

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Houston (City) was awarded an Economic Development Incentive (EDI) grant in 1995. Along with this came loan authority from Section 108. The purpose of the funds from EDI and Section 108 is to enhance affordable housing and economic development within the City's boundaries. The City's Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD) invites public comment on proposed and past changes to this grant.

- A. The Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), which provides the rules and procedures for public participation in activities related to HCDD and its main funding source, the United States Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) needs to be amended to include the following changes to Page 7 of the CPP dated March 2010 as authorized by Ordinance No. 2010-372

The name of the Section is changed from **"Amendments to the Consolidated Plan"** to **"Amendments to the Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan and EDI/Section 108 Grant Application"**.

**"It should be noted that the process for amending the EDI/Section 108 Grant Application (EDI) differs substantially from that used for the Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan and other Section 108 programs. First, in accordance with Item 8 of the executed Grant Agreement between the City of Houston and HUD, the EDI can only be amended with prior written permission of HUD. In the case of the Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan or other Section 108 programs, HUD is notified of the amendment following City Council approval. Second, federal regulations require that a public hearing be held when amending the EDI Grant Application. However, no such requirement is attached to the amendment process for the Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan or other Section 108 programs. For any program amended, verbal and written citizen comments will be summarized and submitted to HUD along with HCDD's response to each. EDI is subject to all CPP requirements applicable to the Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan where they are the same as specifically required under 24 CFR §570.704."**

- B. HCDD requested an amendment to the EDI/Section 108 grants in 2006 and in 2011. The original grant had five activities: 1) Micro Enterprise Loan Program; 2) Revolving Loan Program; 3) Special Development Project Fund; 4) Single Family Rehabilitation and Replacement Program; and 5) Multifamily Housing Program. The 2006 amendment reduced the activities to the first 3. The 2011 amendment re-instated all five activities.
- C. In addition, HCDD is proposing a new economic development project, loaning funds for the renovation of a vacant historic building located at 806 Main into an operating hotel. The property is at the crossroads of an existing light rail line and a light rail line that is currently under construction. Funding for approximately 10% of the project will come from a combination of \$5.5 million in EDI funds and \$1.8 million in Section 108 loan. The expected result of this project is to bring over 150 jobs to the City.

The public has 30 days to comment on the proposed amendment to the CPP; to the EDI/Section 108 amendments; and to the proposed economic development project. The comment period extends from Saturday, July 7, 2012 until Monday, August 6, 2012. Summaries of these three actions can be found on the HCDD Web site at <http://www.HoustonHousing.org>. You may also submit any written comments or questions on C to Linda Crosson at [Linda.Crosson@HoustonTX.gov](mailto:Linda.Crosson@HoustonTX.gov) and any written comments or questions on A or B to Brenda Scott at [Brenda.Scott@HoustonTX.gov](mailto:Brenda.Scott@HoustonTX.gov). You may also call at (713) 868-8300.