



## Community Development Commission: Fall Community Meetings 2008

**Attention** participating agencies: It's time to have your residents' voices heard! Every Fall, the Community Development Commission (CDC) conducts its *Fall Community Meetings* in each of the five (5) Supervisorial Districts. In this effort, residents from the surrounding unincorporated communities, local community-based organizations (CBO), representatives from various County departments, and the CDC come together to identify community needs within each district. The goal is always the same: to assess conditions, facilities, and the availability of services throughout the unincorporated County to determine whether these resources are meeting residents' needs. Necessary improvements can potentially be funded if they meet the primary objectives of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Such objec-



tives benefit low- to moderate-income residents and aid in the prevention of neighborhood deterioration.

**Suggestions** and ideas gathered during our community meetings can greatly impact the direction of the County's CDBG Program. As a result of this input, street improvement projects, youth services activities, and health service programs (among many others), can be identified as future requests. We, therefore, encourage our participating agencies to promote attendance and participation at our upcoming community meetings. Remember that great neighborhood partnerships begin with the establishment of community involvement! For more information, or if you are interested in distributing flyers for the meetings, please contact Gloria V. Ramirez, Grants Planning Specialist, at (323) 890-7188.

## Tell Us How We Are Doing: Participating Agency Survey

**Last** year, the CDBG Division administered an *Agency Satisfaction Survey*. The survey was available to you online in the Fall of 2007 and assessed the Division's services and support over the last Fiscal Year (FY). A total of 30 agencies responded, and the overall results were quite positive. In addition to the feedback, the survey also proved to be a valuable tool for strengthening the partnerships we have forged with our agencies.

**This** year, we are gearing up for the dis-

tribution of another satisfaction survey and, as a participating agency, we are encouraging your input. Your responses and comments help us identify gaps and weaknesses in our services, allowing us to focus on the necessary steps to improve our delivery strategies. So, let us know how we are doing and what we can do to better serve your needs. The 2008 Agency Satisfaction Survey for the 2007-2008 FY will be available online in the Fall. Instructions and survey details are soon to follow, so stay connected!

### Important Dates

#### August 2008

8/27/2008

Final closeout for projects that expire 6/30/2008

#### September 2008

9/9/2008

CDBG - 1st District  
Community Meeting  
@ Potrero Heights Elementary  
South San Gabriel, CA  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

9/16/2008

CDBG - 2nd District  
Community Meeting  
@ Athens Park  
Los Angeles, CA  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

9/18/2008

CDBG - 3rd District  
Community Meeting  
@ Westknoll Apartments  
West Hollywood, CA  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00p.m.

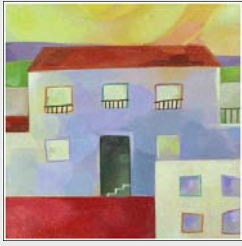
9/23/2008

CDBG - 4th District  
Community Meeting  
@ Community Resource Center  
Whittier, CA  
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

9/25/2008

CDBG - 5th District  
Community Meeting  
@ George Lane Park  
Quartz Hill, CA  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00p.m.

## All Systems Go: The New Residential Rehabilitation Module of the CDBG Online System is Launched



On July 1, 2008, the CDBG Division launched the new **Residential Rehabilitation Module** as part of the CDBG Online System. The concept and design of the new module was greatly influenced by the combined efforts of a focus group comprised of the CDC's Information Technology Unit, the CDBG Division, and representatives from five (5) participating cities and two (2) CBOs. The focus group tested the system and provided feedback and suggestions resulting in a design that efficiently collects and tracks reporting data.

The new online module will allow participating agencies to transmit and upload client data, *Property I.D.*'s, and displacement and contractor information directly into the Quarterly Performance Report (QPR). This means that partici-

pating agencies will no longer need to capture this data outside the system in order to complete their QPRs. The online system will automatically transmit the property site data back to the participating agency on a quarterly reporting basis for their review and approval. Emphasizing the importance of maintaining accurate data, the CDBG Division will continue to offer training sessions for agencies administering CDBG-funded rehabilitation programs. For more details on future training sessions, please contact your Program Manager.

### October-November E-Newsletter Sneak Preview:

- Creation of the New Housing and Homeless Program Fund **Database System**; - "CDC of the County of Los Angeles paves the way."



### City Quarterly Meetings



Attention City Representatives! This is your opportunity to give us your ideas. What would you like to discuss during our next City Quarterly Meeting? Please contact Gloria V. Ramirez, Grants Planning Specialist at: (323) 890-7188 or e-mail: [gloria.ramirez@laccdc.org](mailto:gloria.ramirez@laccdc.org), with your suggestions.



## The City of Monrovia and the CDC: An Award Winning Partnership

The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual **Neighborhoods USA Conference** held in Hampton, VA, this past Spring awarded the City of Monrovia's *Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP)* Program top honors. Competing against 28 other cities and coming only second behind the City of Cincinnati, OH, Monrovia demonstrated that its partnership with the CDC of the County of Los Angeles is one of the best in the nation.

**MAP** is a comprehensive approach to delivering public services aimed at everything from eliminating crime and blight, to empowering neighborhoods by fostering citizen activism, volunteerism, and community pride. According to City officials, this innovative Program combines City and CDBG funds to support the City's code enforcement activities. The Program plays a critical role in *MAP* neighborhoods by eliminating blight and substandard housing conditions. In fact, the Code Enforcement Division in the City conducts well over 25,000 inspections annually in *MAP* neighborhoods alone.

Through the use of CDBG funding, participating cities such as Monrovia can obtain the resources necessary to implement creative partnerships that foster innovative programs to better serve their residents. Seeing the success of this winning combination, it is not hard to understand why the City of Monrovia was selected for its effective use of public and private collaborations, enhancing the quality of life for its residents. *MAP* and the Los Angeles County CDBG Program--an award winning strategy indeed!



**CDBG**  
"Putting Dollars  
Into Action"