

THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

The consolidated strategy and plan as required by HUD must result from an effective citizen participation process. HUD regulations require that each Entitlement city or county develop and follow a detailed citizen participation plan that addresses each of the following elements. Citizens, non-profit organizations and other interested parties must be afforded adequate opportunity to review and comment on the proposed citizens participation plan prior to implementation.

- Participation – The plan must provide for and encourage citizen participation, emphasizing the involvement of low-, very low-, and extremely low-income residents toward where housing and community development funds may be spent. The City will make every effort to encourage the participation of all its residents, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with mobility, visual or hearing impairments in all stages of the process.
- Notification of the open meetings will be accomplished through the publication of notices in the local newspaper, on the City's local government cable channel, Franklin T.V. and on our City calendar which is available on the City's website. Additionally, a list of open meetings appears on the bi-monthly Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting agenda's. Non-English-speaking persons will be encouraged to contact City Hall to request an interpreter. For accommodations due to disabilities, contact the Human Resources Department at 791-3216 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
- Access to Meetings – The jurisdiction will afford adequate, timely notification so citizens can attend local meetings and public forums. All meetings will be held in locations that are accessible to persons using wheelchairs and will be published in time for any other special needs to be met.
- Access to Information – Citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties, including those most affected, will have the opportunity to receive information, review and submit comments on any proposed submission concerning the amount of funds available, including the estimated amount proposed to benefit low-, very low-, and extremely low-income residents.
- Public Hearings – The City will provide public hearings that are at a convenient time for people to attend; accessible to people with disabilities; and, adequately publicized.

The purpose of the public hearing is to

- obtain the opinions of citizens, public agencies and other interested parties
- hear comments and suggestions regarding the proposal
- review with the public the proposed use of funds and review previous program performance.