



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item  
Meeting of April 21, 2007**

**DATE: March 30, 2007**

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the County's Annual Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008, which includes the FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan for the City of Falls Church

**C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Approve the FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan for Arlington (Attachments 1 and 2).
2. Approve the FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan for the City of Falls Church (Attachment 3) and the allocation of CDBG and HOME funds for the City of Falls Church.
3. Authorize the County Manager to submit the approved FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan and its required certifications to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and sign contracts and documents required for the approval and implementation of the Annual Consolidated Plan and its component programs.
4. Approve the minor revisions to the Community Participation Plan (Attachment 4).
5. Appropriate \$22,450 from the HOME American Dream Downpayment Initiative (101.371900.91102) to the Affordable Investment Housing Fund (101.495130.91102) to be used for the Moderate Income Purchase Assistance Program.

**ISSUE:** None.

**SUMMARY:** The FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan describes allocations, objectives, activities, and performance measures for goals identified in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2006-2010. Both are planning documents designed to guide housing, homeless and community development goals and strategies within the County. The plans are required by HUD to continue receiving federal funds shown on the following table.

County Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

County Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff: Fran Lunney, Sarah Pizzo, DCPHD, Housing Division

<b>Federal funding</b>	
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$1,809,216
HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)	\$1,124,762
HOME American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI)	\$22,450
Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)	\$83,600
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	\$179,000
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	\$279,718
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,498,746</b>

The above table shows the final HUD allocations for FY 2008. The allocation for the HOME and CDBG program decreased modestly over the estimated amount listed in the draft Consolidated Plan. One major change was to the ESG allocation. That is explained in a paragraph below.

**BACKGROUND:** The Annual Consolidated Plan for FY 2008 focuses on activities planned for the coming fiscal year that will implement the goals of the 5-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2006-2010 related to affordable housing, homelessness, neighborhood strategy areas, community development, citizen participation, and institutional structure. The Annual Consolidated Plan, including all the attachments, will be submitted to HUD no later than May 15, 2007.

*City of Falls Church:* The County administers funding for the CDBG and HOME programs for the City of Falls Church through a Cooperation Agreement. Of the FY 2008 federal funds shown above, Falls Church will receive \$132,791, including \$85,214 of the CDBG allocation and \$47,577 of HOME. The Falls Church City Council formally approved the City's FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan on March 26, 2007. Staff has reviewed the attached plan and recommends County Board approval.

*ESG:* As of this fiscal year, Arlington is no longer a HUD entitlement community for the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) program. The County's FY 2008 allocation based on the ESG formula has dropped below the threshold for entitlement status. Arlington's calculated amount was therefore added to the State of Virginia's Nonentitlement ESG allocation and the County will apply for its ESG funding through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The ESG allocation in the table above is the estimate included in the FY 2008 Budget. It is anticipated that the amount the County will receive from the State may be slightly lower than this amount.

*CSBG:* On July 1, 2006 Arlington County was designated the new Community Action Agency responsible for the administration of the County's share of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds. The federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provides formula grant funds to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities. The County has pooled its FY 2008 CSBG funds with its CDBG funds for the application process.

*Public Services:* To maximize the impact of neighborhood revitalization efforts, the County's strategy continues to be to concentrate CDBG and other programs in the Neighborhood Strategy Areas (NSAs). The four Neighborhood Focus Areas (those with the most intensive need and level of service) are eligible for neighborhood-specific CDBG funded-activities. Those neighborhoods are Buckingham, Columbia Heights West, Pike Village Center, and Nauck.

Attachment 5 describes the community and housing services projects proposed for funding from the various federal programs and from the Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF). The table includes the level of funding and the expected accomplishments.

*Affordable Housing:* As part of the budget the County Manager recommends leveraging federal HOME funds with \$2,987,714 in local general funds and \$1,428,412 in local recordation tax revenues providing the Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF) with a total of \$5,428,412 for the development and preservation of affordable housing. The Manager's proposed CDBG program allocates \$1,192,000 for affordable housing development, rehabilitation, homeownership, and services. Housing subsidies are provided through four programs: the federal Section 8 rent assistance (\$15.2 million) and HOPWA (\$179,000) programs and the local Housing Grants (\$4 million), Homeowner's Grant (\$2.1 million) and Real Estate Tax Relief (\$4 million) programs.

*Community Participation Plan Revisions:* The designation of Arlington County as the lead agency for oversight of the federal CSBG requires minor revisions to the Community Participation Plan (Attachment 4). The Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CDCAC) will serve as the Community Action Board. A new seat is designated to represent the interests of low income residents.

*Community Comment:* Attachment 6 provides a summary of community comments on the draft Consolidated Plan and its components. Staff has provided proposed responses to issues raised.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** All allocations of FY 2008 CDBG and CSBG funding and general revenues covered by the Annual Consolidated Plan are reviewed by the County Board as part of the FY 2008 budget. The Plan that will be submitted to HUD will reflect the County Board Budget action.

Attachment 1: Citizen Summary of the FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan for Arlington

Attachment 2: HUD Narratives for the FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan for Arlington

Attachment 3: Final City of Falls Church FY 2008 Annual Consolidated Plan

Attachment 4: Community Participation Plan

Attachment 5: FY 2008 CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, CSBG and AHIF Services Projects

Attachment 6: Summary of Community Comments and Staff Responses

