

§ 1940.960

(4) A list of area residents with special skills which could be useful in developing and implementing the plan; and

(5) An analysis of the human needs of the area, the resources in the area available to meet those needs, and the manner in which the plan, if implemented, would increase the resources available to meet those needs.

(c) The current degree of intergovernmental cooperation in the area and the degree of such cooperation needed for the successful implementation of the plan.

(d) The ability and willingness of governments and citizens in the area to become involved in developing and implementing the plan.

(e) A description of how the governments in the area apply budget and fiscal control processes to the plan. This process is directed toward costs associated with carrying out the planned development. When plans are developed, the financial condition of all areas covered under the plan should be fully recognized and planned development should realistically reflect the area's immediate and long-range financial capabilities.

(f) The extent to which public services and facilities need to be improved to achieve the economic development and quality of life goals of the plan. At a minimum, the following items will be considered:

- (1) Law enforcement;
- (2) Fire protection;
- (3) Water, sewer, and solid waste management;
- (4) Education;
- (5) Health care;
- (6) Transportation;
- (7) Housing;
- (8) Communications; and
- (9) The availability of and capability to generate electric power.

(g) Existing area or regional plans are acceptable provided the plan includes statements that indicate the degree to which the plan has met or is meeting all the requirements in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this section.

§ 1940.960 Federal employee panel members.

(a) The State Director will appoint one FmHA or its successor agency

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under Public Law 103-354 employee to serve as a voting member of the panel established in § 1940.956(c)(1) of this subpart.

(b) The Administrator may appoint, temporarily and for specific purposes, personnel from any department or agency of the Federal Government as nonvoting panel members, with the consent of the head of such department or agency, to provide official information to the panel. The member(s) appointed shall have expertise to perform a duty described in § 1940.956(b) of this subpart that is not available among panel members.

(c) Federal panel members will be paid per diem or otherwise reimbursed by the Federal Government for expenses incurred each day the employee is engaged in the actual performance of a duty of the panel. Reimbursement will be in accordance with Federal travel regulations.

§ 1940.961 Allocation of appropriated funds.

(a) *Initial allocations.* (1) Each FY, from sums appropriated for direct loans, loan guarantees, or grants for any designated rural development program, funds will be allocated to designated States in accordance with FmHA Instruction subpart L of part 1940, exhibit A, attachment 4, of this chapter (available in any FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 State or District Office).

(2) Each FY, and normally within 30 days after the date FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 receives an appropriation of designated rural development program funds, the Governor of each designated State will be notified of the amounts allocated to the State under each designated program for such FY. The Governor will also be notified of the total amounts appropriated for the FY for each designated rural development program.

(3) The State Director will fund projects from a designated State's allocation of funds, according to appropriate program regulations giving great weight to the order in which the preapplications/applications for projects are ranked and listed by the panel in accordance with § 1940.956(b)(3) of this subpart.