

Memorandum

Community Economic Development Department

To: Randy Tweet, Interim City Manager
Tom Ayers, Interim CED Director

Subject: **Public Hearing** – Citizen’s Advisory Committee
Recommendations for PY 2017-2018 CDBG Funds

Date: October 12, 2016



The Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC) completed its task of allocating 2017-2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and CY 2017 Gaming Grant funds on October 11, 2016. A public hearing for CDBG is scheduled for October 17th, 2016 as required by the Citizen Participation Plan and federal regulations. City Council has the authority to make final funding decisions. The CDBG/Gaming process schedule suggests that Council approve allocations on October 24, 2016.

The attached spreadsheet indicates the CAC’s recommendations for program year 2017-2018 CDBG and CY 2016 Gaming Grant funds. The CAC reviewed and abided by City Council’s policies when considering allocations. Chairman Linda Mohr will be in attendance at the Council meeting to explain the recommendations.

The 2017-2018 allocation is anticipated to be \$910,000.00. This represents a 3% reduction in funding from the current year’s allocation. In the event that the 2017-2018 allocation is reduced up to 5% from the projected \$910,000 allocation, 20% will remain allocated to CDBG program administration with a 5% reduction to MLK and the remaining reductions from demolition. If the 2017-2018 allocation is reduced more than 5% the CAC will reconvene to make new recommendations.

In the event that the 2017-2018 allocation is increased above \$910,000, 20% will remain allocated to the CDBG program administration with remaining funds allocated to demolition, with a cap at \$500,000

It is expected that a number of applicants will attend with public hearing. The following format for conducting the public hearing is suggested:

1. Presentation by Chairman Linda Mohr and questions from Council regarding the Citizen’s Advisory Committee recommendations
2. Comments and testimony from CDBG and Gaming Grant applicants and other interested parties (5-minute each limit, excluding questions from City Council) and Council questions of speakers
3. Close public hearing
4. Questions from City Council to City staff
5. City Council is scheduled to make final decisions on CDBG/Gaming allocations on October 24th, 2016

In order to assist the Council in its decision-making process, staff has attached a statement from Chairman Linda Mohr and the spreadsheet summarizing the CDBG and Gaming Grant applications that were considered by the CAC. Individual applications and minutes of the Review and Allocation Meetings are available upon request.

Submitted by: Colleen Small-Vollman, Budget and Grants Coordinator

Approved by: Randy Tweet, Interim City Manager



October 10th, 2016

Mayor Pauley and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
1528 3rd Avenue
Rock Island, IL 61201

Dear Mayor Pauley and Members of the City Council:

The Citizen's Advisory Committee has completed their review of the CDBG and Gaming Grant funding requests for the 2017 calendar year. We enjoyed learning more about the programs and services that help our residents thrive and support their health and well-being. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important process. I plan to present our recommendation for funding allocations to you on Monday, October 17, 2016. The Committee agrees that the CDBG budget presented will disburse monies in a way that improves housing, economic and social condition of the City, adheres to the guidelines mandated by HUD, aligns with Rock Island's Consolidated Plan, and most importantly benefits our low and moderate income citizens. Furthermore, the Committee agrees that the Gaming Grant budget presented will disburse monies in a way that benefits Rock Island citizens and Rock Island businesses with priority given to businesses within our city limits that provide services to the youth in our community.

The committee budgeted \$910,000.00 for this round of CDBG allocations, which represents an anticipated 3% decrease in funds from the 2016-2017 grant year. The Committee received funding requests totaling \$1,409,610.00. Unfortunately, we are facing a shortfall of \$499,610.00 and cannot accommodate every applicant's full request for administrative and program costs. After thoughtful discussion, the Committee agreed to stretch the CDBG funds to enable the City and social service providers to offer assistance to those in our City with the greatest needs.

The City budgeted \$50,000 for the CY 2017 Gaming Grant allocations, the same amount that has been allocated since the inception of the program. Each committee member reviewed 17 grant applications, heard presentations and had questions answered by all applicants. We utilized an individual scoring mechanism with eight categories that corresponded to the most critical components of the grant application. Scores were

tallied for each applicant and committee discussions on funding levels for the top grants were conducted. This process ensured a fair and open discussion about the merit of the requests totaling \$94,945.00. With a shortfall of \$44,945.00, we recommend awarding funds to 13 organizations.

CDBG and Gaming Grant funds enable the City and social service providers to offer assistance to those in our City with the greatest needs. The task of allocating these monies in a manner that affects the greatest good is certainly difficult, but fulfilling. As a Rock Island citizen, I am thankful we have the funds, staffing and the will to deliver these programs to our community. I am happy to answer any questions you may have concerning our allocations at the hearing on October 17, 2016. Please do not hesitate to contact me in advance, if necessary.

Linda K. Mohr, Chairman
Citizens Advisory Committee

2017– 2018 CDBG Program:

CDBG Application Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount CAC Recommends
CDBG Program Administration (20% cap)	\$187,680	\$182,000
Emergency Loan Program	\$ 65,000	\$ 40,000
Roof Loan Program	\$ 81,730	\$ 56,730
Property Maintenance	\$214,316	\$214,316
Housing Programs Staff & Support Costs	\$120,270	\$120,270
Martin Luther King Jr. Center	\$131,614	\$131,614
Non-emergency Loan Program	\$ 53,000	\$ 28,000
Demolition	\$500,000	\$ 83,070
Economic Development Assistance (CIRLF)	\$ 54,000	\$ 54,000
Totals	\$1,409,610	\$910,000

CY 2017 Gaming Grant:

Gaming Grant Recipient	Amount Requested	Amount CAC Recommends
Rebuilding Together Quad Cities	\$ 8,000	\$7,500
Youth Services Bureau	\$10,000	\$5,000
Girl Scouts of E. IA and W. IL	\$ 5,000	\$5,000
River Bend Foodbank	\$ 5,000	\$5,000
Spring Forward Learning Center	\$ 5,000	\$5,000
Bethany for Children and Families	\$10,000	\$4,000
Child Abuse Council	\$ 4,000	\$4,000
Arc of the Quad Cities	\$ 4,000	\$4,000
Family Resources	\$ 4,445	\$3,000
River Music Experience	\$ 5,000	\$2,000
Christian Care	\$ 5,000	\$2,000
QC Community Broadcasting Grp.	\$ 4,000	\$2,000
NormaLeah Foundation	\$ 2,000	\$1,000
Church of Peace	\$ 3,000	\$ 500
Totals	\$74,445	\$50,000