



MEMORANDUM

“...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life.”

TO: Community and Economic Development Committee
FROM: Nikki Gerhard, Community Development Specialist
DATE: September 9, 2020
RE: City Program Funding Approval and City Proposals for 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding

Per City of Appleton CDBG Policy, the process of allocating 2021 CDBG funds has begun. An award estimate of \$591,226 was budgeted for the 2021 Program Year. \$591,226 is only an estimate and is subject to change upon adoption of the Federal budget. Also, according to City CDBG Policy, the CEDC must approve allocations for City Programs. Those proposed amounts total \$187,325 and are listed in the 2021 Budget as follows:

Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program - **\$29,892**

*CDBG Administrative Costs for the Community and Economic Development Department - **\$82,433**

Appleton Housing Authority - **\$75,000**

*includes funding for provision of HUD required Fair Housing Services

The balance of funds, \$403,091, is first made available to City departments and then community partners. Proposals from City departments were due August 31, 2020. One application was submitted. Upon receipt, the application was thoroughly reviewed by the Community and Economic Development Specialist for eligibility under HUD program regulations, and it was determined that the proposed project was eligible.

The proposal from the Appleton Police Department is for a collaborative program with the Boys and Girls Club known as the Summer of Service. The Summer of Service initiative seeks to engage youth in meaningful, team-based community service projects in order to instill positive attitudes towards education and empower youth to acquire valuable life skills. By teaching teens to work on teams, develop a work ethic, and improve their engagement with others, Summer of Service provides students at risk of not graduating high school an opportunity to stay on track or get back on track to graduating high school. The total request is for \$72,051.06 and would primarily fund staff salaries and fringes but would also finance supplies and materials. The entire proposal is attached.

Per HUD regulations, to be eligible for CDBG assistance, a public service must be either a new service or a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service above that which has been provided by or on behalf of the unit of general local government. While the Summer of Service program was funded for the 2020-2021PY, due to the COVID pandemic, APD cancelled the program and returned the funding. However, because APD received CDBG funding during the 2019-2020PY, a quantifiable increase needs to be demonstrated by either serving more persons, expanding the geographic service area, increasing staff, or improving the quality of service. New for the program in 2021, Summer of Service plans to integrate Career-Based Learning into the program curriculum and additional work/skill development opportunities through an Appleton Area School District educator.

CEDC is asked to make a recommendation to Common Council for the proposed allocations for City programs and funding for the proposal from the Appleton Police Department. Following CEDC and Council approval of City program funding and City Department application, the next step in the CDBG allocation process are applications from community partners. Per the Community Development Block Grant Policy, after all community partner applications have been received (due September 30, 2020) and determined eligible, CEDD staff will supply the CDBG Advisory Board with the applications and all appropriate guidelines along with a summary of each proposal and an explanation of the proposal score sheet.

These packets of information are expected to be distributed to the Advisory Board members on Friday, October 9, 2020. Board members are asked to allocate funding among the applicants and return their allocations to CEDD staff who will compile all results and will present allocation recommendations at an Advisory Board meeting on October 27, 2020, during which allocation amounts will be finalized based on the anticipated projected award. Funding recommendations from this Board will be presented as an action item to the CEDC on November 11, 2020. CEDC's recommendation will then be presented to the Common Council for final approval.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 832-6469 or nikki.gerhard@appleton.org. Thank you!

Attachments:

1. APD's 2021-2022PY CDBG Application