



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Council Session

Item E6

Public Hearing on Comprehensive Revitalization Needs Assessment Application

Staff Contact: Marco Floreani

Council Agenda Memo

From: Marco Floreani, Community Development Administrator

Council Meeting: November 13, 2012

Subject: Public Hearing on Comprehensive Revitalization
Assessment Block Grant Application

Item #: E-6 & G-23

Presenter(s): Marco Floreani, Community Development

Background

In 2005, the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) developed a program to utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in non-entitlement communities. The program allocates grant funds over a multi-year period to meet locally identified needs that are CDBG eligible. The City last received grant funds in 2009 for the initial assessment and revitalization strategy and was awarded subsequent funding of approximately \$260,000 per year in 2009, 2010 and 2011 to use for redevelopment projects in a specifically defined low to moderate income (LMI) neighborhood within city boundaries.

Eligible communities interested in the three year (2012-2015) Comprehensive Revitalization category must submit an application to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) by November 16, 2012. 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 October 29, 2012 Grand Island Independent with notice of this council meeting and contact information for written comments.

Discussion

The City is one of the eight eligible communities and may update or revise the 2009 Comprehensive Needs Assessment and a Revitalization Strategy to submit for the next three years of Comprehensive Revitalization funding from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. The Comprehensive Needs Assessment must review 13 (LMI) Block Groups and inventory all types and degrees of housing and community development needs within each area. The Revitalization Strategy must identify a one, two and three year action plan to meet the needs of the (LMI) neighborhood(s) selected for investment. The Needs Assessment and Revitalization

Strategy process must involve citizen participation, particularly LMI residents, in all development and implementation phases.

The City of Grand Island is requesting a Planning Grant for \$13,500, plus \$1,500 in General Administration to develop and complete a Needs Assessment Strategy. The City will provide the required 25% cash match of \$3,000 for a project total of \$18,000. The required \$3,000 match is budgeted within the community development fund. The completed Needs Assessment and Revitalization Strategy will be used to assess 2012-2015 Comprehensive Revitalization grant funding opportunities from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

ALTERNATIVES

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

1. Approve the 2012 Community Revitalization Needs Assessment and Strategy 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 2012 Community Revitalization Needs Assessment/Strategy application and authorizes the Mayor to sign all related documents.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the 2012 Community Revitalization Needs Assessment/Strategy application and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.