morning, my name is Dora Jacildo. Thank you Gary for catching that earlier. I am the Executive Director of Children Today and we are a nonprofit that provides services to young children and families experiencing homelessness. We have a Child Care facility at the Long Beach Multi-Services Center and one in North Long Beach, in the 8th District on the corner of Cherry and South. I am also the Chair of the Multi-Services Center Advisory Board and I wanted to comment on Susan Price's presentation because there was a couple of things that came up for me that I wanted to make sure, hmm... I shared with you my perspective on things.

I think this is extremely exciting, it's a wonderful opportunity, it's money we've never had before, and I think it's the Continuum of Care and the Multi-Service Center wish list come true, really. We haven't been able to do prevention services, rapid re-housing, money has been limited. So I think for most of us (I was at the meeting on April 10th), we were extremely excited, very energized, very committed to using this money in a way that is intended to really prevent homelessness and move people out of homelessness into housing stability. But a couple of things that are really important for me. One is to remind everyone as Susan said, this is one time funding only. And it's funding that's available for three years. This isn't going to be part of our, our homeless delivery services forever.

A couple of things that Susan said was that the Multi-Service Center is well positioned to take, ah to take on this money. We are extremely organized. We know how to do this work. We are excited about it. We are again very organized. I've sat in on other meetings discussing the Recovering Act funds and folks are trying to reinvent the wheel or trying to create infrastructure. We are ready to go. We can hit the floor running. But, part of the reason we can hit the floor running is because we do have an exceptional service delivery model. And I think Susan said that this would be in conjunction with existing services and we are well positioned at the Multi-Service Center to execute this new program so I want to remind you to please....

...Infrastructure are existing programs we can move this quickly forward. We just can't compromise this or use this money in lieu of what's already been allocated. Thank you.

Pat Kennedy, R20

Good morning, my name is Pat Kennedy. Gary will check it. Make sure you get it right. I am the Executive Director of Greater Long Beach Inter-Faith Community Organization and I've had the pleasure of working with some of the people on the Commissioners. It's great, a great grant and I hope we use very well. I just like to raise a point on, there was a point made about people being evicted because their building was foreclosed upon. And we've heard a number of cases where the building is cleared out and they do that to make it easier for the bank to sell it. But the problem is the people that were living there and had already paid their rent, now are on the street. And LA did a moratorium on those types of evictions and as a panel you might consider a recommendation to the Council to look at something like that as part of your strategy for addressing this growing homeless problem. But it's a very unfair situation and I hope you take a look at it.

Second point and I'm afraid I'm probably going off topic here but one of the things we do is listen to people in the community and people that we've talked to particularly in North Long Beach, that used to be looking at crime and clean-up issues weren't available any longer to have the conversation or to work on some of these problems. And the reason was they were scrambling trying to figure out how do they hang on to their house. And so we found a lot of people that are looking at this and as we dug deeper, we'd go down the streets and find For Sale signs back and forth, up and down the street. The figures we got from the City on foreclosure rates, had in the December, last year January and February, had 600 new foreclosures in just that one zip code, 90805 and a significant number across the City.

This clearly isn't to address that and unfortunately the federal programs that have been put out there for foreclosure don't seem to fit for Long Beach particularly well. The two pieces from the administration, the one piece was looking at Fannie Mae program, if you have a Fannie Mae loan and your value of 105%, well what's happened is that the people have lost so much value they don't qualify for that and the other is people that are not behind but want to refinance. And we're finding so many people are a month or two behind and so I know that this isn't directly in this Hearing but as a group that can provide some leadership for this City. I don't hear anybody talking about this and I get the sense that we're all standing on the beach watching people out there drowning and the question is, are we going to wait and say okay we'll send somebody in that can swim better because we have some money to help new homeowners go in there? Or are we going to try to figure out something to do about all these people going under water? I know there's a few people out there that took bad loans and were in no position to do anything but I know an awful lot of people that are going under or people that now only have two jobs instead three jobs, and that somebody lost employment in that family. It's a tremendous challenge right now and it's really tearing up neighborhoods and if an organization, if you as a board can start to take a lead and challenging the City to take a look at this, that would be a tremendous service. Thank you.