

# **CONSOLIDATED PLAN UPDATE**



## City of Las Cruces

### Community Development Interoffice Memorandum

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To: Mayor and City Council

From: David Dollahon, Neighborhood Services Administrator 

Subject: Detail on the draft 2011-2015 Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

Date: April 18, 2011 M-11-081

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As an entitlement community from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs, the City of Las Cruces is required to develop a 5-year plan that outlines how the City will utilize these HUD dollars to address our most pressing housing and community development needs to service the City's low- and moderate-income persons and families. This 5-year plan is known as the Consolidated Plan and the current City Consolidated Plan is set to expire at the end of the current fiscal year (June 30, 2011). Staff and consultants having been developing the 2011-2015 Consolidated Plan since November 2010 and is out for public comment now through May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Also, as part of the Consolidated Plan (or Con Plan), the City must also develop and implement an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (or AI). The AI process requires the City to identify housing discrimination actions within the community, development regulations that may present a barrier to fair and affordable housing, and loan denial rates within the community. Further, a Fair Housing Action Plan must be developed as part of the AI that is intended to address those identified barriers and discriminatory practices.

Currently, the draft plan is scheduled for Council adoption at the regular meeting of May 2, 2011. The plan must be adopted at this time due to HUD's submission deadline of May 15<sup>th</sup>. Due to the Con Plan and AI's length, staff requested the opportunity to present a detailed overview of the document at your work session of April 25<sup>th</sup>. This will afford the Council opportunity to ask specific questions on what is a great deal of information and also allow for revisions to the Con Plan and AI, should there be direction from the Council to do so, in advance of its formal adoption.

At the work session, staff will present the required elements of the Con Plan and AI, as well as the 2011 Action Plan (how the City will spend the upcoming CDBG and HOME allocations), along with other policy issues that we intend to undertake. The main areas of the Con Plan and AI that will be covered are:

- overall demographic changes since the 2000 Census;
- housing market changes, especially as it relates to affordable housing;
- housing discrimination in the City, include regulatory barriers that limit the production of affordable housing;
- stakeholder and resident input and recommendations;
- the 5-year Strategic Plan and 2011 Action Plan; and
- other general policy directions that staff hope to undertake in the next fiscal year.

Cc: David Weir, Community Development Director   
Brian Denmark, Interim Assistant City Manager   
Robert Garza, City Manager 