

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) is seeking public comment on the "draft" revision to the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP-1) Action Plan Substantial Amendment

Federal funding for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP-1) was allocated under Title III of Division B of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act, 2008 (HERA) for emergency assistance for the redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed homes and residential properties. DECD prepared an application/substantial amendment for the NSP-1 funding that was submitted to HUD on December 1, 2008 and resulted in the receipt of \$25,043,385 in funding. The NSP-1 application is considered to be a substantial amendment to the state's annual 2008 Action Plan. DECD awarded the NSP-1 funding to Bridgeport, Hartford, Meriden, New Britain, New Haven, Stamford and Waterbury based on foreclosure rates. NSP-1 funding was to be used for the following eligible activities: acquisition and rehabilitation, demolition of blighted structures, redevelopment of demolished or vacant properties, land bank/assemblage, financing mechanisms and administration.

The revision to the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP-1) application/Action Plan Substantial Amendment is required as a result of significant changes in the local markets, heavy competition for the better quality units, as well as program guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. A substantial increase in the per property cost was experienced by all of the sub-recipients, across all eligible activities. Adjustments in budgeted line items by eligible activity, as well as performance goals that were contained in the NSP-1 Substantial Amendment are necessary in order to quantify the effectiveness of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program in Connecticut.

A fifteen-day public examination and comment period on the "draft" revision of the NSP-1 Action Plan Substantial Amendment will begin August 16, 2010 and end August 31, 2010. All interested parties are encouraged to participate by reviewing and providing comment on the document. A copy of the "draft" revision of the NSP-1 Action Plan Substantial Amendment as well as the state's five-year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the annual Action Plans are available at the Department of Economic and Community Development's website, www.decd.org.

All comments must be submitted in writing to the address below (Attn: Michael Santoro) or via email to NSP.Comments@ct.gov. The deadline for submission of comments is August 31, 2010. All comments received will be summarized and addressed in the Public Comment Section of the "final" revision of the NSP-1 Substantial Amendment which will also be posted on DECD's website upon submission to HUD.

Department of Economic and Community Development programs are administered in a nondiscriminatory manner, consistent with equal employment opportunities, affirmative action, and fair housing requirements. Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for information in alternative formats must be directed to the ADA (504) Coordinator, Antoinette Alphonse at 860-270-8022.

Department of Economic and Community Development- 505 Hudson Street- Hartford, CT. 06106-7106

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