



Item: CDBG and HOME Program Proposed Use of Funds and Public Hearing Date for HUD Required 2016-2020 HUD Consolidated Plan including the 2015/2016 Annual Action Plan

From: Craig Raymond, CBO, Director, Planning and Community Development

Initiated By: Jolene Wetterau, CDBG/HOME Administrator, Planning and Community Development

Presented By: Craig Raymond, CBO, Director, Planning and Community Development

Action Requested: Accept proposed use of CDBG and HOME funds and Set Public Hearing for the proposed 2016-2020 HUD Consolidated Plan for May 19, 2015.

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move to (accept/deny) the proposed use of funds for the 2015/2016 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and HOME Program for inclusion in the 2015/2016 Annual Action Plan and set the public hearing for May 19, 2015, on the proposed 2016-2020 HUD Consolidated Plan including the Annual Action Plan.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, public comment, and calls the vote.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Commission: (1) accept recommendations for funding the 2015/2016 Community Development Block Grant projects; (2) accept funding recommendations for the 2015/2016 HOME program projects; and, (3) set May 19, 2015, as the public hearing date for the proposed 2016-2020 HUD Consolidated Plan.

Background:

Significant Impacts

Federal regulations require that every five years a Consolidated Plan based upon strategies to meet Community needs be adopted by the City. The City has been working to evaluate the needs of Great Falls citizens, especially low to moderate income persons, through agency/organizational surveys and public meetings which have included persons representing a broad base of community interests. Staff has used the information gathered and statistics derived from the projects undertaken during the past five years to develop the priorities and strategies incorporated in the 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan. The

Consolidated Plan creates the opportunity for strategic planning and citizen participation to establish a Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy and community development plan. The proposed use of 2015/2016 Community Development Block Grant funds and HOME Program funds are included as the Annual Action Plan within the Consolidated Plan. The City Commission must officially adopt the Consolidated Plan and submit it to HUD before June 15, 2015, in order to receive 2015/2016 CDBG and HOME funds.

Citizen Participation

The Proposed Consolidated Plan will include the current Citizen Participation Plan with no modifications. Future evaluations and updates may be undertaken if the need should arise.

Workload Impacts

In accordance with the federal regulations, administrative responsibilities will result from the acceptance and use of the CDBG and HOME funds.

Purpose

HUD requires that a public hearing be held regarding the proposed five year Consolidated Plan and the proposed use of CDBG and HOME funds presented in the 2015/2016 Annual Action Plan for the upcoming funding year.

Evaluation and Selection Process

The 2015/2016 Annual Action Plan, as part of the 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan, will contain the proposed use of CDBG and HOME funds for the coming Fiscal Year. Community Development Block Grant project proposals were received on January 7, 2015. The Community Development Council (CDC), a 10-member citizen advisory board appointed by the City Commission to review applications for CDBG funds and develop and present funding recommendations to the City Commission, met on February 11, 2015, to hear oral presentations by the public service agency applicants. On February 12, 2015, the CDC met to hear three additional oral presentations by public service agencies and five public facility and infrastructure applicants. On February 17, 2015, the CDC heard oral presentations by two additional applicants applying under the public facility and infrastructure priority and oral presentations from housing and economic development. On March 3, 2015, the Community Development Council formulated its recommendations for the annual allocation of CDBG funds, and is presenting its funding recommendations to the City Commission during the March 17, 2015, City Commission meeting.

The HOME Program project proposals were also received on January 7, 2015. HOME Program funding recommendations will be presented to the City Commission by staff during the City Commission meeting on March 17, 2015. The City Commission will make final funding decisions on the HOME and the CDBG proposals at the June 2, 2015, City Commission meeting.

Conclusion

The public hearing provides the citizens of Great Falls an important opportunity to comment on the proposed HUD 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan and 2015/2016 Annual Action Plan, including projects recommended for funding during the 2015/2016 program year.

Fiscal Impact: Conducting the Consolidated Plan and included Annual Action Plan public hearing is a condition for the City to receive its annual allocation of HUD CDBG and HOME grant funds. 2015/2016 Community Development Block Grant funds awarded will be \$715,840 and Home Investment Partnership funds awarded will be \$191,970.

Alternatives: The hearing is required for the City to be awarded 2015/2016 CDBG and HOME funding. The City may choose not to hold the public hearing and thereby not receive the funds.

Attachments/Exhibits: CDBG and HOME Program Funding Proposal

**2015/2016 USE OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

CDBG amount awarded for 2015/2016 is \$715,840

Affordable Housing

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<p>GREAT FALLS CITY PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT– CODE ENFORCEMENT Provide services to preserve and enhance public health and safety and reduce slums and blight by enforcing international and city codes related to maintenance of property and buildings</p>	\$31,031	\$31,031
<p>GREAT FALLS CITY PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT– REHABILITATION SPECIALIST Provide rehab counseling, loan processing, inspections and construction monitoring for all CDBG-funded City revolving loan housing programs for low income people</p>	\$68,000	\$68,000
<p>GREAT FALLS RENTAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN PROGRAM Provide funds to rehabilitate units in the area, specifically the downtown area to tie into the city’s Downtown Master Plan</p>	\$150,000	\$68,341
<p>HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Infrastructure improvements including concrete work, sidewalks, site excavation, and water/sewer connections for two Habitat for Humanity homes located within the city limits</p>	\$24,600	\$24,600
<p>NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC. Revolving loan fund to provide down payment assistance, new construction/purchase and rehabilitation of houses or rentals, and other activities addressing neighborhood revitalization activities in their CBDO-designated neighborhoods</p>	\$225,000	\$22,780

