

## MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

From: David Deutsch  
City Manager

Subject: City of Bowie Consolidated Plan – Fiscal Years 2009-2013 and Annual Action Plan Fiscal Year 2009

Date: July 31, 2008

On May 5, 2008 City Council examined information presented by staff regarding the analysis of data and requisite information concerning the design of programs for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the period FY 09-13 and approved Resolution R-28-08 directing staff to proceed with the development of the Five Year Strategic Plan/Consolidated Plan for presentation to HUD.

In order to determine the types of projects an Entitlement Community will submit to HUD for funding under the CDBG Program, HUD requires that the Entitlement Community must, at a minimum, do the following:

- Develop a Citizen Participation Plan
- Conduct a Community Needs Assessment
- Assess current demographic conditions
- Analyze changes in demographic conditions
- Develop municipal priorities

The City developed a **planning process** to achieve these objectives. On October 15, 2007 the City Council approved the **FY09-13 Citizen Participation Plan** and it was filed with HUD on October 18, 2007. This document detailed the approach to solicit citizen input. In September 2007 the City distributed over 2,800 **“Community Needs” survey** forms to all households in the City and to all businesses in the City through the Bowie Spotlight, the Bowie Chamber of Commerce, and Homeowner Associations. The survey requested that **respondents rank their responses by “High Need”, “Moderate Need”, “Low Need”, or “No Need”**. The response level was very good and the **survey results** produced the **following top ten “High Need” issues**:

Crime Awareness/Prevention  
 Medical Services  
 Energy Conservation/Efficiency Education  
 Senior Services  
 Street Lights  
 Transportation  
 Crosswalks/Markings  
 Youth Services  
 Youth Centers  
 Libraries

The City also retained a consultant, Dennison Associates, a HUD training firm, to update the census data for the City and provide an analysis of the City's demographics including comparisons with the County and the State consistent with HUD'S requirements for the Consolidated Plan. A significant finding and assessment of the report is the following:

Bowie's elderly population (i.e., persons 65 years and older) is growing faster than those of either Prince George's County or the State of Maryland. Between 1990 and 2000 Bowie's elderly population grew 97%; this was four times faster than the 23% growth in elderly population in Prince George's County's, and six times faster than the State of Maryland's 11% growth. In the year 2000, the overall ratio of older persons living in Bowie to the total population was 9%. This elderly population ratio was close to that of Prince George's County's older population of 8%, and slightly less than the State of Maryland's 11%.

Age of Populations Bowie, Pr. George's, & Maryland: 1990 - 2000<sup>1</sup>

Age	Bowie		% of pop	% change	Maryland		% of pop	% change	PG		% of pop	% change
	1990	2000			1990	2000			1990	2000		
<5	2,963	3,782	8%	28%	357,818	353,393	7%	-1%	55,409	57,940	7%	5%
5 - 24	9,841	12,637	25%	28%	1,309,796	1,453,701	27%	11%	117,471	240,008	30%	104%
24 - 44	13,611	17,565	35%	29%	1,677,104	1,664,677	31%	-1%	272,474	264,497	33%	-3%
45 - 65	8,790	11,579	23%	32%	919,268	1,225,408	23%	33%	133,571	177,119	22%	33%
65 >	2,384	4,706	9%	97%	517,482	599,307	11%	16%	50,343	61,951	8%	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,589</b>	<b>50,269</b>			<b>4,781,468</b>	<b>5,296,486</b>			<b>629,268</b>	<b>801,515</b>		

Between 2000 and 2006, the elderly became the fastest growing population segment for Prince George's County and the State of Maryland.<sup>2</sup> Although 2000-2006 Bowie population data is not yet available for Bowie, it is reasonable to expect the city's elderly population to increase at rates similar to the percentage increases experienced in Prince George's County where the elderly population grew 18% and the State of Maryland where this group increased 11%.

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census 2000 Table DP-1 Profile of General Demographic Characteristics

<sup>2</sup> Source: U.S. Census General Demographic Characteristics – 2006 population estimates.

The growth of the elderly population in Bowie will likely increase market demand for affordable rental housing. Currently, Bowie has 1,595 multifamily apartment units, only 445 of which are senior designated apartments. The anticipated growth of the elderly population indicates a need to assess ways of meeting the demand for decent affordable rental housing for the elderly so that as persons age they will have greater housing choices so that they can remain in the city.

Staff combined these observations with the following information:

- Other demographic data on the City's elderly population
- Aging of housing in the City of Bowie
- Aging of senior-owned housing in the City of Bowie
- "Community Needs" Survey
- HUD regulations and statutes
- Annual HUD Entitlement funds for the City of Bowie
- Program implementation and administration requirements
- City staff resources

The results indicated that a major citizen-identified "High Need" could be satisfied through CDBG proceeds for the elderly throughout the City.

On May 5, 2008 City Council also reviewed staff's "Conclusion" and "Recommendations" as cited below and approved Resolution R-28-08 directing staff to design certain programs for Senior Citizens:

Conclusion from May 5, 2008 Report to City Council: There is substantial evidence through an independent evaluation and analysis of the demographic profiles of the City of Bowie that the elderly population is of a significant scale and is growing faster than all other populations. A survey of all households in the City of Bowie indicates that the needs of the elderly ranks in the **top four** "High Needs" issues critical to the citizenry. HUD's funding, regulations, and statutes provide a mechanism to address some of the housing maintenance and repair needs of the elderly population.

Recommendation from May 5, 2008 Report to City Council: Staff recommends that City Council adopt the findings of the surveys and the results of the demographic data and analysis, and approve Resolution R-28-08 directing staff to design programs to accommodate the CDBG Entitlement funds the City receives from HUD for the new Consolidated Plan for the period July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2013 to provide certain housing maintenance and repairs for the elderly consistent with HUD's regulations and statutes.

Based on this previous direction provided by City Council, staff has completed the City's Five Year Strategic Plan/Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development as required by HUD (see attached). In addition to the activities cited above, this process included several public hearings and citizen participation meetings as well as

communications through press coverage by local newspapers (Bowie Blade and Bowie Star) over a one year period.

The Consolidated Plan proposes to conduct a Senior Citizen Housing Rehabilitation Program with the CDBG funds provided by HUD over the next five years. This proposal is consistent with HUD's statutes and regulations for the provision of such services to a presumptive Low/Mod population defined as "Senior Citizens".

In addition to the Five Year Strategic Plan/Consolidated Plan for FY09-13, staff has also developed the Annual Action Plan for FY09 that outlines the implementation plan during the current fiscal year which is also attached.

Once City Council adopts this plan and HUD approves this plan, the specifics regarding how this plan will operate will be developed and communicated to the Bowie community.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that Council adopt Resolution R-51-08 and authorize the Five Year Strategic Plan/Consolidated Plan FY09-13 and Annual Action Plan FY09 to be sent to HUD for their review and approval.

Resolution R-51-08

DJD/JB/adf