Appendix E

Citizen Participation Plan

Pursuant to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) proposed rule published in the Federal Register, August 5, 1994 requiring a consolidated planning process for four of its formula programs, Community Development Block Grant State Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), this Proposed Citizen Participation Plan is developed to ensure that the citizens of the State of Colorado, particularly persons of low and moderate income residing in areas where it is proposed which such funds are to be used, are provided the opportunity and encouraged to participate in the planning and implementation of funded activities.

The state expects to fund activities that address the needs of the above persons in the categories of housing, public facility, infrastructure improvements, public service, accessibility, and economic development. The state also will develop plans, as necessary, to minimize displacement of persons and to assist any persons displaced.

PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the state's CDBG program is the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. Consistent with this primary objective, not less than 70% of federal fiscal years' 2010 and 2011 and 2012 funds will be used for project activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income.

The objectives of the state's HOME program are the following:

- X To expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing;
- X To mobilize and strengthen the abilities of the state, units of local government, and nonprofit organizations, to design and implement strategies for achieving an adequate supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing;
- X To provide eligible applicants, on a coordinated basis, with the various forms of federal housing assistance, including capital investments, mortgage insurance, rental assistance, and other federal assistance, needed:
 - To expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing;
 - To make new construction, rehabilitation, substantial rehabilitation, and acquisition of such housing feasible;
 - To promote the development of partnerships among the federal government, states and units of general local government, private industry, and nonprofit organizations able to utilize effectively all available resources to provide more of such housing;
 - To make housing more affordable for very low income and low income families through the use of tenant-based rental assistance;
 - To expand the capacity of nonprofit community housing development organizations to develop and manage decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing;

- To ensure that federal investment produces housing stock that is available and affordable to low income families for the property's remaining useful life, is appropriate to the neighborhood surroundings and, wherever appropriate, is mixed income housing;
- To increase the investment of private capital and the use of private sector resources in the provision of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing;
- To leverage HOME funds insofar as practicable with state and local matching contributions and private investment;
- To provide credit enhancement for affordable housing by utilizing the capacities of existing agencies and mortgage finance institutions when appropriate; and,
- To assist the very low income and low income families to obtain the skills and knowledge necessary to become responsible homeowners and tenants.

The goals of the state's Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) program are to assist homeless persons by providing better facilities and supportive services at emergency shelters and to assist potentially homeless persons by providing expanded prevention programs. The objectives of the state's ESG program are the following:

- X To assist in supporting the operating costs of emergency shelters;
- X To assist in the prevention of homelessness;
- X To assist in improving the quality, conditions and supportive services available through existing emergency shelters;

The state is expecting to receive \$7,262,000 in HOME funds, \$9,398,274 in CDBG funds, \$946,933 in ESG funds and 379,000 in HOPWA formula grant funds.

CONSULTATION

Prior to the preparation of a "draft" consolidated plan, the state, through the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) will consult with various public and private agencies that provide housing, health, social, public infrastructure improvements, economic development, and other identified services to persons of low and moderate income, agencies that provide services to persons with AIDS, and with agencies that provide services to homeless persons. DOLA will also notify units of general local governments of the planning process to solicit their input into the process.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Two public hearings will be conducted per year to obtain citizens' views. The hearings will be conducted, at a minimum, at two different stages of the program. At least one hearing will be held during the development of the plan but before the proposed consolidated plan is published. The hearings will address the housing and community development needs of the state, development of proposed activities, and a review of program performance during the year.

For the initial hearing, a public notice will be published in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the state at least ten (10) days prior to such public hearing. A copy of the public notice will also be sent to the various organizations from which the

state sought consultation. A listing of all organizations consulted will be included in the draft plan. The hearings will be held at times and locations convenient to potential and actual beneficiaries, and the state will provide accommodation for the handicapped upon request. In the case of public hearings where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate, arrangements will be made to have an interpreter present.

The state will accept written comments up to fifteen (15) days from the date of each hearing. These comments will be a part of the state's consolidated planning process.

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND ACCESS TO RECORDS

Information and records regarding the proposed and past use of the three funding sources will be available at the Department of Local Affairs, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 518, Denver, Colorado during regular office hours, 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday, except holidays. Copies of the proposed consolidated plan will also be available in each of DOLA's regional field offices.

Northeastern area office in Sterling, (970) 522-2672 Southeastern area office in Pueblo, (719) 544-6577 South Central office in Monte Vista, (719) 852-9429 Southwestern office in Durango, (970) 247-7311 Northwestern office in Grand Junction, (970) 248-7310 Northern Mountains office in Frisco, (970) 668-6160 North Central office in Loveland, (970) 679-4501 Central office in Golden, (303) 273-1787

Please call (303) 866-2771 or TDD (303) 866-5300 for the location of the DOLA field office nearest you or you may contact the field office directly. Alternate formats of the citizen participation plan and consolidated plan will be made available to persons upon request.

The DOLA will publish in a newspaper of general circulation the availability of the draft consolidated plan or annual action plan (as applicable) and the dates of the thirty (30) day public comment period. A copy of the summary of the consolidated plan will be sent to organizations with which the DOLA sought consultation. A listing of these agencies will be contained in the public notice. A copy of the entire plan will be available at each of DOLA's regional field offices listed above and its Denver main office.

Citizen's who wish to participate in the planning process are encouraged to contact either an organization that represents their interests or the DOLA field office serving their region.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The DOLA will provide technical assistance to groups representative of persons of very low and low moderate income that are residents of the State of Colorado that request assistance in developing proposals for funding under any of the programs covered by this plan. The level and type of assistance will be determined by the DOLA and will be based on its ability to provide or arrange for such assistance, the cost of providing such assistance and other relevant factors.

AMENDMENTS

The DOLA will amend its consolidated plan when there is a new proposed activity that was not included in the adopted plan, or there is a change in the method of distribution.

WRITTEN COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

The state will respond to comments, complaints and grievances in a timely manner. When practicable, such responses shall be made within fifteen (15) working days and included in the consolidated plan. Please address your comments, complaints, or grievances to: Consolidated Plan Staff, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 518, Denver, CO 80203.