

Citizen Participation in Preparation of the Final Statement

March 28, 1996

Mr. James Burke
Office of Community and
Economic Development
50 West 13th Street
Dubuque, IA 52001

Dear Mr. Burke:

This is in response to your note of September 1, 1995, posted in the Community Planning and Development (CPD) Bulletin Board System and your subsequent telephone conversation with Ms. LaQuita Sanders in the Office of Block Grant Assistance. In your note, you requested assistance in identifying certain Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program rules applicable over the period of 1985 to 1994. Specifically, information is sought on the regulations that applied to citizen participation and final statement preparation during that time period and what changes occurred.

On January 4, 1985, the Department issued a "Transmittal of Instructions for Fiscal Year 1985: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program." These instructions included changes in citizen participation and final statement requirements pursuant to the 1983 statutory amendments (the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983) to Title I of the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974 and the 1984 technical amendments (the Housing and Community Development Technical Amendments Act of 1984) to the 1983 amendments. The requirements of the 1983 amendments regarding the content of final statements and citizen participation supplemented the provisions in the regulations that were in effect at that time (those published September 23, 1983). Beginning in 1985, grantees were required to use these instructions in conjunction with those regulations. Copies of the referenced regulations and 1985 grantee instructions are enclosed.

The Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1987, enacted in December 1987, made additional changes to the citizen participation and final statement requirements. HUD issued instructions on these new requirements, which included new certification requirements, in CPD Notice 88-05, dated February 10, 1988. Again, the new citizen participation provision did not replace, but was in addition to, the existing citizen participation regulatory requirements. A copy of this Notice is also enclosed.

The revised CDBG regulations that were published in the Federal Register on September 6, 1988, and became effective on October 6, 1988, reflect the 1983 statutory amendments, including the expanded citizen participation requirements in connection with a grantee's preparation of its final statement and amendments thereto. While these regulations did not fully incorporate the additional citizen participation requirements added by the 1987 Act, grantees were still required to certify in their final statements that they were in compliance with all statutory requirements.

The statutory requirements regarding citizen participation were fully incorporated into the CDBG regulations with the publication of the Consolidated Plan final rule on January 5, 1995, which became effective February 6, 1995. The Consolidated Plan consolidates into a single submission the planning and application aspects of the Department's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Shelter Grant ([ESG](#)), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Housing Opportunities for Persons With Aids ([HOPWA](#)) formula programs. Copies of these regulations are enclosed.

I hope this information is helpful in completing your research. Should you have additional questions, please call the Entitlement Communities Division at (202) 708-1577.

Very sincerely yours,

(signed)

Richard J. Kennedy
Deputy Director
Office of Block Grant Assistance
Enclosures