



**APPROVED**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, October 2, 2018

7:00 P.M.

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, City Council Chambers

Members Present: Ald. Rainey, Ald. Wynne, Ald. Wilson, G. Mackey, M. Miro

Members Absent: Ald. Braithwaite and Ald. Rue Simmons

Presiding Member: Ald. Rainey, Committee Chair

Staff: L. Biggs, G. Gerdes, K. Brown, I. Ogbo, S. Flax, and J. Wingader

#### **Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum**

Chair Rainey called the meeting to order and presentations began at 7:14 pm. A quorum was declared following Glenn Mackey's arrival from another meeting during the presentations.

#### **2019 CDBG Program — Review of Applications**

Chair Rainey explained that the Housing & Community Development Act Committee would hear presentations from City of Evanston applicants seeking Community Development Block Grant funding for 2019. Applicants would respond to questions from the committee. Applicants were requested to provide information not contained in their application.

Applicants were given 5 minutes to present their applications and field questions from Committee. City managed programs/projects are listed below.

- Certificate of Rehabilitation Program  
Presentation by: Kevin Brown, Community Services Manager  
Parks & Recreation Department (Public Service)  
CDBG request: \$30,000
- Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program  
Presentation by: Kevin Brown, Community Services Manager  
Parks & Recreation Department (Public Service)  
CDBG request: \$30,000
- Target Area Graffiti Removal  
Presentation by: Gary Gerdes, Building & Inspection Services Division Manager  
Community Development Department (Public Service)  
CDBG request: \$50,000
- Clyde Brummel Park Fencing Replacement  
Presentation by: Lara Biggs, Bureau Chief - City Engineer

Public Works Department (Public Facilities Project)  
CDBG request: \$50,000

- Harbert Park Bike Path Improvements  
Presentation by: Lara Biggs, Bureau Chief - City Engineer  
Public Works Department (Public Facilities)  
CDBG request: \$100,000
- Lead Service Replacement  
Presentation by: Lara Biggs, Bureau Chief - City Engineer  
Public Works Department (Public Facilities)  
CDBG request: \$75,000
- Alley Paving  
Presentation by: Lara Biggs, Bureau Chief - City Engineer  
Public Works (Public Facility)  
CDBG request: \$390,000
- Targeted Code Enforcement  
Presentation by: Ikenga Ogbo, Public Health Manager  
Health & Human Services Department (Public Facility)  
CDBG request: \$375,000
- Housing Rehab. Administration and Loan Fund Recapitalization  
Presentation by: Sarah Flax, Housing & Grants Administrator  
Community Development Department  
CDBG request: \$405,000
- CDBG Administration  
Presentation by: Sarah Flax, Housing & Grants Administrator  
Community Development Department  
CDBG request: \$330,000

### **Discussion of CDBG 2019 Funding Priorities**

M. Miro noted that allocating funds for Public Services would be “brutal,” as requests exceeded estimated funding by 43%; there was less competition for Public Facilities funding and most were City requests. He noted that City Public Services requests totaled \$100,000 and suggested giving priority to non-City Public Services applications. Ald. Wilson responded that significant cuts were being made to City programs that would be seen in the 2019 budget being released on Friday. A suggestion was made to not fund some programs to avoid damaging funding cuts to larger programs; it was noted that the committee had not funded worthy programs in past years for this reason. The \$10,000 minimum allocation was also discussed. Ald. Wilson noted that he considers what has the biggest impact; an agency may ask for \$10,000 but can still be impactful if awarded \$5,000. Ald. Rainey noted some programs have major donors, and the impact of agencies work to raise other funds to reduce dependence on CDBG should be taken into account. M. Miro noted that some agencies are not able to attract large donors. Staff noted that programs requesting both MHB and CDBG should be

considered carefully because they may require both funding sources to be impactful. Staff will provide CDBG allocations to MHB for their allocation meeting.

Ald. Rainey directed staff to contact HUD about re-categorizing Graffiti Removal to Public Facilities because it is not a social/human services program. Staff noted that HUD considers graffiti removal to be maintenance, similar to filling potholes in a road; staff will contact the Chicago Field Office but does not expect this change will be made based on prior discussions.

Ald. Rainey suggested considering a cost sharing program between CDBG and the Water Fund for the Lead Service Line Replacement, noting that the homeowners that would be helped also pay into the Water Fund.

It was agreed that all committee members would send their draft allocations to staff by end of day on Monday, October 8 so staff can provide the committee with average allocations at Tuesday's meeting.

**Old Business/New Business**

Staff provided an update on the McGaw YMCA Residence Lighting Project. Monique Parsons confirmed the project would be completed by April 30, 2019. Ald. Rainey requested more information about the project in writing. Staff noted that funding from the ComEd energy efficiency program may be a fit and will be investigated to reduce CDBG funding.

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Rainey called for a motion to adjourn; it was made by Ald. Wynne, seconded by Ald. Wilson, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Wingader  
Grants and Compliance Specialist