

## **City of Evanston to apply for Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 Public comment invited on the general information**

The City of Evanston will submit an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP2) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, 2009. The funding is intended to strengthen neighborhoods whose viability has been and continues to be damaged by concentrations of vacant and foreclosed properties.

The City will submit an application to HUD by the July 17, 2009 deadline, requesting approximately \$39,000,000 in NSP2 funds. The City must provide information on (1) the amount of money, (2) uses of funds, and (3) in which target geography, it plans to address in its NSP2 program, and provide at least 10 calendar days for citizen comment. The following description provides an overview of how communities and citizens may be impacted by the proposed program.

NSP2 funds will be awarded through a national competitive process. To be competitive, NSP2 funds must be of sufficient size to contribute toward significant and measurable neighborhood stabilization. Specifically, an applicant's grant request must be for no less than \$5 million and produce the effect of either returning a minimum of 100 foreclosed or abandoned properties to use or mitigating their negative effects upon the surrounding community. To demonstrate the capacity to meet eligibility thresholds for NSP2, the applicant must document successful completion of a minimum number of units for each activity proposed. To develop a proposal which sets the aggressive goals intended for the NSP2 program and address the needs of the target area, the City will pair with an experienced and successful for-profit developer.

The City of Evanston proposes to use NSP2 funds to accomplish the following eligible activities:

- Purchase and rehabilitate single family homes that have been abandoned or foreclosed upon in order to rent and to sell such homes
- Purchase and rehabilitate condominium homes that have been abandoned or foreclosed upon in order to rent and to sell such homes
- Purchase and rehabilitate multi-family residential properties that have been abandoned or foreclosed upon in order to rent such apartment homes
- Redevelop demolished and vacant properties as affordable housing for households up to 120% of median income, including both rental and homeownership opportunities
- Demolish blighted structures
- Provide soft second mortgage financing to support the sale of foreclosed homes
- Provide Home Purchase Education
- Cover Administrative Costs

The activities will take place in Census Tracts 8092 and 8102, identified by U.S. Department of HUD as areas of greatest need.

The Planning and Development Committee of the Evanston City Council will consider the application outline at its July 13, 2009 meeting, and bring a recommendation to the City Council the same evening. The Planning and Development Committee meeting agenda will be posted on the City's web site by July 10.

Comments will be accepted on the proposal during 10-day public comment period, which runs from July 2, 2009 to 9:00 am July 14, 2009. Citizen comments will be accepted in writing at the Community Development Department/Planning Division office, Room 3900, Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, 60201, by fax at 847-448-8120, and by email at [cdbg@cityofevanston.org](mailto:cdbg@cityofevanston.org).

The City of Evanston is committed to making information accessible to non-English speaking persons and persons with disabilities. Persons needing assistance may contact the City at 847-866-2928 (Voice) or 847-328-4080 (TDD) or at [cdbg@cityofevanston.org](mailto:cdbg@cityofevanston.org).

