

2015 Action Plan Comments

Comment received by City staff:

From: Pastor Todd Salmi, resident, Bishop Street

There is a desperate need for a pedestrian sidewalk on Bishop Street between Hopkins/Hunter and Prospect Road. It is only a matter of time until a serious accident or fatality will occur along this street of road. Many people walk this road for work, education, public transportation, and to access the City center. Portions of this section of Bishop have no place but the street for pedestrians to walk; there is limited visibility for eastbound travelers which is made worse in the rain and at night. This section contains a marked bus stop, but there is no sidewalk for ADA accessibility. Traffic has increased due to the Hopkins/Hunter work that has detoured all Southbound traffic include 18-wheelers, onto Bishop. (photos provided)

Comments from 2015 CDBG Stakeholder Workshop, at Southside Community Center on Thursday, April 9, 2015 - 6:00 PM

Attending:

Rudy Rodriguez, Garrie Borden, Ruben Becerra, Ruben Garza, Julie Hollar, Ofelia Vasquez, Sara Partridge and staff members Janis Hendrix and Dalinda Newby

COMMENTS RECEIVED:

FROM: Rudy Rodriguez (Victory Gardens Neighborhood Representative)

- Supports continued improvements / expansions to the existing Senior Citizens Center to address the needs of the growing senior population. Although the CDBG program is currently expanding the size of the Senior Citizens Center, there will be a need for future expansion of the current center or construction of additional centers. Mr. Rodriguez recommends the city host an Open House when the improvements are completed to bring awareness of the services and the need.
- Requests that lighting be installed at the newly improved Willow Springs Park and walking trail. He reported that area residents are utilizing the park/trail, but are concerned about walking there after dark.
- Supports improvements needed at the HEB Park. Although the park is located in a flood prone area, the city is planning for major drainage improvements to the Willow Springs drainage channels possibly reducing the amount of the park in the floodway, which he hopes will allow for future park development.
- Recommends that a covered bus stop be added to the Camacho Street bus stop, where the bus stop sign was damaged and removed.

FROM: Garrie Borden, Hays Caldwell Women's Center

Supports continued funding of the Hays-Caldwell Women's Center/Shelter due to the growing need, as there has been a 17% increase in services needed since last year.

FROM: Ofelia Vasquez-Philo, Centro Cultural Hispano de San Marcos

Supports CDBG funding for critical need for affordable housing for low income residents.

FROM: Ruben Garza, Southside Community Center

- Supports cultural programs and services such as those provided by Centro Cultural Hispano.
- Supports continued funding for housing rehabilitation for eligible low income residents through the Southside Community Center's Summer Work Program.
- Supports improvements/expansion of Senior Center facilities in the city. The attendance has grown dramatically in recent times.
- Supports programs and facilities for local youth, to especially include job training opportunities/ services. Recommends the city be more interactive with the local youth services groups.

Comments from the City Council Public Hearing, April 21, 2015:

- Marla Johnson, Executive Director, Hays Caldwell Women's Center supporting their application for public services funding to support their family violence shelter.
- Tricia Schneider, Development Director, CASA of Central Texas supporting their application for public services funding to support their child advocacy program.
- Carol Graham, CASA volunteer advocate, supporting funding for the CASA program.
- Michelle Harper, Executive Director, United Way of Hays County, supporting their application for public services funding to support a mentoring program.
- Ruben Garza, Executive Director, Southside Community Center, supporting their application for funding for the rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing. He also recommended that the City expand the CDBG program staffing to enable the city to apply/administer for HOME grant funds from the State to construct new affordable housing.
- Robert Roark, supporting funding for local non-profit organizations, especially the Hays County Food Bank.