NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS

The Lake County Community Economic Development Department will hold the first of two public hearings on the preparation of its one-year 2023 Annual Action Plan, preparation of the five-year Consolidated Plan, and hearing input on strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing at 4:00 PM, on Friday, June 23rd, 2023 in the Lake County Community Economic Development Department office at the Lake County Government Complex located at 2293 North Main Street, Room A-310, Crown Point, Indiana.

Further, two public input meetings will be held to hear input from the public on actions and strategies to affirmatively furthering fair housing on Thursday, June 8th, 2023 and Friday, June 16th, 2023 both at 4:00 pm in the Lake County Community Economic Development Department (LCCEDD) office at the Lake County Government Complex located a 2293 North Main Street, Room A-310, Crown Point, Indiana.

Lake County is qualified for an Entitlement Grant under the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), and the Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME). These programs are administered by the U.S Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). In Fiscal Year 2023, the amount of funds the County is eligible to receive under these two programs is estimated to be approximately two million two hundred thousand dollars (\$2,200,000.00), and an additional seventy-five thousand \$75,000 in anticipated Program Income. The statutes for the grant programs set forth four (4) basic goals: assist lower income households, provide decent housing, provide a suitable living environment, and expand economic opportunities.

As an Urban County Entitlement Grant recipient, the County has 16 communities in its participating program, which includes all of Lake County with the exception of Gary, Hammond, and East Chicago. Each of these communities will be allocated a proposed amount to be used for eligible activities which meet the requirements of the program.

The public hearing will be to consider comments regarding possible activities and projects to implement the Annual Action Plan over the next year and input in projects citizens wish to see over the next five years as part of the Consolidated Action Plan.

The final 2023 Annual Action Plan of the Consolidated Action Plan will list and describe the activities that Lake County will undertake to address priority needs and local objectives as identified in the Consolidated Action Plan with the anticipated program income and funds received during the next program year.

All interested persons and groups are invited to attend the public input sessions and public hearing and provide comments. Or, comments can be emailed to Mr. Tim Brown, Executive Director of LCCEDD at <u>brownta@lakecountyin.org</u>. The Lake County Government Center is handicap accessible.

The County's schedule for the Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Plan is to publish the availability of the proposed plan for a 30 day public comment starting on June 26th, 2023 and ending on July 27th, 2023. The final FY2023 Annual Action Plan and five-year Consolidated Plan is projected to be submitted to HUD on or about July 28th, 2023 for their review.

All program materials including notices, resolutions, agendas, plans, plan amendments, and final plan documents are available for persons with limited English proficiency upon request. Contact Tim Brown by phone at 219-755-3225 or by email at <u>brownta@lakecountyin.org</u>.

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