

AMY BRUMELOW
Planning & Zoning Director

CYNDE WELCH
Senior Planner



TRACY RYE
Community Planner

TAMMY TEAL
*Clerk of the Planning &
Zoning Board*

FALLON DOYLE
Department Secretary

DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

8700 Hospital Drive • Douglasville, GA 30134
Telephone (770) 920-7241 • Fax (678) 715-5366

August 14, 2009

Glen Misner
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Mr. Misner:

Attached please find the documentation required for the Release of Funds and Environmental Review for the Douglas County NSP I program. We have scheduled for the end of the comment period to be August 31, 2009 and the ad was run on July 31, 2009 for public comment. I have included a copy as required of the advertisement from our local legal organ.

Please contact me at (678) 715-5370 if you have any questions or require additional information regarding this contract approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Brumelow".

Amy Brumelow
Planning & Zoning Director

Farmland Protection Policy Act [7 CFR 658]	A	None of the Douglas County NSP activities are subject to the FPPA (7 CFR Part 658)
Environmental Justice [Executive Order 12898]	A	None of the Douglas County NSP activities are subject to the CAA (40 CFR Part 6, 51, 93)
HUD ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS Noise Abatement and Control [24 CFR 51B]	B	Site Specific compliance consultation shall be completed for each single family property. Douglas County NSP will not purchase properties that do not meet the Noise Abatement and Control standards.
Explosive and Flammable Operations [24 CFR 51C]	A	Not applicable to this project/activities.
Hazardous, Toxic or Radioactive Materials & Substances [24 CFR 58.5(i)(2)]	B	Site Specific compliance consultation shall be completed for each single family property. Douglas County NSP will not purchase nor will it permit the construction, rehabilitation or renovation of properties that possess toxic chemicals or radioactive materials.
Airport Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones [24 CFR 51D]	B	Site Specific compliance consultation shall be completed for each single family property. Douglas County NSP will not purchase properties that are located within Airport Clear Zones or Accident Potential Zones.

DETERMINATION:

- () This project converts to EXEMPT, per Section 58.34(a)(12), because it does not require any mitigation for compliance with any listed statutes or authorities, nor requires any formal permit or license (Status "A" has been determined in the status column for all authorities); **Funds may be committed and drawn down** for this (now) EXEMPT project; OR
- (X) This project cannot convert to Exempt status because one or more statutes or authorities require formal consultation or mitigation. Complete consultation/mitigation protocol requirements, **publish NOI/RROF and obtain Authority to Use Grant Funds** (HUD 7015.16) per Section 58.70 and 58.71 before committing or drawing down funds; OR
- () The unusual circumstances of this project may result in a significant environmental impact. This project requires preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA). Prepare the EA according to 24 CFR Part 58 Subpart E.

PREPARER SIGNATURE: Amy Brumelow DATE: 8-5-09

PREPARER NAME, COMPANY: Amy Brumelow, Douglas County

RESPONSIBLE ENTITY AGENCY OFFICIAL / SIGNATURE: Amy Brumelow

NAME, TITLE: Amy Brumelow, Planning & Zoning Director DATE: 8-5-09

Request for Release of Funds and Certification

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development

OMB No. 2506-0087
(exp. 12/31/2007)

This form is to be used by Responsible Entities and Recipients (as defined in 24 CFR 58.2) when requesting the release of funds, and requesting the authority to use such funds, for HUD programs identified by statutes that provide for the assumption of the environmental review responsibility by units of general local government and States. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 36 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control number.

Part 1. Program Description and Request for Release of Funds (to be completed by Responsible Entity)

1. Program Title(s) Neighborhood Stabilization Program	2. HUD/State Identification Number DCA Award: 08-ns-5058	3. Recipient Identification Number (optional)
4. OMB Catalog Number(s) 14-228	5. Name and address of responsible entity Douglas County Planning and Zoning Department 8700 Hospital Drive Douglasville, GA 30134	
6. For information about this request, contact (name & phone number) Amy Brumelow; 678-715-5370	7. Name and address of recipient (if different than responsible entity)	
8. HUD or State Agency and office unit to receive request Georgia Department of Community Affairs Office of Community Development (NSP)		

The recipient(s) of assistance under the program(s) listed above requests the release of funds and removal of environmental grant conditions governing the use of the assistance for the following

