



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Council Session

Item G13

#2008-40 - Approving Extension Request for Block Grant 05-CR-015 Community Revitalization, Phase I

Staff Contact: Joni Kuzma

Council Agenda Memo

From: Joni Kuzma, Community Development Administrator

Meeting: February 12, 2008

Subject: CDBG Amendment Request for Community Revitalization, Phase 1

Item #'s: G-13

Presenter(s): Joni Kuzma, Community Development Administrator

Background

In March 2006, the State of Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) awarded a \$296,113 Community Development Block Grant to the City of Grand Island. The Community Revitalization was awarded to fund the projects of Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation, Down Payment Assistance for First Time Homebuyers, and Infrastructure improvements in a specified low- to- moderate income neighborhood.

The original grant contract was March 2006 to August 31, 2007. In October 2007, Community Development requested an amendment from DED to extend the contract end date to December 31, 2007. The first extension request was based on: 1) communication difficulties with non-English speaking clients and contractors, 2) contractors who were not certified in Lead Safe Work Practices and needed training, and 3) the late date on which the final housing rehab participant was accepted into the program (July 2007).

An extension request was granted by DED until December 31, 2007. However, due to the December 1, 2007 resignation of the grant/housing administrator, after a 3-month absence from October 5, 2007 to December 1, 2007, the work was not completed.

Discussion

Community Development is requesting Council approval for a second extension request that would establish a contract end date of February 29, 2008. Although the City immediately hired a certified housing contractor to finish the 9 rehabilitation projects, there was not sufficient time between December 1 and the contract extension date of December 31 to adequately conduct final inspections and close-out the grant. The

housing contractor has provided lead based paint inspection and clearance testing services for each of the properties served by this grant.

DED requires Council approval of an extension request in the form of a resolution to accept an amendment request. As of this date, the contracted housing administrator has completed lead clearance testing and final inspections on all of the rehab properties. There are a few Housing Quality Standard issues that will need to be completed on some of the projects prior to the end of February.

Alternatives

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

1. Approve the request for an extension for Community Revitalization Block Grant 05-CR-015 and authorize the Mayor to sign all appropriate documents
2. Disapprove or /Deny the request for an extension for Community Revitalization Block Grant 05-CR-015
3. Table the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the request for an extension for Community Revitalization Block Grant 05-CR-015 to the Department of Economic Development until February 29, 2008 and authorize the Mayor to sign all appropriate documents.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the request for an extension for the Community Revitalization Block Grant 05-CR-015 to the Department of Economic Development until February 29, 2008 and authorize the Mayor to sign all appropriate documents.

RESOLUTION 2008-40

WHEREAS, in March, 2006, the State of Nebraska Department of Economic Development awarded the City of Grand Island a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$296,113 for the purpose of community revitalization; and

WHEREAS, the contract of the grant expired on December 31, 2007, and completion of some projects have been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances; and

WHEREAS, additional time is needed for grant completion and a request to extend the contract from the Department of Economic Development is required; and

WHEREAS, Council approval is required in order to submit the amended request to the Department of Economic Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the request for extension of the contract of the grant from the Department of Economic Development is approved and that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute any related documents on behalf of the City of Grand Island for such grant programs.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, February 12, 2008.

Margaret Hornady, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

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| Approved as to Form | ☐ _____ |
| February 7, 2008 | ☐ City Attorney |