

Community Action Network Community Council Meeting

American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Weatherization Assistance Briefing

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Purpose

- Assist lower-income households and homes with higher energy burden
- Reduce residential energy costs
- Increase the energy efficiency of dwellings
- Improve home health and safety for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and families with young children

Status

- Austin Energy submitted grant application for \$5.8 million dollars in stimulus funds on June 24, 2009
- Contract award/notification received – legal review underway
 - DOE/TDHCA to release \$2.9 million up front
 - Balance to be released on demonstration of performance

ARRA/TDHCA Guidelines

- Serve households at or below 200% of Federal Poverty Income Guideline
- \$6,500 maximum spend per home
 - Labor, materials, health/safety, and program support
 - Health/safety limited to 20%
 - Administrative limited to 5%
- Two-year program: ends July 31, 2011

Additional Weatherization Programs

- Austin Energy Free Home Energy Improvement Program
 - Since 1982, weatherized over 14,000 homes
 - Average 600 homes annually
 - Single family, duplexes, mobile homes
 - Measures: Attic insulation, repairing/sealing ducts, caulking/weatherstripping, solar screens, CFL's, carbon monoxide and smoke detectors
 - Will be integrated with ARRA-funded program and continue after 2011
- Travis County
- Austin Housing Finance Corporation

Roadmap: Key Dates

- Briefings to Community Development Commission: Sept 8, 2009
- Briefings to EUC, RMC: Oct 19, 20
- Briefing to City Council: Nov 5
- Budget amendment to City Council: Nov 19
- Inter-local agreement with Travis County: Nov 19
- Press announcement launching weatherization program: Nov 19
- Contract solicitations: Dec 10

Roadmap: Marketing & Outreach

- Inter-departmental cooperation
 - To ensure identification and correct characterization of all eligible clients
 - To facilitate comprehensive, coordinated and efficient delivery of services
- Work with social service providers to provide “feet on ground” outreach and awareness
- Conduct grassroots marketing to civic and church groups in target zip codes and via neighborhood canvassing
- Develop universally-applicable services brochure
- Supplement traditional delivery with neighborhood-wide approach

Questions



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