

respond, including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County and New York Towns Qualification/Requalification Processes.

OMB Control Number, if applicable: 2506-0170.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: The Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, at sections 102(a)(6) and 102(e) requires that any county seeking qualification as an urban county notify each unit of general local government within the county that such unit may enter into a cooperation agreement to participate in the CDBG program as part of the county. Section 102(d) of the statute specifies that the period of qualification will be three years. Based on these statutory provisions, counties seeking qualification or requalification as urban counties under the CDBG program must provide information to HUD every three years identifying the units of general local governments (UGLGs) within the county participating as a part of the county for purposes of receiving CDBG funds. The population of UGLGs for each eligible urban county and New York town are used in HUD's allocation of CDBG funds for all entitlement and State CDBG grantees.

New York towns must undertake a similar process every three years because under New York state law, New York towns that contain incorporated UGLGs within their boundaries cannot qualify as metropolitan cities unless they execute cooperation agreements with all such incorporated units. The New York town qualification process must be completed prior to the qualification of urban counties so that any town that does not qualify as a metropolitan city will still have an opportunity to participate as part of an urban county.

Agency form numbers, if applicable: N/A.

Members of affected public: Urban counties and New York towns that are eligible as entitlement grantees of the CDBG program.

Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: There are currently 175 qualified urban counties participating in the CDBG program that must requalify every three years. On

average, four new counties qualify each year. The burden on new counties is greater than for existing counties that requalify. The Department estimates new grantees use, on average, 100 hours to review instructions, contact communities in the county, prepare and review agreements, obtain legal opinions, have agreements executed at the local and county level, and prepare and transmit copies of required documents to HUD. The Department estimates that counties that are requalifying use, on average, 60 hours to complete these actions. The time savings on requalification is primarily a result of a grantee's ability to use agreements with no specified end date. Use of such "renewable" agreements enables the grantee to merely notify affected participating UGLGs in writing that their agreement will automatically be renewed unless the UGLG terminates the agreement in writing, rather than executing a new agreement every three years.

There are 10 New York towns that requalify every three years. They, too, may use "renewable" agreements that reduce the burden required under this process. The Department estimates that New York towns, on average, use 50 hours every three years to complete the requalification process.

Average of 4 new urban counties qualify per year:

$$4 \times 100 \text{ hrs} = 400 \text{ hrs.}$$

175 grantees requalify on triennial basis; average annual number of respondents = 55:

$$55 \times 60 \text{ hrs.} = 3,300 \text{ hrs.}$$

10 towns requalify every three years; average annual number of respondents = 3.3:

$$3.3 \times 50 = 165 \text{ hrs.}$$

Total combined burden hours: 3,865 hrs.

This total number of combined burden hours can be expected to increase by 400 hours annually, given the average of four new urban counties becoming eligible entitlement grantees each year.

Status of the proposed information collection: Existing collection number will expire October 31, 2008.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: June 26, 2008.

Nelson R. Bregón,

General Deputy, Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5188-N-09]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: *Comments due:* September 2, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Lillian L. Deitzer, Departmental Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410; telephone: 202-708-2374, (this is not a toll-free number) or e-mail Ms. Deitzer at Lillian.L.Deitzer@HUD.gov for a copy of the proposed form and other available information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Francis P. McNally, Congressional Grants Division, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410; telephone 202-402-7100 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department will submit the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affecting agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate

automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Congressional Earmarks Grants.

OMB Control Number, if applicable: 2506–Pending.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: This

information is to be submitted by grant applicants to obtain higher rating points based on association with successful efforts to remove regulatory barriers which may impede the production of affordable housing.

Agency form numbers, if applicable: SF424, SFLLL, SF 424 B, SF1199A, SF269A, HUD27053, HUD27054, and HUD27056.

Members of Affected Public: Non-profit organization, local governments or Tribal government.

Estimation of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response:

Frequency of Submission: On occasion

	Number of respondents	Annual responses	×	Hours per response	=	Burden hours
Reporting burden	777	1		2		1,554

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 1,554.
Status of the proposed information collection: In process.

Authority: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: June 20, 2008.

Nelson R. Bregón,

*General Deputy Assistant Secretary,
Community Planning and Development.*

[FR Doc. E8–15027 Filed 7–1–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–67–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–5193–N–05]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection to OMB for Public Comment: 2009 American Housing Survey—National Sample; 2009 American Housing Survey—Metropolitan Sample

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* September 2, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Reports Liaison Officer, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development,

451 7th Street, SW., Room 8234, Washington, DC 20410.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David A. Vandenbroucke at (202) 708–5890 (this is not a toll-free number), or Tamara Cole, Bureau of the Census, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, Washington, DC 20233, (301) 763–3235 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department will submit the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, (e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses).

This Notice also lists the following information:

(A) *Title of Proposal:* 2009 American Housing Survey—National Sample.

OMB Control Number: 2528–0017.

(B) *Title of Proposal:* 2009 American Housing Survey—Metropolitan Sample.

OMB Control Number: 2528–0016.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: The 2009 American Housing Survey National Sample (AHS–N) and the 2009 American Housing Survey Metropolitan

Sample (AHS–MS) provide a periodic measure of the size and composition of the housing inventory with the former capturing it for the country and the latter for select metropolitan areas. Title 12, United States Code, Sections 1701Z–1, 1701Z–2(g), and 1710Z–10a mandates the collection of this information.

The 2009 surveys are similar to previous AHS–N and AHS–MS surveys in that they collect data on subjects such as the amount and types of changes in the inventory, the physical condition of the inventory, the characteristics of the occupants, the persons eligible for and beneficiaries of assisted housing by race and ethnicity, and the number and characteristics of vacancies. Policy analysts, program managers, budget analysts, and Congressional staff use AHS data to advise executive and legislative branches about housing conditions and the suitability of public policy initiatives. Academic researchers and private organizations also use AHS data in efforts of specific interest and concern to their respective communities.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) needs the AHS data for two important uses.

1. With the data, policy analysts can monitor the interaction among housing needs, demand and supply, as well as changes in housing conditions and costs, to aid in the development of housing policies and the design of housing programs appropriate for different target groups, such as first-time home buyers and the elderly.

2. With the data, HUD can evaluate, monitor, and design HUD programs to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

Agency Form Numbers: Computerized Versions of AHS–21/61, AHS–22/62 and AHS–23/63.

Members of affected public: Households.

Estimation of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information