9. Program Activity(ies)/Project Name(s) Douglas County Neighborhood Stabilization Program	10. Location (Street address, city, county, State) 8700 Hospital Drive Douglasville, GA 30134
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11. Program Activity/Project Description
Program activities include those specific activities to be performed in accordance with the Douglas County NSP Award from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. These activities include:

Down Payment Assistance (H-013-00); Acquisition of Vacant Foreclosed Residential Dwellings (H-001-00); Rehabilitation of Vacant Foreclosed Residential Dwellings (H-014-001) and Program Administration in Douglas County, Georgia (H-21A-00)

Part 2. Environmental Certification (to be completed by responsible entity)

With reference to the above Program Activity(ies)/Project(s), I, the undersigned officer of the responsible entity, certify that:

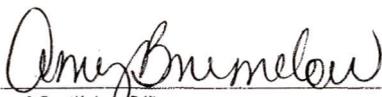
1. The responsible entity has fully carried out its responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action pertaining to the project(s) named above.
2. The responsible entity has assumed responsibility for and complied with and will continue to comply with, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the environmental procedures, permit requirements and statutory obligations of the laws cited in 24 CFR 58.5; and also agrees to comply with the authorities in 24 CFR 58.6 and applicable State and local laws.
3. After considering the type and degree of environmental effects identified by the environmental review completed for the proposed project described in Part 1 of this request, I have found that the proposal did did not require the preparation and dissemination of an environmental impact statement.
4. The responsible entity has disseminated and/or published in the manner prescribed by 24 CFR 58.43 and 58.55 a notice to the public in accordance with 24 CFR 58.70 and as evidenced by the attached copy (copies) or evidence of posting and mailing procedure.
5. The dates for all statutory and regulatory time periods for review, comment or other action are in compliance with procedures and requirements of 24 CFR Part 58.
6. In accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b), the responsible entity will advise the recipient (if different from the responsible entity) of any special environmental conditions that must be adhered to in carrying out the project.

As the duly designated certifying official of the responsible entity, I also certify that:

7. I am authorized to and do consent to assume the status of Federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.5 list of NEPA-related authorities insofar as the provisions of these laws apply to the HUD responsibilities for environmental review, decision-making and action that have been assumed by the responsible entity.
8. I am authorized to and do accept, on behalf of the recipient personally, the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the enforcement of all these responsibilities, in my capacity as certifying officer of the responsible entity.

Signature of Certifying Officer of the Responsible Entity

Title of Certifying Officer

X 

Director of Planning and Zoning Department

Date signed 7/31/09

Address of Certifying Officer

Douglas County
8700 Hospital Drive
Douglasville, GA 30134

Part 3. To be completed when the Recipient is not the Responsible Entity

The recipient requests the release of funds for the programs and activities identified in Part 1 and agrees to abide by the special conditions, procedures and requirements of the environmental review and to advise the responsible entity of any proposed change in the scope of the project or any change in environmental conditions in accordance with 24 CFR 58.71(b).

Signature of Authorized Officer of the Recipient

Title of Authorized Officer

X

Date signed

Warning: HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)



Certification of Categorical Exclusion (subject to 58.5)

Determination of activities per 24 CFR 58.35(a)
 May be subject to provisions of 24 CFR 58.6, as applicable

Project Name: Douglas County Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Project Description: Acquisition and Rehabilitation of vacant foreclosed single family residential properties and the provision of down payment assistance to eligible homebuyers.

Address: Douglas County, Georgia (individual environmental forms will be conducted as part of the tiered review process)

