**2022 RES-117**

**APPROVING COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF FITCHBURG FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE DANE COUNTY URBAN COUNTY CONSORTIUM**

**DCDHS- HAA DIVISION**

In December 1999, 43 communities in Dane County, outside the City of Madison, came together to form the Dane County Urban County Consortium (UCC). This consortium allowed the County to become eligible to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the first time. CDBG dollars fund a variety of housing and community development activities targeted towards low- and moderate-income persons. By being part of the UCC, participating units of local government may also participate in the Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) program as Dane County receives HOME funding. Additional communities have elected to join the Consortium over the years such that 58 communities currently participate.

These communities sign three-year Cooperation Agreements that automatically renew for each three year period that Dane County qualifies for entitlement status as an Urban County for participation in the CDBG program and as a HOME Consortium for participation in the HOME Investment Partnerships program. The current qualification period is for FY 2020-2022.

HUD CPD Notice 22-07 establishes requirements, procedures, and deadlines to be followed in the urban county qualification process for FYs 2023-2025. In this notice, HUD revised certain requirements pertaining to fair housing obligations and civil rights that requires an executed amendment to each of the participating municipality's Cooperation Agreements. Alternatively, a local municipality may choose to enter into a new Cooperation Agreement containing all of the required provisions, rather than adopting an amendment to their original agreement.

The City of Fitchburg has elected to continue participation in the UCC program for the upcoming requalification period, and wishes to enter into a new Cooperation Agreement with Dane County. An executed Cooperation Agreement must be signed by the County and submitted to HUD for approval.

A higher participation rate of eligible units of local government in the UCC allows for a more comprehensive approach for the CDBG program because Dane County CDBG and HOME dollars can only be spent in participating communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County CDBG Commission and County Board express their appreciation to the existing communities in the Dane County Urban County Consortium and continued participation of the City of Fitchburg; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Executive is authorized to sign the above referenced Cooperation Agreement with the City of Fitchburg and submit the signed agreement to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the purpose of continuing the inclusion of the City Fitchburg in the Dane County Urban County Consortium in 2023.