



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Council Session

Item E5

**Public Hearing for Community Revitalization CDBG Phase 1
Grant Application**

Staff Contact: Joni Kuzma

Council Agenda Memo

From: Joni Kuzma, Community Development Administrator

Council Meeting: January 26, 2010

Subject: Public Hearing on Community Revitalization Phase 1
Block Grant Application

Item #: E-5 & G-9

Presenter(s): Joni Kuzma, Community Development Administrator

Background

In 2005, the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) developed a program to utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in eight Nebraska municipalities with populations between 20,000 and 49,999. The program allocates grant funds over a multi-year period to meet locally identified needs that are CDBG eligible. The City received grant funds in 2005 for the initial assessment and revitalization strategy and was awarded subsequent funding of approximately \$260,000 per year in 2006, 2007 and 2008 to use for redevelopment projects in a specifically defined low-to moderate income neighborhood within city boundaries. The final phase of the three years was completed in December 2009.

In November 2009, the Comprehensive Needs Assessment and Revitalization Strategy was updated from 2005 and a 3-year action plan developed through 2013. Both were submitted to the Department of Economic Development for approval. The Assessment and Action Plan were approved making Grand Island eligible for \$257,794 in grant funds each year for the next three years.

A public hearing is required prior to submission of an application to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to solicit public comment and input into the proposed project and grant application. A legal notice was published in the January 16, 2010 Grand Island Independent with notice of this council meeting and contact information for written comments.

Discussion

The 2009 Comprehensive Needs Assessment and a Revitalization Strategy reviewed housing, infrastructure, and economic conditions of 14 low-to-moderate income Block Group areas in the

city limits of Grand Island. A new project area was selected based on development needs within the neighborhood and combines two Block Groups into one project area. (Map provided).

The proposed Action Plan outlines three years of projects for the following grant periods:

Phase 1: February 2010 – August 2010

Phase 2: July 2011 – August 2012

Phase 3: July 2012 – August 2013

Projected projects during the 3-year time frame include replacing nine blocks of 4" water main pipes with 8" inch pipes, replacing 14 Ludlow fire hydrants, rehabilitating ten (10) low-to-moderate income owner-occupied homes, and providing down payment assistance to two (2) low-to-moderate income first-time homebuyers.

For Phase 1 Community Revitalization, the City is applying for a \$257,794 grant to carry out Phase 1 of a Comprehensive Revitalization Strategy for a selected low-to-moderate income area of Grand Island. The request includes grant funds up to \$239,784 for 4 blocks of water main and 7 Ludlow fire hydrant replacements and an amount not to exceed 7% (\$18,046) for General Administration. The City will provide a minimum of \$239,748 in matching funds for eligible projects, including one owner-occupied rehabilitation project (\$28,250).

ALTERNATIVES

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

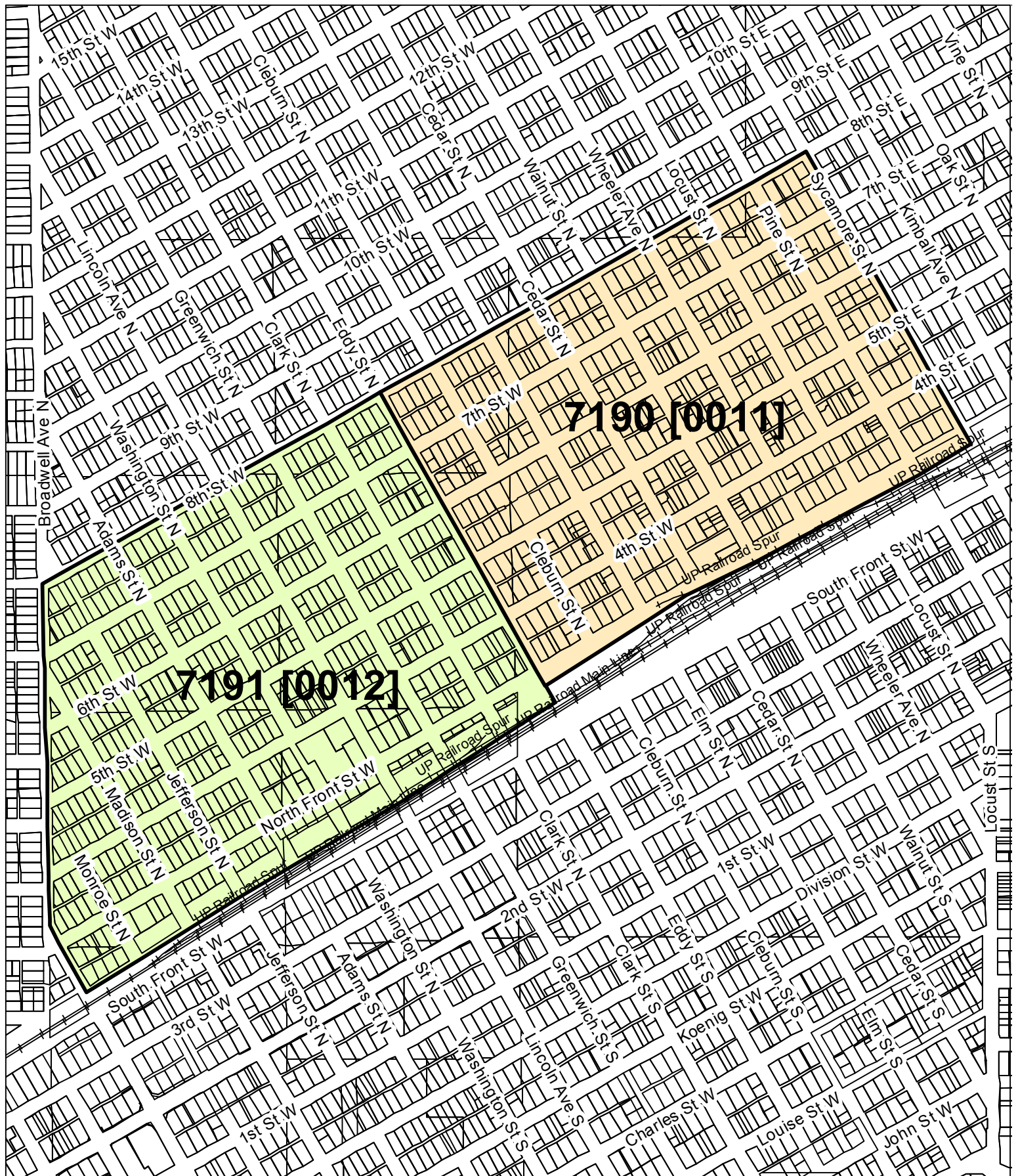
1. Approve the 2010 Community Revitalization Phase 1 application and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents
2. Refer the issue to a Committee.
3. Postpone the issue to a later date.

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that Council approves the 2010 Community Revitalization Phase 1 application and authorizes the Mayor to sign all related documents.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the 2010 Community Revitalization Phase 1 application and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.



BLOCK GROUP 11 and 12

