

Notice of Public Hearing
Town of Amherst

The Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has designated the Town of Amherst a Mini-Entitlement Community for the purpose of receiving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Amherst is eligible to receive a maximum of \$1,000,000 in block grant funds for housing, community development projects, and social service activities benefiting low-and moderate-income citizens.

In compliance with DHCD requirements for reallocation of funds, the CDBG Advisory Committee will be holding a public hearing on Wednesday, August 10, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the First Floor Meeting Room of Town Hall to hear public input regarding potential projects and activities that are eligible to receive approximately \$75,000 in remaining 2009 funds. The Town is requesting that the scope and range or activities of the 2009 Min-entitlement grant be widened as there is approximately \$75,000 remaining for non-social service activities: capital projects and planning activities (assessments and feasibility studies). This will involve possibly changing or expanding the current 2009 target areas and changing the current activities. Potential projects under discussion include:

- Combining funds with other sources to purchase property for affordable housing.
- Funding for pre-development of 42 affordable units at Olympia Oaks.
- Conducting a feasibility study of converting the North Amherst School into a permanent shelter or enhanced SRO units.
- Funding for design and predevelopment of the proposed new Amherst Survival Center.
- Barrier removal at the playground at Crocker Farm Elementary School playground.
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Any person or organization wishing to be heard will be afforded an opportunity. Reasonable accommodations will be attempted upon written request to the Select Board's office one week prior to the meeting. Questions and written comments may be submitted to Associate Planner, Nathaniel Malloy (malloyn@amherstma.gov).

The Town of Amherst encourages the involvement of minority business enterprises and women's business enterprises.