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Memorandum Date: October 29, 2008

Order Date: November 12, 2008

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Community and Economic Development

PRESENTED BY: Mike McKenzie-Bahr, C&ED Coordinator

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ORDER/IN THE MATTER OF RECEIVING COMMENTS
FROM THE PUBLIC THROUGH A PUBLIC HEARING
ABOUT LANE COUNTY'S PERFORMANCE OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PO5027

I. MOTION

Move that the Order be adopted closing out CDBG project PO5027 and the final project report be submitted to the State of Oregon.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

This is a public hearing with one purpose: 1) to hear input on the CDBG Blue River water system improvement project and how Lane County managed and implemented the project.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

Since the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program was established in the mid-1970s, Lane County has received millions of dollars through competitive selection of CDBG-funded projects to construct water and sewer infrastructure (for example Mapleton water and wastewater systems, London water, Blachly water, Marcola water; community facilities (the SAFE Center, Jasper Mountain Center and community center improvements); handicapped accessibility improvements in public buildings; and provide housing rehabilitation for low and moderate income families. Some of the small cities (including Lowell, Oakridge, Westfir, Creswell, Cottage Grove, Florence, Veneta, Junction City, and Coburg) in Lane County have also received millions of dollars over the past couple decades for similar projects funded through the competitive CDBG program. The cities of Springfield and Eugene receive annual entitlement CDBG funding through a different CDBG program.

Lane County currently has one open CDBG grant through the state Economic and Community Development Department (OECD) to improve the water

system in Blue River. (The Mapleton water project is currently being administratively closed out).

The Blue River water system project, grant, CDBG PO5027 is scheduled to be completed prior to the end of the year. We are starting the closeout process now, with state permission, in order to meet all deadlines before the holiday season.

CDBG guidelines require that the Board of Commissioners receive comments from the public about CDBG projects that are recently closed or nearing completion. The public may comment on any aspects of CDBG program delivery.

B. Policy Issues

The policy issue for the Board's consideration is to consider whether to close out grant PO5027.

C. Board Goals

The objective of this public hearing is to hear the comments from the public, as is represented in the strategic plan to "provide opportunities for citizen participation in decision-making, voting, volunteerism and civic and community involvement."

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

There is no financial cost to the County for closing out this CDBG project.

E. Analysis

CDBG PO5027

This project, CDBG PO5027, met the state goals set at the time the funds were awarded: at least 190 persons were assisted through the upgrade of a new water system for Blue River of whom 71% are low or moderate income.

F. Alternatives/Options

1) Hold the public hearing and take comments on the project and adopt the Board Order to close out CDBG PO5027.

2) Hold the public hearing and take comments on the project and delay adopting the Board Order to close out CDBG PO5027, in order to further respond to any issues that came up during the public hearing.

3) Not hold the public hearing and not adopt the Board Order to close out CDBG PO5027. This alternative would prevent the County from a) being reimbursed for its grant expenses and b) applying for any additional CDBG grants.

IV. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

If the BCC adopts this Board Order, staff will continue to work with the project partners to ensure that the project is completed successfully and closed out by the end of the calendar year.

V. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board hold the public hearing, take comment on the project and adopt the Board Order to close out CDBG PO5027.

Community and Economic Development staff recommends the Board approve the Board Order.

VI. FOLLOW-UP

Community and Economic Development staff will keep the Board informed about the status of the project and the close out process.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Board Order
- B. Public Notice

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO.) IN THE MATTER OF RECEIVING COMMENTS FROM THE
) PUBLIC THROUGH A PUBLIC HEARING ABOUT LANE
) COUNTY'S PERFORMANCE OF COMMUNITY
) DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PO5027
)

WHEREAS, Lane County received Oregon Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) PO5027 for improvements to the Blue River Water system to meet the needs of low and moderate income county residents, and

WHEREAS, the water system improvements are now completed benefiting at least 190 local residents of which at least 71% were of low and moderate income, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has held the required final public hearing to receive public comment on Lane County's performance using CDBG funds for PO5027,
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY:

ORDERED that the Lane County Community and Economic Development staff submit the final grant close out report to the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department and

FURTHER ORDERED that the Chair of the Board of Commissioners is authorized to sign the close out report as required by CDBG regulations.

Signed this 12th day of November, 2008.

Faye Stewart, Chair
LANE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 11/4/08 Lane
 County
21C
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL