

2010

Legal and Public Notices

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Notice of 15 Day Comment Period  
Five-Year Consolidated Plan, HOME Program Allocation Plan,  
Housing Tax Credit Allocation Plan

South Dakota Housing Development Authority, in partnership with the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, will be hosting four public comment meetings around the state to solicit comments on the Consolidated Plan, HOME Program Allocation Plan and the Housing Tax Credit Allocation Plan.

The Consolidated plan is a five-year housing and community development planning document that includes how the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program funds will be allocated. The goal of these programs is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities to low and moderate-income persons.

Annually the State of South Dakota receives approximately \$9 million from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to support the CDBG, ESG and HOME programs. As a prerequisite to receive funds from HUD, South Dakota must have an approved Consolidated Plan.

The Housing Tax Credit Program is a tax credit incentive to construct, acquire and/or rehabilitate housing for low-income households. The Internal Revenue Service requires that each credit allocating agency make available to the public its Housing Tax Credit Allocation plan, which outlines the administration of the Housing Tax Credit program. SDHDA receives approximately \$2.6 million annually to allocate through this program.

The public meetings are an opportunity for the public to provide their comments, suggestions and ideas prior to drafting the plans. The public will have another chance to provide written comments once the draft plan has been released in the fall.

Persons interested in making suggestions for changes to the existing plans may do so by appearing at one of the public meetings scheduled for Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Aberdeen and Pierre, or by sending written comments to SDHDA, PO Box 1237, Pierre, SD 57501, by 5 p.m. CST, August 17.

The public meetings will be held at the following locations on the respective dates:

Aberdeen

Monday, August 6, 2012  
1:00 p.m. (CST)  
Public Safety Building – Community Room  
114 2nd Avenue, SE

Sioux Falls

Tuesday, August 7, 2012  
9:00 a.m. (CST)  
Country Inn & Suites – Meeting Room  
200 East 8th Street

Pierre

Wednesday, August 8, 2012  
10:00 a.m. (CST)  
South Dakota Housing Development Authority – Board Room  
3060 East Elizabeth Street

Rapid City

Thursday, August 9, 2012  
10:00 a.m. (MST)  
The Journey Museum – Joe Rovere Library  
222 New York Street

Copies of the plans may be obtained without charge from South Dakota Housing Development Authority (SDHDA) at PO Box 1237, Pierre, SD 57501-1237, by calling (605) 773-3181 or (TTY) (605) 773-6107, or by visiting SDHDA’s website at [www.sdhda.org](http://www.sdhda.org).

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# GOP Senators Launch Tour Warning Of Defense Cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republicans warning of the devastating impact from looming defense cuts will hit four presidential battle-ground states next week, ratcheting up the political pressure on President Barack Obama even though Congress endorsed the reductions.

Sens. John McCain, Lindsey Graham and Kelly Ayotte announced Thursday that they will hold a series of town hall meetings in Florida, North Carolina, Virginia and New Hampshire — states that are home to military installations and defense contracting jobs.

The three said in a statement that they will “sound the alarm about the profound negative consequences of these cuts to our national security and economy. These communities, which provide our troops the equipment and support they need to defend our country, will bear the brunt of the defense sequestration cuts.”

McCain, R-Ariz., voted for the cuts last August; Graham, R-S.C., and Ayotte, R-N.H., op-

posed them.

Republicans have blamed Obama for the automatic, across-the-board reductions in projected defense spending, but Republicans as well as Democrats voted for the cuts as part of a \$1.2 trillion deficit-cutting plan.

The law implements nearly \$500 billion in cuts over 10 years as the nation emerges from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. If Congress can’t find a way to avert the automatic cuts, known as sequestration, defense and domestic programs would face another round of cuts of about \$500 billion apiece beginning on Jan. 2.

The cuts were set in motion by the failure of the bipartisan congressional supercommittee last November to produce \$1.2 trillion in spending cuts.

Lawmakers have called the reductions catastrophic for the military. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta issued a fresh warning of his own on

Wednesday.

“I sure as hell hope that sequestration doesn’t happen,” Panetta told a joint House panel focused on veterans issues. “It would be, as I’ve said, time and time again, a disaster in terms of the Defense Department, as far as our budget is concerned and as far as our ability to respond to the threats that are out there.”

Panetta said it would mean double the defense budget cuts and the 100,000 personnel cut.

In real terms, however, the base defense budget has nearly doubled over the last decade, from \$297 billion in 2001 to \$529 billion in 2011. That amount does not include the billions spent on the two wars. The Pentagon envisioned spending would increase to \$700 billion in 2021.

