

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4780-N-01]

### Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Research on the Socio-Economic Change in Cities, Fiscal Year 2002

**AGENCY:** Office of Policy Development and Research, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice of funding availability

**SUMMARY:** *Purpose of the Program.* To fund empirical research projects on trends in urban areas, that is, social, economic, demographic, and fiscal change in cities. Research grants of up to \$40,000 each would allow HUD to commission a variety of in-depth and high-quality research projects. For example, the release of the Census 2000 long-form data presents an excellent opportunity to inform us on the long-run dynamics of population, housing, income, and transportation in urban areas. Research using other current data sets, such as the County Business Patterns Special Extracts, FBI Crime Statistics, or Building Permits Data found in the State of the Cities Data Systems<sup>1</sup>, or concerning other topics such as the fiscal condition of cities, crime, poverty, or economic development would also be encouraged. These research projects would provide HUD with a basic understanding of how cities are changing, what factors are driving change, and the impact of public policy on change.

*Available Funds.* \$300,000 from HUD's FY 2002 research and technology appropriation. HUD anticipates funding seven to ten studies on these topics; studies will be funded through cooperative agreements, up to a maximum of \$40,000.

*Eligible Applicants.* Academic and not-for-profit institutions located in the U.S., state and local governments, and federally recognized Indian tribes are eligible to apply. For-profit businesses also are eligible; however, they are not allowed to earn a fee (*i.e.*, no profit can be made from the project).

*Application Deadline.* May 27, 2003. *Match.* None required.

<sup>1</sup> This site (<http://socds.huduser.org/index.html>) specializes in data about cities and metropolitan areas. Some of the data is available at other sites, but here it is in a particularly useful interface. The available data include: population data from the 1970, 1980, 1990, and 2000 Censuses; data on employed residents from the Current Employment Statistics; data on jobs from and business establishments from special extracts of the County Business Patterns; data from the FBI's Uniform Crime Report; and data on permits for residential construction from the Census Bureau's Building Permits Survey.

### Additional Information:

#### I. Application Due Date, Further Information, and Technical Assistance

*Application Due Date.* Your completed application is due May 27, 2003.

*Address for Submitting Applications.* All applications must be either mailed or sent via overnight/express mail delivery, addressed to: Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development and Public Finance Division, Office of Policy Development and Research, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 8234, Washington, DC 20410.

*Application Submission Requirements. New Security Procedures.* HUD has implemented new security procedures that affect application submission procedures. Please read the following instructions carefully and completely. HUD will not accept hand-delivered applications. Applications may be mailed using the United States Postal Service (USPS) or may be shipped via one of the following delivery services: DHL, Falcon Carrier, FedEx, United Parcel Service (UPS), or United States Postal Service Express Mail. *No other delivery services are permitted into HUD Headquarters without escort. You must, therefore, use one of these carriers.*

*Mailed Applications.* Your application will be considered timely filed if your application is postmarked on or before 12 midnight of the application due date and received by the designated HUD office on or within fifteen (15) calendar days of the application due date. *All applicants must obtain and save a Certificate of Mailing showing the date when the application was submitted to the USPS. The Certificate of Mailing (USPS Form 3817) will be your documentary evidence that your application was timely filed.*

*Applications Sent by Overnight/Express Mail Delivery.* If your application is sent by overnight delivery or express mail, your application will be timely filed if it is received before or on the application due date, or when you submit documentary evidence that your application was placed in transit with the overnight delivery/express mail service by no later than the application due date. Due to new security measures, you must use either USPS express mail or one of four carrier services that do business with HUD Headquarters regularly. These services are DHL, Falcon Carrier, FedEx, and UPS. Delivery by these services must be made during HUD Headquarters business

hours, between 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

*Other Transmission Methods.* Only applications submitted via mail or one of the express carrier services identified above will be accepted. Facsimile, email, or other types of transmission are not acceptable.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may contact: Dr. Alastair McFarlane, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development and Public Finance Division, Office of Policy Development and Research, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 8234, Washington, DC 20410, telephone (202) 708-0426, extension 5901, or Mr. Patrick Tewey, Grants Officer, (202) 708-1796, extension 4098 (these are not toll-free numbers). Hearing- and speech-impaired persons may access the above telephone number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

#### II. Amount Allocated

Approximately \$ 300,000 from HUD's FY 2002 Research and Technology appropriation will be available to fund research study proposals in FY 2002. Cooperative agreements will be awarded on a competitive basis according to the Rating Factors described in Section VII (D). HUD anticipates awarding seven to ten cooperative agreements ranging up to \$40,000 each. Applications exceeding this amount (unless the excess is provided through cost-sharing) will be deemed to be non-responsive.

#### III. Program Description and Eligible Activities

##### (A) Program Description: Background

Identifying the extent and dimension of change occurring in American cities is an important part of HUD's mission. A better understanding of urban dynamics would support the pursuit of all of HUD's Strategic Goals (see Fiscal Year 2002 Annual Performance Plan, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, May 2001), including Goal 1, "Increase the availability of decent, safe, and affordable housing in American communities," and Goal 4, "Improve community quality of life and economic vitality." Fundamental social science research on urban dynamics is relevant to housing and urban policy for at least three major reasons. First, an understanding of urban socio-economic factors, such as immigration, is critical in the evaluation of the impact of existing urban policy. Second, such research would allow HUD more accurately to predict the impact of a proposed rule or program. Third, innovative research may reveal issues,