The City of Little Rock has amended its 2008 Consolidated Plan to include the Community Development Block Grant – Recovery Program (CDBG-R). This new initiative, through the Department of Housing and Urban Development, is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. CDBG-R will provide funds in the amount of \$446,096 to replace deteriorated infrastructure in low-and moderate-income residential neighborhoods within the City of Little Rock.

<u>City of Little Rock, Arkansas</u>

CDBG-R Substantial Amendment

2008 Annual Action Plan

Jurisdiction(s): City of Little Rock, AR Jurisdiction Web Address: www.littlerock.org	CDBG-R Contact Person: Lisa Spigner Address: 500 W. Markham, Ste. 120W Little Rock, AR 72201 Telephone: 501-371-6825 Fax: 501-399-3461 Email: Ispigner@littlerock.org

A. CDBG-R Information by Activity

(1) Activity Name:

2009 CDBG-R Infrastructure Project

(2) Activity Narrative:

This project will replace deteriorated and aging sidewalks in low- and moderate-income residential neighborhoods. A list of sidewalk locations is attached.

By selecting an infrastructure project, the City of Little Rock has ensured the creation of jobs within an employment and product sector that has been hard hit by the declining economy in that \$423,791 will flow into local economy, creating 18 jobs in that sector. In addition, construction materials will be purchased from local suppliers, providing for sustained employment in that area. The multiplier effect of this funding is that those employed will pay local, state, and federal taxes, will purchase goods and services locally, thereby impacting other employment sectors.

This project will make a long-term impact on the neighborhoods by improving the safety of pedestrians thereby encouraging residents of the neighborhood to walk to church, local shops and services, and by affording citizens better access to public transportation. The selected drainage projects will alleviate flooding problems during heavy rains which negatively impact residential properties and the health and safety of neighborhood residents. The investment in the infrastructure will also improve the overall appearance of the neighborhood, fostering neighborhood pride and improved property values.

In order to comply with the applicable requirements, the City will award contracts for at least 50% of the projects within 120 calendar days from the date the funding was made available.

The City proposes the following schedule:

Bid Preparation:	May 2009
Advertising for Bids:	May 2009
Bid Opening:	early-June 2009
Contract Award:	mid-June 2009
Construction Start	mid-September 2009
Construction:	mid-March 2010

(3) Jobs Created:

An estimated 18 construction sector jobs will be created by the use of this funding.

(4) Additional Activity Information:

By providing better pedestrian access, residents are more likely to walk to reasonably close destinations rather than driving automobiles, and will provide better pedestrian access to public transportation.

(5) Responsible Organization:

City of Little Rock 500 West Markham, Ste.120W Little Rock, AR 72201

Lisa Spigner, Manager CDBG and Housing Programs 501-371-6825 Ispigner@littlerock.org

(1) <u>Activity Name</u>: 2009 CDBG-R Administration

- (2) N/A
- (3) N/A
- (4) N/A

B. Public Comment

The substantial amendment was made available for a seven day comment period (5/27/09 - 6/2/09) at all local branch libraries, neighborhood Alert Centers, City Hall, and on the City's web site. The Notice of Availability was published in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette on May 26, 2009. No public comments were received.