

placed in local libraries in Connecticut, Virginia, and Georgia. A limited number of single copies are available at the address at the end of this announcement.

The Department of the Navy will hold four public hearings to inform the public of the DEIS findings and to solicit comments. The first meeting will be held on Monday, March 27, 1995 beginning at 1:00 PM in the Groton Municipal Building, Groton, Connecticut. The Groton Municipal Building is located at 295 Meridian Street. The second meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 1995 beginning at 7 pm at the same location, the Groton Municipal Building. These meetings will be co-chaired by the New England Division, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. The third meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 29, 1995 beginning at 7 pm at the Airport Hilton, Norfolk, Virginia. The Hilton is located at 1500 North Military Highway and Northhampton Avenue. The fourth meeting will be held on Thursday, March 30, 1995 beginning at 7 pm at Crooked River Elementary School, St Marys, Georgia. The school is located at 1820 Spur 40.

The public hearings will be conducted by the Navy. Federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties are invited and urged to be present or represented at the hearings. Oral statements will be heard and transcribed by a stenographer; however, to assure the accuracy of the record, all statements should be submitted in writing. All statements, both oral and written, will become part of the public record on this action and will be given equal consideration.

In the interest of available time, each speaker will be asked to limit their oral comments to five minutes. If longer statements are to be presented, they should be summarized at the public hearing(s) and submitted in writing either at the hearing(s) or mailed to the address listed at the end of this notice. Written comments on the DEIS should be mailed to the address noted below and must be postmarked not later than April 10, 1995 to be part of the official record.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Mr. Robert Ostermueller (Code 202) Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 10 Industrial Highway, MSC 82, Lester, PA 19113, telephone 610-595-0759.

Dated: March 3, 1995.

M.D. Schetzle,

Lt, JAGC, USNR, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Urban Community Service Program

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of final priority.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces a competitive funding priority to focus funds for new urban community service projects on communities designated as Empowerment Zones (EZs) or Enterprise Communities (ECs) by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under the competitive funding priority, the Secretary awards five (5) additional points to an application that meets the priority.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This priority takes effect April 7, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Babson, U. S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW (Portals C-80), Washington, DC 20202-5329. Telephone: (202) 260-3472. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background on the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community Initiative

The Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community program is a critical element of the Administration's community revitalization strategy. It promotes comprehensive economic and community development through strategic planning. On December 21, 1994, the President announced the designation of six urban Empowerment Zones, two urban Supplemental EZs, 65 urban Enterprise Communities, and four Enhanced urban ECs. These areas will benefit from flexible social service block grants and tax breaks in accordance with Internal Revenue Code section 1392, as amended by Title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Pub. L. 103-66). Urban Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities were nominated by one or more local governments and their States and have been designated by HUD on the basis of the quality of their strategic plans. Interested individuals may contact HUD at 1-800-998-9999 for

additional information on the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community program, including which communities have been selected for designation.

The Department of Education is supporting the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community initiative through the Urban Community Service Program by giving preference to proposed projects which are located in urban Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities. A list of the designated Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities will be included in the application package. The program's emphasis on coordinated planning to meet pressing urban needs makes it ideally suited to play a key role in the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community program.

Background on the Urban Community Service Program

The Urban Community Service Program is authorized under Title XI of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. It uses the skills, experience and resources of institutions of higher education to help public and private organizations devise and carry out solutions to pressing and severe problems in their urban communities. The program makes discretionary grants of up to five years in duration to support collaborative projects that address problems confronting urban communities, ranging from work force preparation, economic development, urban poverty, crime, lack of health care services and access, underperforming school systems and students to urban housing and infrastructure deficits. Recipients may use program funds to carry out a variety of activities, such as planning, applied research, training, resource exchanges or technology transfers, delivery of services and other activities that the urban institution and its community partners agree have high priority.

Only institutions of higher education which have been designated as urban grant institutions are eligible to apply for funding. A designated urban grant institution has demonstrated to the Secretary that (a) it is a nonprofit municipal university established by the governing body of the city in which it is located and operating as of July 23, 1992, or that (b) it is an institution of higher education which meets all of the following criteria (a consortium of institutions is also eligible if at least one of its members meets all of the criteria). The institution—(1) is located in an urban area; (2) draws a substantial portion of its undergraduate student body from the urban area in which it is