RESOLUTION NO. 15-10-104

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE VILLAGE’S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") program is a competitive grant program administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity ("DEO") that addresses critical housing and infrastructure needs of the elderly, disadvantaged, and low to moderate income ("LMI") populations; and

WHEREAS, Islamorada, Village of Islands (the "Village") successfully submitted a funding application to the 2013 CDBG Housing Category; and

WHEREAS, the Village was awarded $700,000.00 in grant funding under the Housing Rehabilitation category through the 2013 Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG funds can be used for improving Village property and private property infrastructure, particularly to the Village’s LMI residents; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council desires to provide CDBG funds for approved activities in order to assist qualified residents on a fair and equitable basis; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of CDBG funding, the DEO require that participating jurisdictions establish and adopt a CDBG Citizen Participation Plan in order to ensure that there is a process for community-wide participation in the planning, development, implementation and performance evaluation activities related to the CDBG; and

WHEREAS, the Village desires to establish a process and a forum for community input, feedback and comment relative to the Village’s CDBG activities.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL

OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Amendment to Village’s CDBG Housing Assistance Plan. The Village Council hereby approves the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen Participation Plan, attached hereto as “Exhibit A”.

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Motion to adopt by Councilman Chris Sante; second by Mayor Mike Forster.

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION
VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA

Mayor Mike Forster YES
Vice Mayor Deb Gillis YES
Councilman Jim Mooney YES
Councilman Chris Sante YES
Councilman Dennis Ward YES

PASSED on the first reading this 1st day of October, 2015.

ATTEST:
KELLY TOTH, VILLAGE CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF
ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS ONLY

ROGET V. BRYAN, VILLAGE ATTORNEY
ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN AND CITIZEN COMPLAINT
PROCEDURE

I. In order to provide citizens with information concerning the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, Islamorada, Village of Islands (the “Village”) will take the following actions:

a. Make available to the public, in a reasonable and timely manner, information concerning the amount of funds available for various activities and the range of activities that may be undertaken.

b. Provide citizens with adequate notice of public hearings, which are to be held at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries, and with accommodation for the handicapped disabled. If a significant number of non-English speaking residents could reasonably be expected to attend a public hearing, an interpreter will be provided for the language expected to be represented.

c. If any party representing low to moderate income persons requests assistance for developing a proposal for the CDBG, the governing body shall determine the eligibility of the proposed activity. If such activity is eligible for funding, the party's ideas will be discussed at the First Public Hearing for the CDBG application or amendment stage. Information available from the state regarding the application process will be provided to interested parties.

d. Hold at least one (1) Public Hearing to obtain the views of citizens on community development needs.

e. A Citizen Advisory Task Force shall be established (composed of citizens of the jurisdiction) to provide input relative to all phases of the project process. Residents of low and moderate income neighborhoods shall be included in this task force. The task force members will be appointed by the governing body before the Second Public Hearing on the project. Members may be reappointed as a standing committee. The task force will meet at its discretion and will offer recommendations, as it deems appropriate.

f. Develop and publish a summary of the proposed application that will provide citizens with an opportunity to examine its contents and submit their comments.

g. Consider any comments and views expressed by citizens on the proposed application and, if appropriate, modify the proposed application.

h. Hold at least one (1) Public Hearing to obtain the views of citizens on the final application prior to its submission to the department.
f. Hold at least one (1) Public Hearing during the grant implementation process to review the program performance. This may be combined with the Public Hearing on amendments, if any such hearings are required.

II. The following Complaint/Grievance Procedure will be followed for the CDBG program:

a. Complaints or grievances may be filed by local citizens, property or business owners, or their representatives, on the basis of their belief that the CDBG program design or implementation is inappropriate or illegal based upon such factors as environmental considerations or civil rights.

b. Complaints shall be issued in writing to the chief elected official within 30 days of the perceived problem and delivered or mailed to the official address of the local government.

c. The local government shall investigate the complaint/grievance and respond in writing within fifteen (15) days, although conclusion of the matter may take more than fifteen (15) days.

d. The investigation may be performed by local officials, staff, consultants, the Citizen Advisory Task Force, or others as determined appropriate by the local government.

e. If the party filing the complaint or grievance is not satisfied with the response, they may appeal to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO).

f. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit a person from filing a complaint with HUD or any regulatory agency or court. Housing discrimination complaints may be filed directly by calling the discrimination hotlines.

   HUD:  1-800-424-8590
   State:  1-800-342-8170