

MEMORANDUM

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

TO: Thomas Thomas, City Manager

SUBJECT: 2014-2015 Gaming Allocation Policies

DATE: August 20, 2013

The process for allocating Gaming Grant funds started on Thursday, August 1, 2013 where applications are available for those seeking funding for fiscal year 2015 (April 1, 2014-March 31, 2015). As part of this process, the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) looks to the City Council to provide policy direction on the allocation of Gaming funds.

No policy changes related to allocating Gaming funds for non-City social service activities are recommended.

A copy of the proposed 2014-2015 Gaming Policies for Allocating Gaming Funds is attached.

The CAC will refer to the approved policies when making funding recommendations for fiscal year 2015. The CAC will make its allocation decisions on Thursday, September 19, 2013. City Council will make final funding decisions for Gaming funds on October 14, 2013.

Recommendation: City Council to approve the fiscal year 2015 (April 1, 2014-March 31, 2015) Gaming Grant Allocation Policies.

Submitted by: Dena Haag, CED Budget and Grants Manager
Jeff Eder, Community and Economic Development Director

Approved: Thomas Thomas, City Manager

Council's Policies and Procedures for Gaming Funds

- Allocation of \$50,000 of Gaming revenue, with Council approval of the budgeted amount in July for the following fiscal year.
- Maximum request – an organization may request as much as \$10,000, with each application being evaluated on its merits according to the process described below.
- Eligible applicants – Non-City, 501(c)3 or non-profit organizations that provide services to City of Rock Island residents.
- Eligible activities – social service activities as defined by the CDBG regulations, that include, but are not limited to those concerned with employment, crime prevention / public safety, child care, health, drug abuse counseling and treatment, education, energy conservation, welfare or recreation programs, job training (including training a qualified pool of candidates for unspecified jobs), fair housing activities, services for senior citizens or homeless persons, energy conservation counseling and testing, homebuyer downpayment assistance and emergency assistance payments (for example, to keep tenants from losing housing).
- Review Process – The Citizens Advisory Committee are charged with reviewing applications and making funding recommendations to the City Council.
- Agencies that provide services to youth shall receive a priority for funding, but not to the exclusion of other services.
- The CAC and Council will use the following in determining if an agency should receive funding:
 1. Does this activity meet a defined need in the community?
 2. Is this need a priority in the community?
 3. Who will benefit from this activity?
 4. Is there a reasonable cost / benefit ratio for this activity?
 5. What is the past record of the program? Or, if this is a new program, what are the performance expectations?
 6. Does the agency have the capacity to deliver the services?
 7. Are other funds being leveraged by the City's participation or otherwise committed to the activity?
 8. Is there a satisfactory return on the investment in the program?
 9. Are there other resources more appropriate to support this activity?