Funding Source: Neighborhood Stabilization Program Funds

Funding Amount: \$3,809,526

Grant Number: DCA Award: 08-ns-5058

	1. Acquisition, repair, improvement, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of public facilities and improvements (other than buildings) when the facilities and improvements are in place and will be retained in the same use without change in size or capacity of more than 20 percent (e.g., replacement of water or sewer lines, reconstruction of curbs and sidewalks, repaving of streets);
	2. Special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers that restrict the mobility of and accessibility to elderly and handicapped persons;
X	3. Rehabilitation of buildings and improvements when the following conditions are met: i. In the case of a building for residential use (with one to four units), the density is not increased beyond four units, the land use is not changed, and the footprint of the building is not increased in a floodplain or in a wetland. ii. In the case of multifamily residential buildings: A. Unit density is not changed more than 20 percent; B. The project does not involve changes in land use from residential to non-residential; and C. The estimated cost of rehabilitation is less than 75 percent of the total estimated cost of replacement after rehabilitation. iii. In the case of non-residential structures, including commercial, industrial, and public buildings: A. The facilities and improvements are in place and will not be changed in size or capacity by more than 20 percent; and B. The activity does not involve a change in land use, such as from non-residential to residential, commercial to industrial, or from one industrial use to another;
	4. i. An individual action on a one- to four-family dwelling up to four dwelling units where there is a maximum of four units on any one site. The units can be four one-unit buildings or one four-unit building or any combination in between; or ii. An individual action on a project of five or more housings units developed on scattered sites when the sites are more than 2,000 feet apart and there are not more than four housing units on any one site. iii. Items (i) and (ii) do not apply to rehabilitation of a building for residential use (with one to four units);
	5. Acquisition (including leasing) or disposition of, or equity loans on an existing structure, or acquisition (including leasing) of vacant land provided that the structure or land acquired, financed, or disposed of will be retained for the same use;
	6. Combinations of the above activities.

The responsible entity must complete and attach a Statutory Worksheet. If there are circumstances that require compliance with any of the Federal laws and authorities cited in 24 CFR 58.5 you must complete consultation or mitigation requirements, publish a Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds and obtain Authority to Use Grant Funds (HUD 7015.16) per 24 CFR 58.70 and 58.71 before drawing down funds.



If there are no circumstances that require compliance with any of the Federal laws and authorities cited in 24 CFR 58.5 the project converts to Exempt per 24 CFR 58.34(a)(12); therefore, you do not have to submit a Request for Release of Funds and no further approval from HUD is needed before drawing down funds. However, the Responsible Entity must still document in writing its compliance with and/or applicability of "other requirements" per 58.6 (included with this document).



Certification of Categorical Exclusion (subject to 58.5)

By signing below the Responsible Entity certifies in writing that each activity or project is Categorically Excluded (subject to 58.5) and meets the conditions specified for such determination under section 24 CFR 58.35(a). Please keep a copy of this determination and the Statutory Worksheet in your project files.

Amy Brumelow, Director of the Douglas County Planning and Zoning Department
Responsible Entity Certifying Official Name & Title (please print)

Amy Brumelow
Responsible Entity Certifying Official Signature

7-31-09
Date

put your address in
term goals.

To schedule your complimentary financial review, call
or visit today.

Tony Farina
Financial Advisor
8432 Adair Street
Douglasville, GA 30134
770-920-8306

James Wells
Financial Advisor
4900 Stewart Mill Rd.
Suite K
Douglasville, GA 30135
770-947-5890

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CONCURANT NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date: July 31, 2009

Issuing Agency: Douglas County Planning and Zoning Department, 8700 Hospital Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134, 770-920-7241

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS

Notice is hereby give that on or about August 3, 2009, Douglas County will submit to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) a Certification and Request for Release of Funds (RROF) relating to a grant of Federal funds made by the State of Georgia under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, for the following project: Douglas County Neighborhood Stabilization Program; Program Activities for Down Payment Assistance (H-013-00); Acquisition of Vacant/Foreclosed Residential Dwellings (H-001-00); Housing Rehabilitation of Vacant Foreclosed Structures (H-14B-09); and Program Administration in Douglas County, Georgia (incorporated and unincorporated areas of Douglas County).

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality or the human environmental and, accordingly, the above named County has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190). The reasons for such decision not to prepare such statement are as follows: Certification of Categorical Exclusion (subject to 24 CFR 58.5). An Environmental Review Record respecting review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such statement is not required. The Environmental Record is on file in the Planning and Zoning Department, 8700 Hospital Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134, and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 9:00 and 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding general legal holidays. No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted to the request for release of Federal funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON FONSI

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by Douglas County to the Director of Planning and Zoning, 8700 Hospital Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134. Such written comments should be received by the Director of Planning and Zoning at the address listed above on or before August 31, 2009. All such comments so received will be considered and the County will not request the release of Federal funds or take administrative action on the proposed project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

NOTICE OF INTENCT OF REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOI/ROF)

