

The Division of Community Services (DCS) received comments from three commenters during the comment period for the HOME 2014 Program Distribution Statement (PDS) Revision II. Below is the reply to those comments.

One commenter commented that the funds should be awarded in two separate competitive rounds. One with applications due May 1 and the second with applications due November 1.

The PDS will remain as written. The DCS designed the PDS with one competitive round and then on a first come first serve bases for any remaining funds. The initial competitive round falls in line with State Housing Incentive Fund competitive round. Should any funds remain, the first come first serve bases will allow CHDOs and Non-profits to partner with other sources of funds.

One commenter commented that the CHDO Operating set-aside should be clarified that it is a grant and that DCS cannot exceed \$150,000 per fiscal year.

The PDS has been changed to indicate that the CHDO Operating funds will be a grant and the DCS cannot exceed \$150,000 per program year.

One commenter commented that on page 13, paragraph (5), redevelopment authority needs clarification because the Community Action Agencies may come under this definition.

The DCS does not believe that the Community Actions in ND serve as redevelopment authorities. They were established to address poverty and to enable low and moderate income people of all ages to secure the opportunities they need to obtain and maintain self-sufficiency.

One commenter commented that on page 15 under Non-profits, the first bullet the word administration needs to be defined.

The PDS had been changed to read "The non-profit has successfully administered (this means following all of the cross cutting requirements such as Davis Bacon, Section 3, and contract compliance), at least one (1) HOME, CDBG or NSP funded development of similar nature and scope;

One commenter commented that on page 18, paragraph D, the word from should be for.

The PDS has been changed.

One commenter commented that on page 19, paragraph D – Preservation should receive 15 points because as the housing demand continues to be satisfied everyone should be cognizant of the fact that shift in focus to existing housing will need to occur.

The DCS agrees with the commenter's statement, however, the focus at the present time is development of affordable multi-family housing. Scoring can be changed in future Program Distribution Statements to address a change in focus.

Two commenters commented that changing the application deadline to a date earlier than June 30, 2015 would have a negative impact on proposed projects in the development stage.

The DCS agrees with the commenters, the PDS application deadline will remain at June 30, 2015.