

## **Update on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program....March 5, 2009**

1. Great news! DeKalb County received the official grant agreement from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program on yesterday, March 4, 2009! Now that we have the official award, the clock is ticking!
2. The RFP for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program Implementation, RFP # 09-500104, to solicit proposals for the primary subrecipient to help us implement the program has been issued by the Purchasing and Contracting Department. The notice was in the Champion Newspaper on Thursday, February 26. The deadline for responses is 3pm on March 31, 2009. There will be a MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL Conference on March 11, 2009 at 10am, Decatur Library Auditorium, 215 Sycamore Street, downtown Decatur. If anyone has an interest in how the program will be implemented or opportunities for businesses to be involved, they need to attend the proposal conference for information. We have received many questions from businesses. This is the time for them to get clarity on the process and have someone there to address their questions.

Based on a March 31 deadline for proposals to be submitted, the Community Development Department should be able to have a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for their first meeting in May.

3. The priority locations where NSP funds will be used to address foreclosed properties are clearly identified in the NSP application that the County submitted to HUD. The complete application is on the County's website.
4. On January 31, the Community Development Department met with neighborhood and community leaders to discuss the NSP. It was very well attended and provided an excellent opportunity to begin the process with persons working in their neighborhoods. The attendees identified things that will help stabilize their neighborhoods. Their list included things that the County needs to do and things that they need to do. We will have a follow up meeting within the next 3 to 4 months.
5. The February 14 meeting with real estate professionals was also very well attended. The City of Atlanta, Fulton, and DeKalb sponsored this meeting to get their input into the process and update them on the NSP implementation. These professionals play a key role in getting buyers for the homes.
6. The meeting with the lenders has not been finalized yet. It will be hosted by Atlanta, but sponsored by all three jurisdictions.
7. Two meetings have been scheduled for persons interested in buying homes. The dates were March 14 in DeKalb and April 18 in Fulton. **THE MARCH 14 MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED. A NEW DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED ONCE IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED.** Each of the three governments will market to the workforce, including first responders, educators, and others. The goal is to have persons ready to buy homes in May/June.
8. We are excited. The community understands that the NSP is one part of a bigger picture! It takes all of us working together to stabilize neighborhoods and help our overall economic recovery!

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE:**

**<http://www.co.dekalb.ga.us/commdev/index.htm>**