



News Release
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City to Grant \$1.1 Million for Housing and Community Development

The City of Missoula will make more than \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) available for housing and community development projects designed to assist low-income residents. The money may be used for expanding the supply of housing affordable to low-income families and individuals, offering other types of assistance to low- and moderate-income people, eliminating slums and blight, or meeting urgent community development needs.

Mayor John Engen has indicated that Missoula will receive about \$700,000 in federal fiscal year 2011 through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement program and \$600,000 in Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds. The City will reserve approximately \$200,000 of the available funds to undertake activities that promote fair and affordable housing and to manage the programs. The City will accept applications for CDBG and HOME funds from individuals and community groups through an application process that begins with a public meeting on September 30.

“I love the CDBG and HOME programs,” Mayor Engen said. “They fund great organizations doing great work for low-income Missoulians. This is an opportunity for those agencies to learn about the programs, ask questions and tell us more about what they’re doing.”

Missoula has developed specific objectives for its CDBG and HOME allocations in the Missoula Consolidated Plan, adopted by City Council in February 2009. Copies of the plan are available from the Office of Planning and Grants (OPG) at 435 Ryman St. and online at OPG’s Web site, www.co.missoula.mt.us/opgweb.

Anyone interested may attend a community needs assessment meeting on Thursday, Sept. 30, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Missoula City Council Chambers at 140 W. Pine St. The meeting will be used to gather public opinion on Missoula’s community needs, collect suggestions for potential community development projects, and provide information on how to apply for CDBG or HOME funding. Application forms and guidelines for the CDBG and HOME funds will be available at the meeting and also online at www.co.missoula.mt.us/opgweb. Proposals for spending the CDBG and HOME funds will be accepted until November 22, 2010.

For more information, to request printed copies of the applications, or if you would like to request special accommodations to participate fully in the meeting, contact Nancy Harte at the Missoula city-county Office of Planning and Grants at 258-4657 or at nharte@co.missoula.mt.us.

Anyone using a TTY device may contact the Montana Relay Service by dialing 711.

