

Minutes DRAFT
Block Grant Working Committee Special Meeting
Friday, February 4, 2022 – 4:00 p.m.
Community Development Division
Aurora City Hall, Fifth Floor, Room 5B - 44 E. Downer Place, Aurora, Illinois

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. by Chairman Lubshina

I. Roll Call

Mr. Lubshina announced that the Block Grant Working Committee has two newly appointed Committee members, Brooke Shanley, and Eric Rodriguez. He introduced Brooke Shanley, who represents 9th Ward. Eric Rodriguez, who represents 1st Ward was unable to attend.

Block Grant Working Committee Members Present: Gerald Lubshina (Chairman), Blanca Rodriguez, Linda Cole, Dan Hoffman, Warren Barton, Brooke Shanley, Minal Shah

Members Absent: Veva Walton, Terrie Simmons, Eric Rodriguez, Judy Durham, Ken Gaul,

Staff Present: Chris Ragona, Amy Munro, Tara Neff, Liz Carrizales

II. Minutes of Meetings

A. December 15, 2021 meeting

A draft of the minutes was considered

A motion to approve minutes from December 15, 2021 was made by Mr. Hoffman and seconded by Mr. Barton. The minutes were approved as prepared.

Ayes: 6

Abstain: 1

The newly appointed committee member, Brooke Shanley abstained from voting.

III. Old Business

A. None

IV. New Business

A. 2022 Substantial Amendment - #1 to Annual Action Plans (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)– Recommendation for CDBG/CDBG-CV Funding Approval and 2022Annual Action Plan – Recommendations for CDBG/HOME Funding Approval

B. 2022 Annual Action Plan – Recommendation for CDBG/HOME Funding Approval

Mr. Ragona stated that for discussion purposes Item A and B will be combined and the Committee members will vote on each item separately. He stated that the City of Aurora receives approximately \$1.5 million dollars of Community Development Block Grant funds annually and around \$700,000 dollars in HOME funds. He gave a summary of the City of Aurora Citizen Participation Process.

Mr. Ragona provided the Block Grant Working Committee with a summary of the proposed Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment (2022-#1) and the 2022 Annual Action Plan. He stated that a total of 17 applications were received, and staff is recommending the approval of 14 activities. e gave a brief summary of the following funding CDBG recommendations:

2022 Proposed CDBG Project Name		2022 CDBG Request	2022 CDBG	Sub Amendment #2022-1 CDBG	Sub Amendment #2022-1 CDBG-CV
Housing Projects					
Aurora Housing Authority	<i>Misc Rehabilitation for – Southwind Apts, Indian Trail Apts, Maple Terrace, and Centennial House</i>	\$301,153	\$301,153	\$0	\$0
Rebuilding Together Aurora	<i>Housing – Safe at Home ADA Assistance Program</i>	\$138,815	\$0	\$0	\$0
The Neighbor Project	<i>Safety First Program – Single Family Emergency repairs</i>	\$235,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
City of Aurora Community Development	<i>Down Payment Assistance Program – First Time Homebuyer assistance</i>	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0
The Neighbor Project	<i>Individual Development Account (IDA) – Matched Savings Program</i>	\$40,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$0
2 North Stolp Senior Housing	<i>HVAC / Roof Replacement Project</i>	\$800,000	\$400,000	\$0	\$0
Subtotal		\$1,564,968	\$766,153	\$0	\$0
Community Amenities (Public Facility Improvement/Infrastructure/Neighborhood Investment) Projects					
City of Aurora Engineering	<i>Neighborhood Investment Street Resurfacing</i>	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000	\$0
Loaves and Fishes	<i>Capital Improvements to a Recently Purchased Building</i>	\$124,980	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal		\$624,980	\$0	\$500,000	\$0
Public Service Projects					
Hesed House	<i>Case Management for Homelessness Prevention</i>	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
360 Youth Services	<i>Youth Homelessness Response and Prevention</i>	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
Aurora Fire Museum	<i>Youth Education and Fire Safety</i>	\$33,990	\$15,000	\$0	\$0

City of Aurora – Community Services	<i>Financial Empowerment Center</i>	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Mutual Ground / Breaking Free	<i>Domestic Violence Shelter Case and Substance Abuse Management</i>	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
Prairie State Legal Services	<i>Fair Housing Assistance and Eviction Legal Services</i>	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
Quad County Urban League	<i>Economic Empowerment Center, Workforce Development</i>	\$50,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$0
Senior Service Associates	<i>Community Connection Center Senior Assistance</i>	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0
CDBG Public Service Contingency	NA	N/A	\$20,000	\$0	\$0
Subtotal		\$398,990	\$100,000	\$0	\$265,000
Program Administration / Unallocated					
Center for Neighborhood Technology	<i>CDBG Program Planning – Comprehensive Housing Resource Study Phase II</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$0
City of Aurora CDBG Program Administration	<i>City Staff Program Administration</i>	\$300,000	\$290,000	\$0	\$0
Subtotal		\$310,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$0
City of Aurora Finance Department (Micro/Small Business Development Project)	<i>Aurora Arts Section 108 Loan Contingency</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
CDBG / CDBG-CV	<i>Neighborhood Revitalization/Projects TBD</i>	N/A	\$331,341 (estimate)	TBD	\$44,795
Overall Total		\$2,898,938	\$1,497,494	\$500,000	\$309,795

Mr. Ragona also provided an overview of the 2022 Annual Action Plan's HOME allocations which are based upon level funding as per the City's 2021 allocation of \$752,348. The proposed 2022 HOME allocations are based upon the following breakdown: 10% Program Administration, 15% Community Housing Development Organization Set-aside, 75% Direct Project Activities. The program administration and CHDO percentages are based upon HUD's regulatory thresholds. Mr. Ragona advised that any specific HOME activities will be presented for Substantial Amendment review/approval at a future BGWC meeting .Discussion took place.

Item A. Substantial Amendment 2022-#1

A motion to recommend approval to the City Council the Substantial Amendment 2022-#1 proposed funding recommendations was made by Mr. Hoffman and seconded by Ms. Cole. The motion was approved unanimously.

Item B. 2022 Annual Action Plan

A motion to recommend approval to the City Council the 2022 Annual Action Plan proposed funding recommendations was made by Ms. Shanley and seconded by Mr. Barton. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. Other Matters

None.

VI. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- A. Tuesday, February 22, 2022 1:00 PM – Public Hearing on Substantial Amendment 2022-#1 and 2022 Annual Action Plan – Aurora City Hall, 5th Floor Conference Room B
- B. Wednesday, March 2, 2022 4:00 PM – Block Grant Working Committee Regular Meeting – Aurora City Hall, 5th Floor-Conference Room B
Mr. Ragona advised the March meeting may be cancelled due to lack of agenda items. BGWC members will be notified of any changes.

VII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:47p.m. was made by Mr. Hoffman and seconded by Ms. Cole. The motion was approved unanimously.