1) The City of Houston (City), through its Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD), is proposing to award Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) in the amount of \$2,000,000 to Houston Business Development, Inc. (HBDI). With the funding, HBDI will provide low interest rate loans and technical assistance to low income businesses. The CDBG funds will allow HBDI to further capitalize its small business lending programs and also allow the organization to offer a wider variety of flexible lending products and in some cases even increase the size of the loans. The CDBG Funds will come from the Economic Development line item in the 2013 Annual Action Plan.

2) The City, through its HCDD, is proposing to award CDBG funds in the amount of \$1,000,000 to Houston Redevelopment Authority (HRA). The funds will be used as working capital to increase HRA's capacity and expand its economic development activities serving low-to-moderate income businesses and/or persons in the Houston area, as well as continue to promote economic revitalization in Houston's economically distressed communities. The CDBG Funds will come from the Economic Development line items in the 2012 and 2013 Annual Action Plans.

The public has thirty days (30) to comment on these proposed items. The thirty-day period extends from Tuesday, February 25, 2014 through Thursday, March 27, 2014. For more information on these projects, contact Chris Butler at (713) 865-4196. Written comments can be submitted by mail to Derek Sellers, HCDD, 601 Sawyer Suite 400, Houston, TX 77007. Following the public comment period, the projects will be submitted to City Council for approval. For more information on HCDD and its programs, you may access HCDD's website at <u>www.houstonhousing.org</u>.