



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
MITCHELL L. GLASSER, Manager
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May 3, 2023

The Honorable Nicholas Fouraker
City of Belle Isle
1600 Nela Ave.
Belle Isle, FL 32809

Dear Mayor Fouraker:

Orange County and some municipalities within the County have established Interlocal Agreements in the past that allow municipalities to participate in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) entitlement grants, as part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Urban County Program. The City of Belle Isle does not currently share an Interlocal Agreement with Orange County. The Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 allows the County to enter into these cooperation agreements to undertake essential community development and affordable housing activities within eligible participating municipalities.

Orange County utilizes the CDBG Program to conduct neighborhood revitalization activities such as capital improvements, housing rehabilitation, and public services. In addition to CDBG activities, Orange County utilizes the HOME Investment Partnerships Program to implement the following affordable housing activities: Homeowners Single Family Rehabilitation, Rental Housing Rehabilitation, and Tenant Based Rental Assistance. The County also utilizes ESG Program funds to provide homeless services, which include shelter operations, street outreach, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing activities.

Under the Urban County Requalification process, Orange County must now re-qualify for the next three-year period, which includes Fiscal Years 2024-2026. During this period, the County may not undertake essential community development and affordable housing activities in units of local government in the County without the consent of the governing body of the locality. If you are interested in participating in an interlocal agreement to conduct community development activities, **a written notification must be submitted to HUD and Orange County by June 12, 2023.** Additionally, to avoid automatic inclusion into the urban county program, we ask that a written response be submitted to Orange County and HUD if participation is not desired. Local governments considering relinquishing entitlement status and that are interested in participating in the Orange County's CDBG program may review details of the 2023 Department of Housing and Urban Development Notice – CPD-23-02, which is available on the Department's website at: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/OCHCO/documents/2023-02cpdn.pdf>.

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Participation in the Urban County Program will not preclude the City of Belle Isle from applying for funding under the State of Florida's HOME Program or ESG Program, if the State allows so. Municipalities electing to participate in the Urban County Program, however, will not be allowed to apply for the State of Florida's CDBG Small Cities Program for Fiscal Years 2024-2026.

It is important to note the requirement that a unit of general local government may not sell, trade, or otherwise transfer all or any portion of such funds to another such as a metropolitan city, urban county, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe, or insular area that directly or indirectly receives CDBG funds in exchange for any other funds, credits or non-Federal considerations, but must use such funds for activities eligible under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. HUD has also delineated the fair housing and civil rights obligations to which urban counties and participating jurisdictions are subject. After consideration of the requirements in the Urban County Program, should the City of Belle Isle elect to participate or not participate, correspondence indicating the City's intent should be addressed to:

Mr. Larry T. Hayes, MBA, CPD Director
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Community Planning and Development Division
400 West Bay Street, Suite 1015
Jacksonville, FL 32202

And

Mr. Mitchell Glasser, Manager
Orange County Government
Housing and Community Development Division
525 East South Street
Orlando, FL 32801

If you have any questions relating to this correspondence, or require additional information, please contact Mitchell Glasser at 407-836-5190.

Sincerely,



Mitchell Glasser, Manager
Housing and Community Development Division

cc: Larry T. Hayes, MBA, CPD Director, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development