

**Notice of Public Hearing & Public Comment Period
City of Fargo**

The City of Fargo is proposing various actions related to its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships programs, which are grants awarded to the City by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Following a public comment period and subsequent City Commission action on April 20, 2020, a recommendation regarding these actions will be forwarded to HUD for their consideration and approval. All citizens are welcome to submit comments at any time during the public comment period or at the public hearing.

Public Comment Period: March 10 through April 8, 2020

Send written comments or phone: City of Fargo
Planning and Development Department
Attn: Community Development Planning Coordinator
225 4th Street North, Fargo ND 58102
701.476.4144

Electronic Comments: planning@FargoND.gov

Public Hearing: Monday, March 23, 2020 - 5:15 p.m.
City Commission Chambers
225 4th Street North, Fargo ND 58102

Final City Commission Consideration: Monday, April 20, 2020

Summary of Proposed Actions: Outlined Below

AMENDMENTS

1. 2018 Action Plan

○ **Activity Amendment: Slum & Blight Abatement/Hazardous Property Clearance at 916 5 Avenue South**

This activity is included in the City's 2018 Annual Action Plan. Each time location, project scope, and budget are identified, the City must make a "substantial amendment" to the plan. Activities will include demolition and future construction of a single-family housing unit in partnership with the Cass Clay Community Land Trust (CCCLT). *National Objective: Low to Moderate Income Housing Benefit [570.208(a)(3)]. CDBG Matrix Codes: 04 Clearance & Demolition and *12 Construction of Housing. Eligibility 24 CFR Part 570.201 (a) and 570.201 (m). *CDBG funds will only be used to fund demolition, construction of housing will be funded and performed by the CCCLT.*

Financial – \$65,000 is the estimated combined cost for any environmental (e.g., asbestos removal, hazardous materials abatement, etc.) and demolition-related expenses.

2. 2019 Action Plan

○ **Activity Amendment: Affordable Housing Development at 712 4 Avenue North & 314/320/324 7 Street North**

This activity is included in the City's 2019 Annual Action Plan. Each time location and project scope are identified, the City must make a "substantial amendment" to the plan. Activities will include disposition of City-owned land previously purchased with CDBG funds. These properties will be donated to an affordable housing developer to build new units which will be occupied by households earning 80% or less of the Area Median Income. At least 51% of the units built on this site must meet this criteria. Reference items #2-3 in the "Changes of Use" section of this notice. *National Objective: Low to Moderate Income Housing Benefit [570.208(a)(3)]. CDBG Matrix Codes: 02 Disposition and *12 Construction of Housing. Eligibility 24 CFR Part 570.201 (b) and 570.201 (m). * CDBG funds will not be used to fund future construction, unless otherwise included in a future amendment involving citizen participation.*

Financial – No new costs associated with this activity amendment; property will be donated.

3. Citizen Participation Plan

HUD requires its Grantees to adopt a Citizen Participation Plan that sets forth the City's policies and procedures for citizen participation related to its HUD HOME & CDBG programs. The current Citizen Participation Plan is outdated and periodic updates are recommended. A draft copy of the amended plan may be reviewed at www.FargoND.gov or by request through the Planning & Development Department.

CHANGES OF USE

1. Change of Use at 11 11 Street North

CDBG funds were used in 2014 to eliminate conditions of slum and blight at this location. At this time, the City intends to sell this property to the entity with the highest offer and/or best use plan in the neighborhood. The minimum offer accepted must be equal to or more than the current fair market value as determined by an appraisal (underway). With the initial HUD National Objective being met (i.e., slum & blight removal) and no eligible activities proposed or materialized over the past 6 years, the City must now change the use at this site and sell the land to another entity which may or may not directly benefit low and moderate income beneficiaries. Proceeds from the sale will replenish the local CDBG account and become available for use in the City's upcoming 2020 Action Plan.

2. Change of Use at 712 4 Avenue North & 314/324 7 Street North

CDBG funds were used between 2008 and 2013 to eliminate conditions of slum and blight at these locations. At this time, the City intends to release a Request for Proposals to redevelop this site as a new eligible CDBG use activity, affordable housing. Activities will include disposition of City-owned land previously purchased with CDBG funds. Once an acceptable proposal is received, the new activity will be included in the 2019 Action Plan under the existing Affordable Housing Development activity (see Item #2 in the "Amendments" section of this notice). *National Objective: Low to Moderate Income Housing Benefit [570.208(a)(3)]. CDBG Matrix Codes: 02 Disposition and *12 Construction of Housing. Eligibility 24 CFR Part 570.201 (b) and 570.201 (m). * CDBG funds will not be used to fund future construction, unless otherwise included in a future amendment involving citizen participation.*

3. Change of Use at 320 7 Street North

CDBG funds were used in 2002 to purchase this vacant property to support the adjacent Native American Program offices (relocated in 2008). At this time, the City intends to release a Request for Proposals to redevelop this site as part of a larger combination of sites (see #2 above). The new use will be affordable housing, which is an eligible CDBG activity. Activities will include disposition of City-owned land previously purchased with CDBG funds. Once an acceptable proposal is received, the new activity will be included in the 2019 Action Plan under the existing Affordable Housing Development activity (see Item #2 in the "Amendments" section of this notice). *National Objective: Low to Moderate Income Housing Benefit [570.208(a)(3)]. CDBG Matrix Codes: 02 Disposition and *12 Construction of Housing. Eligibility 24 CFR Part 570.201 (b) and 570.201 (m). * CDBG funds will not be used to fund future construction, unless otherwise included in a future amendment involving citizen participation.*

Comments and suggestions from the public are encouraged during the public comment period and/or at the public hearing (schedule above). Additional information on the proposed actions is available by request through the Planning and Development Department. See contact information below.

The facility is serviced by public transit, accessible and can accommodate persons with disabilities. Alternative formats of this information or reasonable accommodations for persons with hearing loss, vision loss, disabilities or limited English proficiency, including the availability of interpretation and translation services, will be made upon request (48 hours of notice is required). Anyone who requires these services or an auxiliary aid to fully participate in the hearing should contact the Planning and Development Department at 701.241.1474/Planning@FargoND.gov, or the City of Fargo's Section 504/ADA Coordinator Brock Morrison at 701.298.6966 to arrange for services. To access TTY/ND Relay service dial 800.366.6888 or 711. In accordance with Federal regulations and City of Fargo policies, services are provided without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, national origin, age, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, public assistance, domestic violence, lawful activity, or condition protected by applicable federal and state laws. The City is an equal employment/equal housing opportunity agency.