



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2012

Contact: Niel Laudati: 541.726.3780

Cell: 541.221.3686

**~ Media
Advisory ~**

**SPRINGFIELD SEEKING PROPOSALS FOR HOUSING
AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Including downtown redevelopment projects addressing conditions of blight

Beginning Friday, January 27, 2012 applications for funding by the City of Springfield Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Programs (HOME) will be available from through Community Development and Housing Division office at Springfield City Hall, 225 Fifth Street. The deadline for submitting an application is Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 5pm.

A packet containing the 2012 application for funding and information about the CDBG and HOME programs will be available beginning January 27, 2012. Packets may be obtained at the Community Development and Housing Division office during regular business hours, or online at:

<http://www.springfield-or.gov/dsd/housing/housing.home.htm>

It is estimated that \$288,172 in CDBG funds and \$225,679 in HOME funds will be made available for eligible projects and activities, including public facility improvements, neighborhood projects, housing development activities, economic development activities and other special capital projects that benefit low and moderate-income city residents. The City is also accepting CDBG Business Development Loan applications from established and emerging for-profit businesses located in the Downtown corridor.

Preference will be given to projects that address youth and public safety issues; projects where participation from cooperating community partners in targeted areas is demonstrated; projects that leverage or recycle funds; projects which show support from the benefiting neighborhoods, projects which address crime and public safety issues Downtown, and projects which enhance community pride and improve the quality of life citywide

For more information: call (541) 726-2358, or e-mail kko@springfield-or.gov.

Background:

The primary purpose of the CDBG Program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities principally for people of low- and moderate-income. The primary purpose of the HOME Program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent, safe and affordable housing for person of low income.

A portion of the estimated \$452,736 CDBG grant has been reserved by the City's Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) for ongoing activities. These include \$67,910 for social services to the Human Services Commission, \$90,547 in grant administration and planning, and \$80,000 for city housing programs. The city will also be re-allocating \$73,893 of CDBG funds from a previous allocation. A portion of the estimated \$294,915 HOME grant has also been reserved by the CDAC for ongoing activities. These include \$14,745 for Community Housing Development Organizations operating expenses, \$100,000 for the Springfield Home Ownership Program (SHOP) and \$29,491 in grant administration. Approximately \$75,000 from previous allocations is also available for re-allocation this year.

Because of the significant reductions to the federal HUD budget, Springfield's CDBG allocation is considerably less than in previous years. We anticipate this trend to continue until the federal budget crisis is resolved. Therefore, in order to ensure the future viability of the CDBG program, it is strongly recommended that requests for CDBG funding be in the form of a repayable loan instead of a grant.

All applications must be received by the City no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 14, 2012.