



City of Auburn, Maine
Office of Community Development

Press Release for Immediate Distribution

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AUBURN SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AUBURN, ME. - The City of Auburn is seeking volunteers for its Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to assist with the priorities for a new Consolidated Plan. CAC will remain a standing committee for 5 years. Selections will be made by Mayor Labonte.

The Consolidated Plan is a five-year strategic plan for spending Community Development funds. The CAC will work with Community Development staff and the City's consultant to determine the most pressing neighborhood needs and setting priorities of the Consolidated Plan. The citizen participation process will include feedback sessions from the neighborhood in three target areas, Downtown, Union Street and New Auburn.

Citizen participation is a condition of receiving two federal grants, Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships Program. A Citizen Participation Plan, adopted by the Auburn City Council, identifies persons who may become CAC members. CAC members must be Auburn residents and shall represent one of the following:

- At least one person of minority race or ethnic background;
- 3 representatives of community or faith-based organizations, one of which represents the interests of homeless persons; and
- 12-15 persons from target areas including residents, landlords and small business owners, with a minimum of 4 each from the Downtown, Union Street and New Auburn Target Areas.

The theme of this Consolidated Plan is “strong neighborhoods”. The City is interested in members who are committed to making the target areas a place that people want to live and visit as well as finding ways to improve the quality of life for people living in the neighborhood.

The CAC will start meeting in the fall with 1 or 2 meetings per month until priorities have been established in mid-winter of 2015. The Committee will then meet regularly to track progress in accomplishing the goals of the Consolidated Plan and to evaluate effectiveness of programs.

If you are interested in shaping the direction of the Community Development Program for the next five years, please fill out the volunteer application form. The **CAC Volunteer Application** is available from the **Boards and Committees** section of the City website at www.auburnmaine.gov. The deadline for submitting the application is August 15, 2014.

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