If the automatic cuts kick in, next year’s Pentagon budget would face a cut of about \$55 billion in projected spending from a half-trillion-dollar budget.

## Waltner

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“The letters from readers, if there were any, were often scattered throughout the paper with no rhyme or reason. We started making a lot of changes along the way.”

As a Mennonite, Waltner opposes violence and doesn’t believe in military service. He left Freeman in 1970 to serve two years of alternative service in Cincinnati as a conscientious objector during the Vietnam War.

Waltner worked at a center for children in the inner city. “There were drugs, prostitutes, fights and racial tension,” he said.

The experience also gave him a different world view that he wouldn’t have experienced had he never left Freeman.

Waltner and his wife, Mary, had lived in both South Dakota and Ohio over the years. Two life-changing developments occurred during the summer of 1976, with the birth of firstborn child Jeremy and the diagnosis of Tim’s mother with breast cancer.

“We were in Ohio at the time, and we both valued our parents knowing their grandchildren,” Tim said. “We wanted an easy day’s drive for both sets of grandparents (in South Dakota and Ohio).”

Tim was considering a job offer at a public relations company in Mankato, Minn. He contacted *Courier* publisher Gering for his ad-

vice and received a surprising response.

“Glenn said, ‘If ever there was a time to consider coming back to Freeman, this is the time,’” Waltner said.

The Waltners returned to Freeman, and Tim became the *Courier* editor in 1977. The one stipulation — that Waltner sign his editorials because of their liberal stance.

“In 1984, Glenn was approached by someone with an offer to buy the *Courier*,” Waltner said. “Glenn said, ‘When it’s time to sell the *Courier*, the person I offer it to first is Tim Waltner. I was overwhelmed. Was this really what we wanted to do, and where we wanted to be? But we put down our roots.’”

Growing up in the community, then leaving and returning, totally changed Waltner’s perception of Freeman.

“I know, being from the community, it gave me an insight that helps me know who to talk to and to be sensitive to nuances of a situation,” he said. “I understand the context and the sense of history and continuity. I know how things mesh and come together. I am also realizing what a community newspaper is supposed to do.”

Waltner also acknowledges it can be difficult publishing a weekly newspaper in a small town of 1,300 residents, continually running into the persons who are the subject of your coverage and editorials.

“We strive to be fair with how we report things and be fair in dealing with controversy,” he said. “And you need to be involved in community life instead of just writing

about it from an office. You have to be part of the community and its organizations, projects and programs.”

Jeremy Waltner serves as the *Courier*’s news editor and represents the next generation. The Waltners divided up the news coverage and collaborate on editorials. They have written “point, counterpoint” when they disagree, or one of them will write a column on a subject for which they are passionate.

“Jeremy and I work well together and have a good working relationship,” Tim said. “We tend to agree philosophically. It might be better if we don’t agree, it would be more lively.”

Tim Waltner considers the editorial page, including letters to the editor, as extremely important.

“We try to lead the community discourse,” he said. “I don’t buy the argument that you don’t have time to write editorials. It’s a matter of how you choose to use your time.”

The *Courier* has used online and social media in reaching readers at a faster pace, particularly for breaking news. But Tim doesn’t see it as a substitute for old-fashioned, hard hitting journalism.

“There is a concern in the industry more and more that people too quickly try to jump on the latest fad at the expense of what we’re reporting on,” he said. “We ourselves are attracted to bright, shiny objects. Is this what the community needs? The answer varies from community to community. You need to take the time to think how best to use your resources of time, money and talent.”

Waltner brought home an international issue for his readers. He and his wife were visiting Europe and incorporated a visit to Bosnia for a story on a Freeman native who was working with the Mennonite Central Committee to help refugees displaced by the war in 1999-2000.

“People were able to gain an understanding that they weren’t remotely thinking about. By us reporting it, it helped them,” he said. “I didn’t write the story better than anyone else. But now, I feel connected to the story and the people who were there working.”

Waltner seeks to accomplish the same thing in smaller ways right in his hometown.

“Today, people too often seek out things they are looking for (when they look for news) rather than trying to broaden their horizons,” he said. “Our goal is to prompt people to think in ways they haven’t thought about it before.”

Waltner believes that goal should be the purpose of journalism every single day.

“We seek to shine a mirror on the community, and a mirror doesn’t work if you also don’t shed light,” he said. “A newspaper needs to give a community a chance to see itself in a fair and objective way.”

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at [twitter.com/RDockendorf](http://twitter.com/RDockendorf)

## USD

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“We wanted them to know that we have the resources to support whatever they want to do.”

