



PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF KENNER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) and HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM 2012 PROPOSED BUDGET OF PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

PROGRAM YEAR B-12-MC-22-0008

The City of Kenner Department of Community Development hereby publishes for public comment its proposed budget, projects and activities to be funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership Program. These grants are awarded to the City of Kenner by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Jefferson Parish Consortium. The estimated amount of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership Grant for 2012 are \$456,688.00 and \$127,685.00 respectively.

The primary objective and purpose of the CDBG program as published at 24CFR 570.2 are:

- the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, principally for low and moderate income persons;
- the elimination of slums and blight; and
- the prevention of blighting influences and the deterioration of property, neighborhoods and community facilities.

At least 70 percent of funds must be allocated to areas that benefit low and moderate income persons.

The objectives of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program are:

- to expand the supply of decent and affordable housing for low and very low income persons;
- to stabilize the existing deteriorating owner-occupied and rental housing stock through rehabilitation;
- to provide financial and technical assistance to recipient/sub-recipients; and
- to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and nonprofit organizations, in the production and operation of affordable housing.

The City of Kenner is publishing this proposed budget for the required 30-day comment period to afford citizens the opportunity to examine its contents and submit comments. All comments received will be considered by the City in preparing its Final Action Plan i.e. budget and the City may, if deemed appropriate, modify this proposed budget. Citizens are invited to comment on the following proposed budget and activities in writing on or before Friday, April 6, 2012. Written comments are to be sent to the City of Kenner Community Development Department, 2100 Rev. Richard Wilson Drive, Suite 8, Kenner, Louisiana 70062. A **public hearing** will be held during the regularly scheduled Kenner City Council meeting, 1801 Williams Blvd., Kenner, LA, **Thursday, April 12, 2012** for consideration of approval. Upon approval by the Kenner City Council, the department will submit the approved Action plan, i.e. budget to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with all required certifications in accordance with applicable grant submission requirements.

City of Kenner Department of Community Development

PROPOSED 2012 ACTION PLAN

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

And

HOME Investment PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

2012 CDBG GRANT ALLOCATION **\$ 456,688.00**

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION **\$ 91,337.00**

Planning and General Administration

Payment of planning, administrative and operating costs related to the planning and administration of the Community Development Block Grant program.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Summer Youth Enrichment Camp **\$ 10,500.00**

To provide youth of low and moderate income households summer enrichment activities which will include alcohol and drug abuse prevention education, academic and career counseling, and other supportive services to positively reinforce successful outcomes. This activity will be in collaboration with an area non-profit organization. The program will enroll approximately 80 kids. It is a 6 week summer program with weekly field trips and other enrichment events included.

Youth after School Program **\$39,500.00**

“Operation II Smart” - a nine month after school youth program which renders academic enrichment through after school tutoring. The program provides a safe haven each day for students in grades 2-8 during the critical hours after school when typically parents are still at work and kids are home from school. Services include the basics of touch-typing through computer operations, quality teaching for improving academic performance, homework assistance and test taking strategies to improve student’s outcome. Approximately fifty (50) youth will be served.

Transitional Housing for the Homeless **\$ 8,503.00**

This funding will provide operating and maintenance cost to non-profit organizations maintaining emergency housing for the homeless. The structures are located in the city of Kenner and provide safe havens for children and families.

Homeless Prevention **\$10,000.00**

To provide financial assistance to low income households by awarding utility subsidies, mortgage and rent payment assistance, counseling, and other supportive services in an effort to prevent homelessness. Approximately Twenty -five (25) households will be served.

HOUSING

VOA Repair on Wheels Program **\$ 29,848.00**

A program designed to provide free assistance with minor home repairs and housing weatherization to qualified residents of the City of Kenner. The program is designed to assist the elderly, disabled and low and moderate income single head of households. Assistance includes home safety inspections, installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, insulation of wall sockets and switches that are attached to an outside wall, installation of grab bars and exterior handicap ramps, the sealing of doors with sweeps and the installation of weather stripping on windows. The program is offered in partnership with the Volunteers of America of Greater New Orleans.

Neighborhood Revitalization & Rental Housing Improvement **\$15,000.00**

A program designed to spur neighborhood and community revitalization in the Veterans Height Subdivision . This program is designed to assist rental housing in the targeted area and provide landlords with rental rehabilitation grants of up to 50% of the cost of improving the exterior and physical appearance of rental units. Eligible improvements could include sidewalk installation, land fill, tree and flower planting, exterior painting and siding. The maximum amount of assistance per structure will be limited to \$7,500.00.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Bertha Lee Jackson Basketball court enhancements **\$30,000.00**

The Bertha Lee Jackson Basketball court has no lights which limits its use by area youth. The project is proposed to fund the installation of lighting and other improvements to enhance the safety and usefulness of the facility.

Compromise, Felix, etc. Street and Drainage Improvements **\$ 125,000.00**

This project will fund Phase I of construction required for the drainage improvements in South Kenner on Compromise, Felix (between Rev. Richard Wilson Drive and Corwin Street) and 4th Street (between Williams Blvd. and Compromise St). The scope of this project consists of removing as necessary the existing sub – surface drainage system, sidewalks, driveways, roadway, roadway base, and curbs. These items will be replaced with adequately sized drainage pipes with a sufficient number of drainage inlets to reduce flooding along the roadway, new curb and gutters along the perimeter of the roadway , new sidewalks to meet current ADA requirements, landscaping and beautification.

Old Wentwood Gym Improvements **\$25,000.00**

The project will provide additional funding for construction to improve the 2nd floor of the facility located at Furman and Tulane Drive. The planned Improvements include interior painting, redesign of the walls and floors for cooking demonstration classes, community meetings, arts and crafts, etc. This facility is currently operated by the City of Kenner Recreation department.

Westgate Area Street & Drainage Improvements **\$25,000.00**

This project is designed to continue drainage and street improvements in the Westgate Subdivision at and around Idaho Street between Veterans Blvd. and 27th streets. The project will include the installation of additional manholes, catch basins, drop inlets, and the upgrading and replacing of existing pipes, etc. Additional funding from the City of Kenner may be provided as needed to complete the project.

Activity Delivery **\$47,000.00**

To provide funding for program management and contracted consultant services relating to housing and capital improvement projects.

TOTAL CDBG FUNDS ALLOCATED **\$ 456,688.00**

**Jefferson Parish HOME Consortium
2012 PROPOSED BUDGET
City of Kenner HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

ANTICIPATED HOME CONSORTIUM ALLOCATION **\$ 127,685.00**

Project funds\$119,332.00
Administrative and Planning funds\$ 8,353.00

Local Matching Funds Required (25% * \$119,332.00) \$ 29,833.00

TOTAL ANTICIPATED HOME FUNDS AVAILABLE **\$ 157,518.00**

PROPOSED USE OF HOME FUNDS

Homeownership Assistance Program **\$119,332.00**

To provide gap financing in the form of a soft second mortgage to address the affordability gap faced by low to moderate income households desiring to purchase their first home. The maximum amount of assistance per household is \$30,000.00 (a down payment and closing cost assistance grant up to \$5,000.00 and a forgivable soft-second mortgage up to \$25,000.00). Approximately five (5) households will be served.

Administration **\$ 8,353.00**

Payment of administrative and operating costs related to the planning and execution of community development block grant activities assisted in whole or in part with these funds.

TOTAL ANTICIPATED HOME FUNDS **\$127,685.00**

**MICHAEL S. YENNI, MAYOR
CITY OF KENNER**



**ARLEETA O. TERRELL, DIRECTOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT**