



TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

DATE: October 28, 2014

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF 2015/20 CONSOLIDATED PLAN PRIORITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING CYCLE FY 2015/17 (NO FISCAL IMPACT)

Report in Brief

The City Council is being asked to review the 2015/20 Consolidated Plan funding priorities for activities as recommended by the Community Services Commission (CSC). This study session is intended to focus on future activities for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, which will meet the priority needs of Concord's lower income neighborhoods and residents. It is also intended to provide guidance to the CSC to move forward with the FY 2015/17 grant funding cycle.

Background

Since 1995, the City has received CDBG entitlement funds from the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the purpose of funding housing activities, public services, economic development, and infrastructure/public facilities projects to benefit low-income residents in Concord. As a requirement for receiving CDBG entitlement funds, and in conjunction with the Contra Costa Consortium (consisting of the cities of Antioch, Concord, Pittsburg, Walnut Creek and the County of Contra Costa), the City is preparing a five-year Consolidated Plan identifying priority needs and goals for years 2015 through 2020. The document will present a detailed plan for expending CDBG and other similar federal funding over the five-year period.

Public outreach to gain an understanding of community needs and priorities was extensive, including a newspaper advertisement in the non-legal section of the Contra Costa Times, email notification to over 500 agencies and flyers in English and Spanish. Four public meetings were conducted at locations throughout the County to give residents the opportunity to identify their community's greatest needs. A Community Needs Survey was available on the websites of the five participating jurisdictions and was provided in hard copy at all public meetings. It was distributed to over 150 organizations providing services to lower income residents and was completed by more than 700 residents County-wide.

To prioritize needs for Concord, staff analyzed all responses for the County as a whole and, when such responses could be isolated to the City, from Concord residents and agencies serving Concord. Priorities from the past Consolidated Plan were also reviewed, as were community needs as relayed to staff through

consultations with a wide range of service providers and stakeholders in both the public and private non-profit sector. Data was presented to the CSC in meetings on September 29 and October 8, 2014.

The primary purpose of this study session is to gain Council's direction to determine Concord's priorities for funding activities that meet the priority needs for the coming grant cycle, FY 2015/17. To prioritize funding within the City, activities will be assigned a ranking of High or Low. A ranking of "High" indicates that the City will fund that type of activity during the Consolidated Plan period. A high priority activity is one that has a demonstrated level of meeting a priority need that can be established as a result of a high absolute level of need or of a high level of need in relation to resources available to meet that need. A "Low" ranking indicates that the City will not fund that type of activity unless it goes through an established process to amend the Consolidated Plan. Please note that a ranking of low does not mean that there is lesser need in the community for these services or projects. However, it does indicate that staff and the CSC are recommending that the City's limited funding be directed to other areas.

Concord's Community Services Division supports the nine-member CSC and is responsible for administering the community grant process. Staff and the CSC assess needs, review grant applications and make recommendations to the Council for funding on projects and services that benefit lower income households and neighborhoods.

Discussion

Council is being asked to review the Consolidated Plan high priority activities (Attachment A) and to provide input for those activities which should be targeted for funding. Grant applications will be available in November and are due mid-December, 2014, for funding in FY 2015/16 and 2016/17. Second year funding is contingent upon funding availability and compliance with reporting requirements and grant guidelines.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact in reviewing the Consolidated Plan priorities.

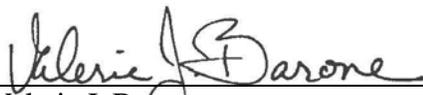
Public Contact

Posting of the City Council Joint Study Session Agenda. Copies of the agenda and report have been provided to the Community Services Commission.

Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that Council review the 2015/20 Consolidated Plan high priority activities and provide input to staff on their priorities for funding in FY 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Prepared by: Brenda Kain
Community Services Program Manager
Brenda.Kain@cityofconcord.org



Valerie J. Barone
City Manager
Valerie.Barone@cityofconcord.org

Reviewed by: Joan Carrico
Director of Parks and Recreation
Joan.Carrico@cityofconcord.org

Attachment A: Community Services Commission Recommended Funding Priorities for 2015/20

ATTACHMENT A

**City of Concord
Priority Needs Analysis FY 2015/20**

Matrix Code	Activity	Priority Need Level	Eligible Activities
Acquisition, Disposition, Clearance, Relocation			Real Property
01	Acquisition of Real Property		Acquisition of real property developed for a public purpose
02	Disposition of Real Property		Sale, lease, donation of property acquired by CDBG funds
Public Facilities/Infrastructure Improvements (to include ADA and facility improvements)			ADA Improvements including Streets/Curbs, Neighborhood Facilities, Facilities for Persons with Special Needs; Energy Efficiency; Design features to improve services to clients.
03A	Senior Centers	H	Acq , const, rehab of senior centers/facilities
03B	Handicapped Centers	H	Acq, const, rehab of centers, group homes
03C	Homeless Facilities (not operating costs)	H	Acq, const, rehab of shelters/transitional housing
03D	Youth Center	H	Acq, const, rehab of facilities for ages 13 - 19
03E	Neighborhood Facilities	H	Acq, const, rehab of neighborhood multiple-purpose facilities
03F	Parks, Recreational Facilities	H	Development of open space for recreational use
03G	Parking Facilities		Acq, const, rehab of parking lots and garages
03H	Solid Waste Disposal Improvements		Acq, const, rehab of solid waste disposal facilities
03I	Flood Drainage Improvements		Acq, const, rehab of flood drainage facilities
03J	Water/Sewer Improvements		Acq, const, rehab of water lines, sewers, fire hydrants
03K	Street Improvements		Installation or repair of streets, drains & gutters
03L	Sidewalks	H	ADA Accessibility improvements including ramps/crosswalks
03M	Child Care Centers	H	Acq, const, rehab of facilities primarily for children 12 & under
03N	Tree Planting		Beautification
03O	Fire Stations/Equipment		Acq, const, rehab of stations/purchase of equipment
03P	Health Facilities	H	Acq, const, rehab of physical/mental health facilities
03Q	Facilities for Abused/Neglected Children	H	Acq, const, rehab of centers, facilities or temp. housing
03R	Asbestos Removal		Rehab of public facility to remove asbestos
03S	Facilities for AIDS Patients	H	Acq , const, rehab of facilities/housing for persons with HIV/AIDS
03	Other Public Facilities and Improvements	H	Other improvements not listed above
Public Services			Agencies providing services to low/moderate income clients.
05A	Senior Services	H	Services for the elderly
05B	Handicapped Services	H	Services for the handicapped regardless of age
05C	Legal Services		Legal services to low/mod income clients
05D	Youth Services (Ages 13 - 19)	H	Recreational services, teen counseling programs
05E	Transportation Services		General transportation services
05F	Substance Abuse Services		Substance abuse recovery/abuse prevention/education
05G	Services for Battered/Abused Spouses	H	Services for battered/abused spouses and their families
05H	Employment Training		Assistance to increase self-sufficiency; literacy; job training
05I	Crime Awareness/Prevention		Promotion of crime awareness/prevention
05J	Fair Housing Activities	H	Counseling on housing discrimination
05K	Tenant/Landlord Counseling	H	Counseling to prevent/settle disputes
05L	Childcare Services (Ages 0 - 12)	H	Benefit children 0 -12, including parenting skills classes
05M	Health Services		Services to address the physical health needs of the community
05N	Services for Abused/Neglected Children	H	Daycare/other services for abused/neglected children
05O	Mental Health Services	H	Services to address the mental health needs for the community
05P	Screening for Lead Poisoning		Activities to provide screening for lead poisoning
05Q	Subsistence Payments	H	One-time or short term (< 3 mos) emergency rental assistance
05R	Homeownership Assistance (not direct)		Down payment assistance
05S	Rental Housing Subsidies		Rental subsidies for more than 3 months
05T	Security Deposits	H	Tenant subsidies specifically for security deposits
05U	Housing Counseling		Housing counseling for new homebuyers
05V	Neighborhood Cleanups		One-time or short term efforts to remove trash/debris
05W	Food Banks	H	Operation of food banks, community kitchens, food pantries
05	Other Public Services	H	Other services not listed above.

Housing			Homeownership/Rental Activities
14A	Rehab: Single Unit Residential	H	Housing rehabilitation loans and grants
Other			Misc. Services
15	Code Enforcement	H	Property inspection/follow-up related to enforcement of codes
18C	Ec. Dev: Micro-Enterprise Assistance	H	Financial/technical assistance for micro-enterprises
19C	CDBG Non-Profit Org. Capacity Building		Activities to increase capacity of non-profit organizations
21A	General Program Administration	H	Program administration including salaries, wages & related costs
21E	Submission of Application for Fed. Programs		Preparation of documents to receive CDBG funds