

**CITY OF BATON ROUGE – PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Substantial Amendment to the 2005 – 2009 Consolidated Plan
and Subsequent Action Plans**

<p>Jurisdiction(s):</p> <p>City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge</p> <p>Jurisdiction Web Address:</p> <p>http://www.brgov.com/dept/ocd/</p>	<p>CDBG Contact Person: Charles P. Boyles, II</p> <p>Address: P.O. Box 1471 Baton Rouge, LA 70821</p> <p>Telephone: (225) 389-3039 Fax: (225) 389-3939</p> <p>Email: cboyles@brgov.com</p>
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Overview

The Consolidated Plan and Strategy for 2005 – 2009 (CPS) is the plan and application of the City of Baton Rouge – Parish of East Baton Rouge (City-Parish) for four federal entitlement grants administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These grant programs include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (EGS), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). The CPS for 2005 – 2009 covers grants for a five year period beginning with program year (PY) 2005 and ending with PY 2009 (October 1, 2005 – September 30, 2010). The CPS has been approved by HUD and is available for public review on the City-Parish website at <http://www.brgov.com/dept/ocd/pdf/BR%202005-2009%20ConPlan.pdf>.

The City-Parish Office of Community Development (OCD) is the lead agency for the development of the CPS which was developed in collaboration with citizens, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other public agencies. The overall goals of the CPS include housing the homeless in a continuum of care, expanding the stock of affordable housing, guaranteeing fair housing for all persons, improving infrastructure to ensure safety and livability of neighborhoods, protecting the environment, enhancing civic design, and expanding economic opportunities, particularly for low and moderate income persons.

According to the City– Parish CPS for 2005 – 2009, OCD shall make a substantial amendment to the CPS for a change in the use of CDBG funds from one eligible activity to another, a change within an activity category, and/or an addition of a new project through the obligation of previously uncommitted funds.

The proposed changes to the Consolidated Plan and previous action plans will include a reallocation of CDBG entitlement funds from uncommitted funds and residual balances from completed projects and cancelled projects. These changes will also include commitments of CDBG program income to eligible projects that will meet the CDBG national objectives.

Proposed Activities

Listed below are additional activities that will be undertaken by the City-Parish during Program Year (PY) 2009 and will result in a reallocation and commitment of funds.

	Technical Assistance	Public Facility Improvements
CDBG Citation	570.201 (p)	570.201 (c)
CDBG National Objective	LMA	LMC
HUD Matrix Code		03M
Start Date	November 1, 2009	December 1, 2009
Completion Date	November 30, 2010	December 31, 2010
Performance Indicator		11 – Public Facilities
CDBG Recipient	East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority	City-Parish Department of Human Development and Services
Funding Amount	\$500,000.00	\$2,100,000.00
Funding Source	CDBG Entitlement funds	CDBG Entitlement funds and CDBG Program Income

Technical Assistance

CDBG entitlement funds in the amount of \$500,000.00 will be used for Technical Assistance to the East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority (RDA) for capacity building to carry out eligible neighborhood revitalization and economic development activities. The RDA was created by the 2007 Louisiana Legislature and is governed by a five-member Board of Directors, appointed by the Mayor-President, Baton Rouge Area Foundation, and Baton Rouge Area Chamber. The RDA's goals are to transform the quality of life for all citizens, foster redevelopment in disinvested areas, facilitate partnerships, create a vibrant, competitive community, and preserve and enhance sense of place.

To begin achieving their lucrative goals, the RDA intends to implement five (5) neighborhood plans for overall neighborhood revitalization and economic development in designated low to moderate income areas. The targeted neighborhoods in East Baton Rouge Parish include Scotlandville, Zion City, Choctaw Corridor, Northdale, and Melrose East. CBDG assistance will be provided to the RDA for basic operational expenses for capacity building activities and related expenses for implementation of the neighborhood plans.

Public Facility Improvements

Approximately \$2,100,000 from combined CDBG entitlement funds and program income will be allocated to the City-Parish Department of Human Development and Services (DHDS) for the construction of a Head Start Facility. The primary purpose of the Head Start Program is to provide high-quality, comprehensive programs relating to health, disabilities, education, and family services to eligible low-income families and their children. The education program is designed to be responsive and appropriate to a variety of children's needs and strengths, and to stimulate learning across all domains of development: social, emotional, cognitive and physical.

There has been an increased need of educational services through the Head Start Program in which additional learning space is need to accommodate new students. The proposed facility will be located at the current Progress Head Start location at 1881 Progress Rd. in Baton Rouge, LA 70807. The construction will include an additional 12,500 sq. ft. of educational space with some planned demolish during the construction.

Citizen Participation

In accordance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the Office of Community Development will publish in the newspaper of the largest circulation in the area a public notice stating the contents of the proposed changes to the Consolidated Plan and Strategy prior to implementing this substantial amendment. The notice will provided a period of not less than thirty (30) days in which comments will be accepted. For comments to be considered they must be received, in writing, by the end of the comment period as stipulated in the public notice.

Citizens comments received during the comment period shall be considered by the Office of Community Development. A summary of all comments received and the reason (s) why they either were or were not accepted will be prepared and attached to this substantial amendment.