

**CITY OF READING & COUNTY OF BERKS**  
**SUMMARY NOTICE**  
**FFY2015 ACTION PLANS**

The City of Reading and the County of Berks adopted a Joint Consolidated Plan for federal fiscal years 2014-2018. The Joint Consolidated Plan is a five year planning document that addresses housing and community development needs of Reading and Berks County. This summary is designed to give citizens, local governments, and interested organizations of the City and County an opportunity to comment on the City and County Action Plans for 2015.

Each Action Plan has been developed using an estimate of the amount of 2015 CDBG, ESG, and HOME entitlement funding that the City and County plan to receive from HUD. Funding amount revisions will be made to the activities in the Action Plan should the exact amount of funding awarded by HUD differ from the estimate. The activities with the highest funding amounts are the highest priority activities. Those priorities will remain the same irrespective of the amount of funding received from HUD. An activity funding amount revision will be based on the priorities and each entitlement program's funding caps. The City and County will adhere to their respective Citizen Participation Plan amendment requirements if an activity will be added to or cancelled from the Action Plan.

COUNTY FFY2015 ACTION PLAN: The County proposes to adopt its Action Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2015. For FFY2015, the County anticipates receiving approximately \$2,084,865 from the CDBG Program, \$481,469 from the HOME Program, and \$173,658 from the ESG Program. Activities proposed for funding include redevelopment area activities (\$1,307,081), public improvements (\$360,811), operations and maintenance of emergency shelters (\$82,150), homeless prevention (\$78,484), development of affordable housing (\$173,000), housing rehabilitation (\$150,000) tenant-based rental assistance (\$60,322), planning (\$120,000), and administration (\$358,144). The estimated amount that will benefit low and moderate income persons for the CDBG Program is 90%. The County anticipates the displacement of 4 families and 1 business to occur as a result of the activities. The County will follow the regulations of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and the Pennsylvania Eminent Domain Code, as amended.

The READING FFY2015 ACTION PLAN: The City proposes to adopt its Action Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2015. For FFY2015, the City anticipates receiving approximately \$2,500,000 from the CDBG Program, \$797,601 from the HOME Program, \$207,105 from the ESG Program, and \$5,000 in NSP2 program income. Additionally, the City anticipates receiving \$35,000 in program income from a previously-funded NHS homeownership loan program. The \$35,000 in program income will be used by NHS to make additional homeownership loans. Additional activities proposed for funding include emergency demolition (\$100,000), code enforcement (\$555,000), special economic development job creation grant and loan programs (\$370,000), a Micro-Enterprise Technical Assistance program (\$100,000), Commercial and residential façade improvement programs (\$100,000), historic preservation (\$50,000), public facilities/improvements (\$350,000), public services (\$375,000), operations & maintenance of emergency shelters and essential services for homeless persons (\$124,000), homelessness prevention activities (\$67,572), homebuyer assistance programs (\$150,000), owner-occupied

housing rehabilitation (\$443,000), renter-occupied housing rehabilitation (\$125,000), planning & administration (\$595,134), and NSP2 residential acquisition, rehabilitation, & resale (\$5,000). The estimated amount to benefit low and moderate income persons for the CDBG Program is 87.5%. The City expects no displacement of families, individuals, or businesses to occur as a result of the activities. Should displacement occur as a result of any project or activity, the City will follow the regulations of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended.

PUBLIC REVIEW: This summary is designed to give citizens, local government officials, and interested organizations of the City and County an opportunity to comment on the Plans. Please submit written comments for the County’s Plan to: Kenneth Pick, Executive Director, Berks Redevelopment Authority, Services Center - 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, 633 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601 by November 3, 2014. Please submit written comments for the City’s Plan to: Lenin Agudo, C.D. Director, Community Development Department, City Hall - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 815 Washington Street, Reading, PA 19601 by November 3, 2014. Citizen Summaries of the City’s Action Plan is available for public review and comment at the following locations:

Community Development Office  
 City Hall, Office 3-06  
 815 Washington Street  
 Reading

Office of the City Clerk  
 City Hall, Room 2-24  
 815 Washington Street  
 Reading

Citizen Summaries of the County’s Action Plan is available for public review and comment at the following locations:

C. D. Office  
 County Services Center -  
 14<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
 633 Court Street  
 Reading

75-A South Brooke Street  
 Robesonia  
 Sinking Spring Library  
 3940 Penn Avenue  
 Sinking Spring

Kutztown  
 Village Library  
 207 N. Walnut Street  
 Morgantown

C. D. Office  
 City Hall, Office 3-06  
 815 Washington Street  
 Reading

Boone Area Library  
 129 North Mill Street  
 Birdsboro

Brandywine Library  
 60 Tower Drive  
 Topton

Office of the City Clerk  
 City Hall  
 815 Washington Street  
 Reading

Boyertown Library  
 29 E. Philadelphia Avenue  
 Boyertown

Wernersville  
 Wernersville Library  
 100 North Reber Street

Reading Public Library  
 100 S. Fifth Street  
 Reading

Hamburg Library  
 35 N. Third Street  
 Hamburg

Wyomissing Library  
 9 Reading Blvd.  
 Wyomissing

Robesonia Library

Louisa Gonser Library  
 70 Bieber Alley

Muhlenberg Library  
 3612 Kutztown Road  
 Laureldale

Schuylkill Valley Library  
1310 Washington Road  
Leesport

Mifflin Library  
6 Philadelphia Avenue  
Shillington

Bernville Area Library  
6721 Bernville Road  
Bernville  
Reading Area Community  
College  
Yocum Library  
2<sup>nd</sup> & Penn Streets  
Reading

Bethel-Tulpehocken  
Library  
8601 Lancaster Avenue  
Bethel

Alvernia College Library  
400 St. Bernadine Street  
Reading

Exeter Library  
4565 Prestwick Drive  
Reading

Spring Township Library  
78C Commerce Drive  
Sinking Spring

The Berks County  
Bookmobile

Womelsdorf Public  
Library  
203 West High Street  
Womelsdorf

West Lawn/Wyomissing  
Hills Library  
101 Woodside Ave.  
West Lawn

Fleetwood Area Library  
110 West Arch Street  
Fleetwood

Penn State - Berks

Thun Library  
Tulpehocken Road  
Reading

Albright College  
F.W. Gingrich Library  
13<sup>th</sup> & Exeter Streets  
Reading

**PUBLIC HEARING:** The City of Reading and the County of Berks will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Boardroom, 13th Floor, Services

Center, 633 Court Street, Reading, PA. All citizens, public agencies and other interested parties may either attend this hearing or phone-in during the hearing to offer their views and comments on the proposed Plan. Persons requiring assistance due to hearing, speech, or vision impairments should notify the Berks Redevelopment Authority at 610-478-6325 or 610-478-6335 (TDD).

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: The City and County will be undertaking an evaluation of the activities to be funded in an effort to identify historic and archaeological resources that may be affected by the activities. By this Notice, the City and County invite interested parties who may have an interest in activities which may impact historic and archaeological resources to make themselves known. Parties should contact the Berks Redevelopment Authority, Services Center, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, 633 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601 610-478-6325 or 610-478-6335 (TDD). The City and County will involve such parties in the notification and review process of the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as set forth in 36 CFR Part 800.