

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, June 2, 2020

CDBG 2019-2020 Action Plan Amendments

**Staff Presentation
Public Hearing**

Amendments to add CDBG-CV and related programs

- Add funding: \$425,261
- Add proposed programs and projects

Four applications for CDBG-CV funding received:

| Applicant | Project Title | Amount Requested |
|---|---|------------------|
| City Economic Development, Main Street, Chamber of Commerce | COVID-19 Small Business Recovery | \$200,000 |
| City Office of Emergency Management | COVID-19 Community Recovery Specialist Position | \$180,000 |
| Court Appointed Special Advocates | Advocacy Services for Abused and Neglected Children | \$55,600 |
| Texas State University | COVID-19 Collection Station | \$105,530 |
| Administration | | \$65,000 |
| | | \$606,130 |

Threshold Criteria:

- Must meet CDBG National Objective
- Must provide requested documentation

Evaluation Criteria:

- Direct service to beneficiaries preferred
- Costs are reasonable
- Services are cost-effective

1. COVID-19 Small Business Recovery

- Technical Assistance and Funding for small businesses and microenterprises
- Up to \$5,000 per business for:
 - i. Operational Safety - Redesign physical space in order to ensure safety and social distancing.
 - ii. Sanitation Training and PPE
 - iii. Digital Redesign for Social Distancing
- Mandatory workshop on best practices for recovery
- By: City ED, Main Street, and Chamber of Commerce

Amount Requested: \$200,000

2. COVID-19 Community Recovery Specialist Position

- One full-time position for two years to:
 - i. Assist the community in developing long term recovery planning strategies
 - ii. Provide educational workshops and materials for all businesses and residents on community and economic preparedness, disaster recovery, and hazard planning
 - iii. Work with state agencies and federal partners
- By: City Office of Emergency Management

Amount Requested: \$180,000

3. Advocacy Services for Abused and Neglected Children

- Partial funding for additional Case Supervisor, Team Lead, Technology
- Recruit and train volunteer caseworkers to advocate for children removed from their homes
- Advocating for mental health, medical, education, housing, and permanency in safe, stable homes
- Scalable program model depending on need
- Increased need due to family stress due to economic impact and stay-at-home orders
- By: Court Appointed Special Advocates

Amount Requested: \$55,600

4. COVID-19 Collection Station

- Portable COVID-19 sample collecting station and staffing from September 2020 – May 2021
- Creation of a prototype and then conversion to a working flexible-use health station
- Creates two part-time positions at \$18/hour
- Samples will be sent to a lab for testing
- Implementing research done in partnership with Katerra
- By: Texas State University multi-disciplinary team

Amount Requested: \$105,530

5. Administration

- Provide technical assistance to funded programs
- Ensure the appropriate use and documentation of funds
- Monitor and report progress to HUD

Amount Requested: \$65,000 (15%)

Evaluation

Programs 1, 3, and 4

- Meet the CDBG national objective of service to low-to-moderate income people
- Provide direct services to beneficiaries
- Services are cost-effective and directly related to impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic

Program 2

- Does not meet a CDBG national objective
- Partially provides direct service to beneficiaries

Staff Recommendation

| Program | Requested | Recommended |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| 1. COVID-19 Small Business Recovery | \$200,000 | \$200,000 |
| 2. COVID-19 Community Recovery Specialist Position | \$180,000 | |
| 3. Advocacy Services for Abused and Neglected Children | \$55,600 | \$55,600 |
| 4. COVID-19 Collection Station | \$105,530 | \$105,530 |
| 5. Administration | \$65,000 | \$64,131 |
| TOTAL | \$606,130 | \$425,261 |

NEXT STEPS – CDBG-CV Grant

| | |
|------------------|--|
| June 2 | Public hearing on proposed programs and projects |
| June 7-13 | Public comment period on draft action plan |
| June 16 | Request City Council approval of action plan |