



Item: CDBG & HOME Grant/Consolidated Plan Community Needs Public Hearing

From: Planning and Community Development Department

Initiated By: Maria Porter, CDBG/HOME Administrator, Planning & Community Development

Presented By: Craig Raymond, Director, Planning & Community Development

Action Requested: Set Needs Public Hearing for January 3, 2017

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission (set/not set) a public hearing for January 3, 2017, to receive public comment on the needs within the community related to use of CDBG and HOME funds.”

2. Mayor requests a second to the motion, Commission discussion, public comment, and calls for the vote.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the City Commission set January 3, 2017, as the public hearing date for citizen comments regarding needs of the community that may be addressed with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME grant funds.

Summary: Setting the date for the annual Needs Public Hearing held to receive public comment is required per the City’s Citizen Participation Plan submitted with the City’s Five Year Consolidated Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Background: CDBG and HOME programs are federal programs administered by HUD to help fund local community development programs including affordable housing, public service, economic development and public infrastructure projects. The primary goal of these programs is to assist low and moderate income (LMI) persons in their respective communities. State and local governments receive funding from HUD based on a formula derived from population and housing statistics.

Citizen Participation

The Citizen Participation Plan, which is required by HUD, dictates that the City hold a public hearing to receive citizen input regarding the issues and needs of the community.

Purpose

Public input helps identify Federal and State HUD grant funding opportunities in the community.

Evaluation and Selection Process

HUD requires public input, especially input from lower income citizens and the agencies representing them, on issues and needs of the community. The Commission will be asked to give consideration to citizen comments received during this public hearing when determining funding priorities for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and the HOME Grant Program.

Conclusion

The public hearing provides citizens an important opportunity to identify before the City Commission housing and community development needs, particularly those impacting low to moderate income households in Great Falls.

Fiscal Impact: Conducting the public hearing is a pre-condition for the City to receive its annual allocation of HUD CDBG and HOME grant funds.

Alternatives: The City Commission could elect to not hold a public hearing and thereby decide to not accept CDBG and HOME funding for FY 2017-2018.

Attachments/Exhibits: CDBG HOME Funding Schedule 2017-2018

2017 – 2018 CDBG/HOME Allocation and Annual Action Plan Schedule	
City Commission appoints Community Development Council (CDC) members	N/A
Application available on City web site	Monday November 21, 2016
CDBG/HOME Application Workshop	Thursday December 8, 2016
City Commission sets date for Public Needs Hearing	Tuesday December 20, 2016
Pre-deadline review of applications	Tuesday December 27, 2016
City Commission conducts “Needs” Public Hearing	Tuesday January 3, 2017
Funding application deadline (Please note it is a 5 pm deadline)	Tuesday January 17, 2017
Commission Work Session to set CDBG funding Priorities & Policy	Tuesday January 17, 2017
City Commission sets CDBG funding priorities and policies	Tuesday January 17, 2017
Community Development Council (CDC) Orientation Meeting	Monday January 23, 2017
CDC reviews applications and develops funding recommendations for CDBG projects.	Monday January 23, 2017 to Friday February 3, 2017
CDC/Staff presents funding recommendations for CDBG applications to the City Commission (Work Session)	Tuesday February 7, 2017
City Commission accepts project application funding recommendations for inclusion in 2017/2018 Annual Action Plan, sets the public hearing date.	Tuesday February 21, 2017
Proposed 2016/2017 Annual Action Plan completed and available for review.	Wednesday March 1, 2017
30 day comment period for proposed 2016/2017 Annual Action Plan	Wednesday March 1, 2017 to Friday March 31, 2017
Public Hearing on Proposed Annual Action Plan	Tuesday March 21, 2017
Commission approves Annual Action Plan	Tuesday April 4, 2017
ConPlan/Annual Action Plan submitted to HUD	Monday April 10, 2017

NOTE: Schedule is tentative depending on Commission meeting dates and actual meeting dates.