



COUNTY OF MERCER
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
McDADE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
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County Executive

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Director
Economic Development & Sustainability

EDWARD M. PATTIK
Director
Housing & Community Development

September 6, 2013

Honorable Mayor Liz Lempert
Princeton Township Municipal Building
400 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, NJ 08540

Re: Certification of Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium

Dear Mayor Lempert:

The Mercer County HOME Program is revising the certification agreement for the Mercer County HOME Consortium to reflect the merging of Princeton Township and Borough of Princeton as required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The following document is required in order to complete the Consortium's certification process:

- I. A letter from the Mayor stating the municipality's intent to participate in the consortium (sample letter enclosed)
- II. An executed municipal resolution which authorizes the Mayor to execute the consortium agreement (sample resolution enclosed)
- III. Executed consortium agreement (five original enclosed).

The above executed documentation should be received by the Office of Housing and Community Development, 640 South Broad Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08650, as soon as possible, in order to ensure continued participation in the Mercer County HOME Consortium. Should you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Carmen Cantillo, Office of Housing and Community Development at (609) 989-6858.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Edward M. Pattik, Director
Housing and Community Development

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF PRINCETON TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE HOME INVESTMENTS PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM CONSORTIUM WITH THE COUNTY OF MERCER

Whereas, the Mercer County HOME Consortium has been notified of the merging of Princeton Township and Princeton Borough into one municipality to be known as Princeton; and,

Whereas, HUD through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program requires a change be made to the existing participating municipalities listed in the Consortium to single entity of Princeton; and,

Whereas, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program seeks to expand the supply of decent and affordable housing, particularly rental housing, for low and very low income Americans; and,

Whereas, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program seeks to strengthen the abilities of state and local governments to design and implement strategies for achieving adequate supplies of decent, affordable housing; and,

Whereas, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program seeks to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and non-profit organizations, in the production and operation of affordable housing; and,

Whereas, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program provides state and local governments with the flexibility to decide what kind of housing assistance, is most appropriate for meeting their housing needs; and,

Whereas, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program encourages state and local governments to use HOME funds efficiently and to undertake the most cost-efficient housing activities requiring the smallest state and local matching contributions for Federal funds; and,

Whereas, in order to qualify for funding under this program, a municipality or consortium of municipalities must have a minimum 'critical housing need' of \$500,000.00; and,

Whereas, the City of Trenton is the only municipality within Mercer County eligible, on an independent basis for HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds; and,

Whereas, the remaining Mercer County municipalities interested in participating in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program must pool together into a consortium to be eligible for funding; and,

Whereas, there is no cost to municipalities to participate in the Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium, aside from the required matching funds for any project a municipality may undertake; and,

Whereas, the Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium would be a source of funding for a project PRINCETON may undertake in its own affordable housing program without requiring PRINCETON to undertake any specific projects; and,

Whereas, participation by the Mayor and Council of Princeton in the Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium would be beneficial to its relations with other Mercer County municipalities, as a whole, meet the eligibility requirements for participation in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program; now,

Therefore Be It Resolved, participation in the Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium is hereby endorsed; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute said Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium Agreement.

I, Linda S. McDermott, Clerk of Princeton, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of Princeton at its meeting held September 23, 2013.

Linda S. McDermott, Clerk

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT dated _____ 2013, by and between the: Township of East Windsor, Township of Ewing, Township of Hamilton, Borough of Hightstown, Borough of Hopewell, Township of Hopewell, Township of Lawrence, Borough of Pennington, Princeton, Township of Robbinsville, Township of West Windsor, and the County of Mercer is made as follows:

WHEREAS, Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 provides for Federal Funds made available to the County of Mercer and certain participating municipalities for use in developing and maintaining affordable housing; and,

WHEREAS, this Act establishes certain criteria, which must be met in order for a County and constituent municipalities to establish a consortium in order to be a recipient of said funds; and,

WHEREAS, the aforementioned municipalities have passed resolutions authorizing the respective Mayors of said municipalities to execute an Agreement with the County of Mercer for cooperative participation in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Mercer and the aforementioned municipalities desire to re-certify the existing consortium agreement for the purpose outlined in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990;

NOW THEREFORE, the County of Mercer and the above aforementioned municipalities mutually covenants and agrees as follows:

- I. The aforementioned municipalities are contiguous in geographic consistency;
- II. To cooperatively undertake housing assistance activities pursuant to the HOME Investment Partnerships Program;
- III. To authorize the County of Mercer to act in a representative capacity for the consortium for the purposes of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program;
- IV. To permit the County of Mercer to assume overall responsibility for ensuring that the Consortium's HOME Investment Partnerships Program is carried out in compliance with the requirements of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, including requirements concerning a Consolidated Plan in accordance with HUD regulations;
- V. To affirmatively further fair housing;
- VI. To permit the County of Mercer, as the lead agency, to amend this agreement on behalf of the entire consortium to add new members to the consortium;
- VII. To ensure that the program year for all federal entitlement grants in any consortium member municipality shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.

THIS AGREEMENT shall be in effect for a period of three (3) Federal fiscal years, to include FY 2013 - 2015, from date of execution.

THIS AGREEMENT shall be executed by each aforementioned municipality on separate signature pages, with each page incorporated hereto and made part hereof.

In witness whereof, Princeton sets its hand and affixes its seal.

ATTEST:

Princeton Municipal Clerk

Liz Lempert, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jerlene H. Worthy, Clerk to the Board

Brian M. Hughes, County Executive