



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Council Session

Item E-5

Public Hearing on Development of 2017-2019 Consolidated Plan Including Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plan for CDBG Activities

Council action will take place under Request and Referrals item H-4.

Staff Contact: Charley Falmlen

Council Agenda Memo

From: Charley Falmlen, Community Development

Meeting: March 22, 2016

Subject: Public Hearing on Development of 2017-2019 Consolidated Plan Including Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plan for CDBG Activities

Presenter(s): Charley Falmlen, Community Development

Background

Grand Island began the process of becoming an Entitlement Community in September 2015. A large part of the planning process for this Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) model is the creation of the 3, 4 or 5-year Consolidated Plan, which also includes the Annual Action Plan. The City has chosen to complete a 3-year Consolidated Plan. The Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2017 is included in the Consolidated Plan for 2017-2019. A separate Annual Action Plan is prepared for each Fiscal Year, in which a Consolidated Plan is not created.

The Consolidated Plan represents the City's goals for CDBG funding in broad scope, it identifies the areas and focus of CDBG priorities. The Annual Action Plan breaks down the priorities and lists specific dollar amounts and which projects will be funded in the following fiscal year.

Discussion

To gain perspective on the City's goals for funding priorities over the next 3 years and to meet the consultation requirements of the Consolidated Plan, the City created and distributed a "Community Needs Assessment" to the organizations and groups that HUD identified in the consultation requirements. The survey asked respondents to rank priorities that were identified by merging Grow Grand Island goals with CDBG National Objectives the 5 Priorities are as follows:

- Increase Quality & Affordable Housing Options
- Improve Public Facilities
- Create Re-Investment Opportunities in Downtown
- Cultivate Small and Emerging Businesses
- Support Public Services for Neighborhoods and Vulnerable Populations

These priorities and their ranking are elaborated on in the Power Point presentation.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Accept the report on the Development of 2017-2019 Consolidated Plan Including Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plan for CDBG Activities
2. Do not accept the Development of 2017-2019 Consolidated Plan Including Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plan for CDBG Activities

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council accept the Development of 2017-2019 Consolidated Plan Including Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plan for CDBG Activities

Sample Motion

Move to accept the Development of 2017-2019 Consolidated Plan Including Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plan for CDBG Activities.

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Development of 2017-2019
Consolidated Plan Including Fiscal Year
2017 Action Plan for CDBG Activities

Objective

To inform the public of the priorities identified by the Community Needs Assessment and the planned priorities for CDBG funding through the 2017-2019 Consolidated Plan and Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Action Plan.

HUD requires the Community Development Division to hold one public hearing during the planning process, and another once the plan is complete and ready for submission.

The Funding Priorities

To gain perspective on the City’s goals for funding priorities over the next 3 years and to meet the consultation requirements of the Consolidated Plan, the City created and distributed a “Community Needs Assessment” to the organizations and groups that HUD identified in the consultation requirements. The survey asked respondents to rank priorities that were identified by merging Grow Grand Island goals with CDBG National Objectives the 5 Priorities are as follows :

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Methodology

Survey respondents were asked to rank each priority on a scale of 1 to 5. Each ranking was awarded a point value, for example if a priority was ranked #1, it received 1 point. If it was ranked #2, it received 2 points and so on for each priority on each survey.

Therefore, the priority that received the **lowest** score, was considered the **highest** priority.

#1 Increase Quality & Affordable Housing Options (83 Points)

GranderVision: #3, #4, #8

GGI: 5.9

CDBG National Objectives: Acquisition of Real Property, Rehabilitation, Construction of Housing, Code Enforcement, Homeownership Assistance

Annual Action Plan Possibilities:

- ☞ **Housing Development Corporation (Purchase, Rehab, Resell and Down Payment Assistance)**
- ☞ **Downtown Upper Story Grant Support**
- ☞ **Incentives for CROWN Developments**
- ☞ **Rental Housing Assistance Program for Veterans**

#2 Cultivate Small and Emerging Business (136 Points)

GrandVision: #16

GGI: 1.1, 2.2

CDBG National Objectives: Code Enforcement, Special Economic Development Activities, Microenterprise Assistance

Annual Action Plan Possibilities:

- ☞ Small Business Rent Assistance
- ☞ Parking Lot Improvements (4th Street & Downtown)
- ☞ Develop 3rd Street CRA Lot
- ☞ Planning Grant for Downtown BID

#3 Support Public Services for Neighborhoods & Vulnerable Populations (143 Points)

GranderVision: #14, #15, #18

GGI: 5.14, 5.15

CDBG National Objectives: Public Facilities and Improvements, Public Services, Code Enforcement

Annual Action Plan Possibilities:

- ☛ **Support for Homeless Shelters/Crisis Centers**
- ☛ **Fund a study/research plan for citywide Homelessness Strategy**
- ☛ **Development of Neighborhood Associations including training and workshops**

#4 Improve Public Facilities (147 Points)

GranderVision: #12, #18

GGI: 3.3

CDBG National Objectives: Public Facilities and Improvements, Rehabilitation, Code Enforcement, Special Economic Development Activities

Annual Action Plan Possibilities:

- ☞ **Parking Lot Improvements (4th Street & Downtown)**
- ☞ **Develop 3rd Street CRA Lot**
- ☞ **Planning Grant for Downtown BID**
- ☞ **Development of Neighborhood Associations including training and workshops**

#5 Create Re-Investment Opportunities in Downtown (164 Points)

Grander Vision: #7

GGI: 5.1

CDBG National Objectives: Rehabilitation, Special Economic Development Activities, Microenterprise Assistance

Annual Action Plan Possibilities:

- ☛ **Parking Lot Improvements (4th Street & Downtown)**
- ☛ **Develop 3rd Street CRA Lot**
- ☛ **Planning Grant for Downtown BID**
- ☛ **Downtown Upper Story Grant Support**
- ☛ **Small Business Rent Assistance (would not be limited to downtown, but would further downtown development)**

Overview

The next step in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan process is for City staff to identify which Annual Action Plan Possibilities are most feasible and assign a dollar amount to them based on funding availability.

HUD recently announced that the City of Grand Island will receive \$ \$348,927 in CDBG Funds for fiscal year 2017. Community Development Administration fees will come out of the sum, and the remainder will go to eligible projects.

Community Development has also created a Stakeholders group to serve as a consultation body during the process of deciding on CDBG funding amounts.

The next public hearing which will review the exact dollar amounts for each project will be held in late June or early July.