One major advantage of the new major, is that it will focus on what the Howard Hughes program states premedical curriculum should look like going forward in the future, Moen said.

“The Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the American Association of Medical Colleges both issued reports designed to redirect pre-medical education across the country in the years ahead. It’s a formula that is a little bit more competency-based,” Moen said.

Lindahl is hoping the new program will encourage students to stay in South Dakota after graduation, he said.

“(Moen) and I have always found it ironic that other schools in the region have a program they target towards students that want to go to medical school, but the university in the state that is home to the school of medicine and is the biggest liberal arts college didn’t have a program that was targeted towards that group of students,” he said. “It was a gap that Matt and I decided we needed to fill. Hopefully, with a different undergraduate preparation, we can keep some of them in the state.”

Moen said this program will take advantage of an already strong science program, while providing students the opportunity to

work new faculty and the Sanford School of Medicine.

“We tried to reflect where premedical education is going, but then to be a little ahead of the curve, which I think we are,” Moen said. “To take advantage of the traditionally strong science programs, like biology and chemistry, we now have this wonderful opportunity to incorporate the medical school in the teaching of some of our undergraduate classes, so they can offer some things that are just not easily available to students at institutions without a medical school.”

The new program will also be a way to set USD apart from other colleges, Lindahl said.

“We wouldn’t offer a new program that we did not think was going to be outstanding,” he said. “I don’t think it’s going to be a major that has 500 students in it or something like that, but it will have some of the best and the brightest students.”

Moen is encouraging students who want to go to medical school and are ready for the challenging curriculum to take advantage of the new opportunity.

The students are going to get chemistry, biology, physics, social sciences classes and then they’re going to get some classes offered in tandem with the Sanford School of Medicine,” he said. “For students that are interested more in health careers and health sciences, but don’t want to do the medicine undergraduate degree and would rather do an undergraduate degree more embedded in the College of Arts and Sciences, this also gives them a really nice option in preparation for that graduate experience in the health sciences.”

## Kids

From Page 1

For the four states, the findings bucked a national trend. The foundation said its report showed a continued decline in the economic well-being of children since 2005, while documenting improvements in children’s health and school results.

Officials in the four states said they did not suffer the worst effects of the national recession, helped by robust prices for farm crops and livestock and, in North Dakota’s case, a boom in oil production.

Those states have had relatively stable housing markets and have avoided the collapse in home values suffered in some states during the Great Recession, said Steve Cochran, managing director of Moody’s Analytics, a national economic forecasting firm.

The upper Midwest “had very little of the housing cycle like much of the rest of the country, where you had a boom and a bust,” Cochran said. “And commodity prices have been very, very strong ... particularly for grain crops.”

The study’s results are reflected in the June jobless rates of the four states. North Dakota had the na-

tion’s lowest June unemployment rate at 2.9 percent, followed by Nebraska (3.8 percent) and South Dakota (4.3 percent), according to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. Iowa was seventh, at 5.2 percent. The national June jobless rate was 8.2 percent.

North Dakota’s economic growth has been boosted by an energy boom. The state’s number of oil wells has doubled and its production has increased fivefold since 2007. At almost 640,000 barrels a day, North Dakota now ranks only behind Texas as the nation’s second-leading producer.

“What you’re seeing is ... we have a very robust economy, and therefore the children in North Dakota are in a much different situation than most of the kids in the rest of the United States,” said Richard Rathge, a North Dakota State University researcher.

Carole Cochran, director of South Dakota Kids Count, said she was pleased by the study’s findings on economic well-being, but said there “certainly are areas for improvement,” particularly in teenage death rates from vehicle crashes.

“I think (the study) really gives us areas that we can hone in on ... and really have some things that we can try to impact,” Cochran said.

## Praises

From Page 1

historic places in America.

“The Human Services Center campus is an important part of South Dakota’s history, and it includes a few distinctive buildings that it would be good to see restored if a partnership is available,” Daugaard said. “Many of the buildings have been empty for many years and are not restorable. As governor, my priority is to make sure that we are good stewards of this asset, that we act in the long-term best interest of the state and the community, and that we keep the Yankton community well informed as we move forward.”

He added, “Most importantly, we must focus on the new HSC facility and ensure quality services are provided to our citizens with mental health challenges.”

The Mead Building was built in 1909, and YCHS must occupy the structure by the end of 2018, according to the lease.

Roof work on the building will commence next week. To mark the occasion, a “Raise the Roof” groundbreaking ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, July 30, at the Mead Building. Refreshments and tours will be provided.

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