

## Notice of Public Hearings and Public Comment Period

The **City of Peabody**, in cooperation with the **North Shore HOME Consortium**, an organization comprised of thirty cities and towns in the Merrimack Valley and the North Shore, is **seeking public comment on its Draft Action Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2009 and an Amendment to the Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2008**. The City of Peabody and the Consortium are hoping to receive feedback on this document from interested parties regarding 1.) **The use of HOME funds** for the development of affordable housing in the North Shore HOME Consortium region in the coming year; and 2.) **The use of CDBG funds** to assist low and moderate income persons in the City of Peabody in the coming year. The Consortium's communities include: Amesbury, Andover, Beverly, Boxford, Danvers, Essex, Gloucester, Georgetown, Hamilton, Haverhill, Ipswich, Lynnfield, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Marblehead, Merrimac, Methuen, Middleton, Newburyport, North Andover, North Reading, Peabody, Rockport, Rowley, Salem, Salisbury, Swampscott, Topsfield, Wenham, West Newbury and Wilmington.

The activities proposed with HOME funds include: Creating Additional Rental Housing and Housing with Supportive Services that is Affordable: \$790,000; Rehabilitating Existing Housing Stock & Removing Physical Barriers for People who are Disabled: \$273,644; Creating Additional Homeownership Housing Units: \$230,000; Providing Downpayment Assistance to Income-eligible Homebuyers: \$107,747; Providing Tenant-based Rental Assistance to Target Populations: \$212,000; Assisting Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) to both Create Rental Housing Units: \$270,000; and to create Homeownership housing units: \$50,000. Current proposed CDBG projects include Housing Rehabilitation; Down Payment Assistance to First Time Homebuyers; Flood Mitigation; and several Public Service Projects to include Homelessness Prevention Programs, Case Management and Counseling Services.

A copy of the 2009 Action Plan will be available at the Community Development Department at Peabody City Hall, 24 Lowell Street, Peabody, and on its' web site at [www.peabody-ma.gov](http://www.peabody-ma.gov). Paper copies will also be available at the Community Development Department at City Hall in Gloucester, Haverhill, Peabody, and Salem, during normal business hours. The public comment period will begin on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 and will end on Thursday May 14, 2009.

Two Public Hearings will be held on **Thursday, April 16, 2009** to invite comment on the draft document at the following locations: **Peabody City Hall Community Development Dept. Conference Room, 24 Lowell Street, Peabody, MA 01960, at 3:00 p.m. and The Sawyer Free Library Friend Room, 2 Dale Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01830 To be held at 10:00 a.m.** *(Both of these locations are accessible)*

Citizens, all interested parties, representatives from the Consortium's member communities, and nonprofit providers are urged to participate in these hearings. Written comments are also encouraged, and may be addressed, on or before May 12, 2009, to: The Department of Community Development, City Hall, 24 Lowell Street, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960 FAX (978) 538-5987 e-mail addresses: [lisa.greene@peabody-ma.gov](mailto:lisa.greene@peabody-ma.gov) or [stacey.bernson@peabody-ma.gov](mailto:stacey.bernson@peabody-ma.gov)