Economic Development

<p>GREAT FALLS DEVLEOPMENT AUTHORITY Expand revolving loan fund to provide gap financing to existing and start-up businesses to create new jobs for persons from LMI households, agency located at 300 Central Avenue</p>	\$50,000	\$50,000
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	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<i>Public Facility Improvements</i>		
GREAT FALLS HOUSING AUTHORITY – HOLLAND COURT REHAB PHASE I Redesign, removal of all concrete and asphalt, backfill, and repaving of parking lots, sidewalks, and handicap access ramps in Holland Court facility located at 600-625 Holland Court	\$150,000	\$97,737
GREAT FALLS CITY PARK & RECREATION – COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER - ADA LIFT Purchase and replacement of ADA door system for the community recreation center located at 801 2 nd Avenue North	\$46,500	\$0
GREAT FALLS CITY PARK & RECREATION – NATATORIUM Replacement of exiting doors, door frames and transom frames at the Morony Natatorium located at 111 12 th Street North	\$33,183	\$33,183
GREAT FALLS CITY PARK & RECREATION – CHOWEN SPRINGS PARK Purchase and install handicap accessible play structure and play area border at Chowen Springs Park located at 801 17 th Street South	\$40,000	\$40,000
GREAT FALLS CITY PUBLIC WORKS – PEARSON ADDITION SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (SID) Design and construct street curb and gutter, paving, storm drains, inlets, valley gutters and other improvements along Ellen, Marillyn, and a portion of Marlie Drives	\$130,000	\$0
GREAT FALLS CITY PUBLIC WORKS – SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT Grant program to provide assistance to low income homeowners to remove and replace hazardous sidewalks within the city limits	\$30,000	\$30,000
PARIS GIBSON SQUARE MUSUEM – EAST GROUNDS REHAB Develop an outdoor classroom to expand the existing class offer as part of the Paris Gibson Adaptive Art classes located at 1400 1 st Ave North	\$18,361	\$0
<i>Public Service Activities</i>		
AREA VIII AGENCY ON AGING Purchase food for Meals on Wheels, a citywide home delivery meal program for low/moderate income elderly who are handicapped or unable to prepare meals	\$25,000	\$25,000

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<p>BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF CASCADE COUNTY Provide scholarships for summer day camps for children from low income families, programs located at Great Falls Housing Authority (1722 Chowen Springs Loop) and Boys & Girls Club (600 1st Avenue Southwest)</p>	\$30,000	\$25,000
<p>FAMILY CONNECTIONS MT (aka Child Care Solutions Montana) Program to provide preventative health care services to LMI families through service sponsored at selected child care facilities within the city</p>	\$18,600	\$0
<p>FAMILY PROMISE OF GREAT FALLS – FAMILIES MOVING UP Purchase of a covered cargo trailer and other supplies to support the Families Moving up Program which provide shelter homeless families located in religious facilities within the city limits</p>	\$16,541	\$10,000
<p>GREAT FALLS CITY PARK & RECREATION— MORONY NATATORIUM & COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER Provide scholarships for disabled adults to participate in special needs water activities at community indoor pool facility located at 111 12th Street North; provide scholarships for children from low income families for after school programs and summer camp programs at community center located at 801 2nd Avenue North</p>	\$10,000	\$10,000
<p>GREAT FALLS SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER Purchase food and supplies for on-site meal program for the elderly administered in elderly facility located at 1004 Central Avenue</p>	\$10,000	\$7,000
<p>QUALITY LIFE CONCEPTS, INC. Purchase of assistance lift and hospital beds for use in disables client day program and purchase of camera monitoring system in two high risk group homes for developmentally disabled adults located at Riverview and Gibson residential homes</p>	\$10,000	\$10,000
<p>RURAL DYNAMICS, INC. Provide scholarships for credit building services through the Credit Building for LMI Individuals Program, agency located at 2022 Central Avenue</p>	\$11,337	\$10,000
<p>SUNBURST UNLIMITED, INC. Purchase equipment and materials to expand the Fresh Food Farms Program which raises food for the community Head Start program and teaches low income people how to grow and prepare their own food, programs located at 410 16th Street Southwest</p>	\$11,321	\$0

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
YOUNG PARENTS EDUCATION CENTER	\$10,000	\$10,000
Provide day care scholarships for very low to low income teen or young adult parents completing high school or GED programs, programs located at alternative high school at 2400 Central Avenue		

Administration

CDBG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	\$143,168	\$143,168
General oversight, promotion, financial accountability, monitoring, reporting, and coordination of the CDBG program including activities to further fair housing and the Continuum of Care for Homelessness		

TOTAL 2015/2016 CDBG FUNDING REQUESTED	\$1,292,642	
TOTAL 2015/2016 CDBG FUNDING RECOMMENDATION		\$715,840
TOTAL AVAILABLE CDBG GRANT FUNDS		\$715,840

**2015/2016 USE OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

HOME amount awarded for 2015/2016 is \$191,670

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC. NeighborWorks Affordable Housing Program for development of new or renovated houses or apartments for sale or rental. This funding will be used for construction of a new 12-plex apartment building located at 1201 1 st Ave South	\$250,000	\$172,773
HOME PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION General oversight, management, promotion, financial accountability, monitoring and coordination of the HOME program	\$19,197	\$19,197
TOTAL 2015/2016 HOME FUNDING REQUESTED	\$269,197	
TOTAL HOME FUNDING RECOMMENDATION		\$191,970
TOTAL AVAILABLE HOME FUNDS		\$191,970