At least one day after termination of the public comment period for FONSI but not before comments of the FONSI have been considered and resolved, Douglas County will submit a Request for Release of Funds (RROF) and Certification of DCA. By so doing, the County will ask DCA to allow it to commit funds to this project certifying that (1) it has performed the environmental review prescribed by HUD regulations ("Environmental Review Procedures for Title I Community Development Block Grant Program" -24 CFR Part 58), and (2) the Certifying Officer, Amy Brumelow, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review or resulting decision-making and action. The legal effect of the certification is that by approving it, DCA will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policies Act of 1969, as amended, thus allowing Douglas County to commit Community Development Block Grant funds to this project.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE FUNDS

DCA will accept objections to this approval of the release of funds and the certification only if it is on one of the following bases: a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the Certifying Officer; or b) that applicant's Environmental Review Record for the project indicated omission of a required decision, finding or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to DCA at CDBG Section, 60 Executive Park South, Atlanta, GA 30329-2231. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the State. No objection received after August 31, 2009 will be considered y DCA.

Certifying Officer:
Amy Brumelow
Director, Planning & Zoning
Douglas County
8700 Hospital Drive
Douglasville, GA 30134
770-920-7241

Standing in the gap'

ASA seeks volunteers help kids

Waxman Jones

Waxman Jones, a CASA (Court Special Advocate) in Douglas County said Friday he volunteers for the organization because he wants to help his youth and their future.

Waxman Jones said he would like to be that person standing in the gap," Jones told a meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Douglas County. "Some of these kids have strong family units. I see them living each other and my heart is broken."

Waxman Jones called on everybody to do their part of community volunteer work to help children who need help. It is important for all of us to volunteer to do something," he said.

Waxman Jones, 56, is a graduate of Savannah College and worked for the Georgia prison system and as an attorney and probation officer in Douglas County.

Waxman Jones said the Douglas County's CASA program, Children's Voice CASA, was founded by Dawn West in 1999 to protect and advocate for interested and neglected children and juveniles in court deprivation cases.

Waxman Jones said he operates in all 49 judicial districts to make sure children's needs are getting met," McDade said he will make sure that judges

are aware of children's needs from an independent point of view."

Children's Voice CASA has three employees, two full-time and one part-time. Dawn West is the organization's executive director.

While some CASA programs are paid for by court systems, the Douglas County CASA is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, dependent on grants, donations and fundraisers for its operation.

"For the last three years, we've held a celebrity golf tournament to raise funds for CASA," McDade said. "This year, the Atlanta Celebrity AM Charity Classic will be held Oct. 24-25 at the Lion Golf Club in Bremen."

Each year, the event has brought in numerous celebrities from the entertainment and sports world. Listed on this year's program as possible celebrity participants are Kevin Costner, Bill Murray, Dennis Quaid, Cheech Marin, Catherine Bell and Kevin Sorbo.

Spectator tickets for the event sell for \$25 each, with \$20 going to CASA. Volunteer tickets are also available for \$40, with buyers receiving a golf shirt and hat for use in their volunteer assignment. CASA receives 100 percent of volunteer ticket sales.

Tickets and information are available from Dawn West, 770-577-7228, e-mail dwest@co.douglas.ga.us or Jennifer King, 770-920-7121, e-mail jkking@co.douglas.ga.us.

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At a news conference, Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, one of the six lawmakers involved in the bill, said they had made "very good progress" that could lead to a bipartisan bill, "but that'll never happen if Democrat leaders tell Republicans to take a hike by forcing the committee to move on an all-Democrat bill." Both chambers already jettisoned plans for floor votes before the summer break, and Democrats are now aiming just to get bills out of the final House and Senate committees that have yet to act. Even that much has turned into a protracted struggle but Democrats said it had to happen. Returning to Obama's top issue in his array on Capitol Hill was not an option. Waxman's committee resumed work Thursday, with the goal of finishing Friday, after a week-and-a-half delay caused by objections from fiscally conservative Democrats. That rebellion was quelled with an agreement Wednesday that would protect more small businesses from a requirement to provide insurance to their employees, and restructure a new public insurance plan so it could pay higher rates to doctors and other providers, among other changes. But the concessions Waxman made to the so-called Blue Dog Democrats infuriated House liberals. They denounced the proposed new structure of the public plan, which was originally designed to be based on Medicare rates. The new structure says rates would be negotiated with providers as occurs now with private companies, which could result in more expensive care. "This agreement is not a step forward toward a health care reform," House Democrats points to their distribution — "Hill reform to Company — showed stepped-up insurance as poll villains, which could result in more expensive care. "This agreement is not a step forward toward a health care reform."