

Memorandum

Community & Economic Development Department



To: Thomas Thomas, City Manager
Subject: Public Hearing – Citizen’s Advisory Committee
Recommendations for 2015-2016 CDBG Funds
Date: September 8, 2014

The Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC) completed its task of allocating 2015 – 2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) monies on August 19, 2014. A public hearing for CDBG is scheduled for September 8, 2014 to fulfill the City’s Citizen Participation Plan as well as HUD regulations. City Council has the authority to make final funding allocation decisions. The CDBG process schedule suggests that Council approve allocations on September 15, 2014.

The attached spreadsheet shows the CAC’s recommendations for 2015-2016 CDBG funds. The CAC reviewed and abided by City Council’s policies when considering allocations. Chairman Lori Roderick will be in attendance at the Council meeting to explain the recommendations.

The 2015 – 2016 allocation level is anticipated to be \$902,000. This represents a 5% reduction in funding from the current year’s allocation. In the event that the 2015 – 2016 allocation is reduced below the estimated \$902,000, the CAC determined that all programs and activities should be cut proportionally. If the allocation amount for 2015 – 2016 is more than the estimated \$902,000 then the additional funds will be allocated equally among the City Housing programs and the approved Martin Luther King, Jr. Center programs, up to the amount applied for. If these extra funds exceed the application amounts for either the Housing programs or the King Center programs, then the remaining funds will be set aside for Demolition activities.

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

1. Presentation by Chairman Lori Roderick and questions from Council regarding CAC recommendations.
2. Comments and testimony from CDBG applicants and other interested parties (5-minute 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 allocations on September 15, 2014.

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

Submitted by: Dena Grunewald, CED Budget & Grants Manager
Jeff Eder, Assistant City Manager / CED Director

Approved: Thomas Thomas, City Manager

CDBG Application Project Title	Amount Requested	CAC Recommendation
Property Maintenance & Rental Inspection	\$239,300	\$239,300
Housing Rehab Program Staff & Support	\$195,270	\$195,270
Program Administration & Planning Costs	\$187,615	\$187,615
Housing Rehabilitation Programs	\$124,730	\$115,247
MLK – Afterschool Program	\$86,055	\$77,665
MLK - Summer Day Camp Program	\$54,917	49,425
Economic Development Technical Assistance	\$36,000	\$36,000
ACTIVE Club	\$1,742	\$1,478
Demolition	\$280,000	\$0
Rock Island Boxing Club	\$11,217	\$0
The GATEWAY Experience	\$2,192	\$0
Rock Island Athletic Club	\$5,387	\$0
Total	\$1,224,425	\$902,000

Contingency Requirements:

Funds awarded in excess of \$902,000 will be allocated equally among the City Housing programs and the approved Martin Luther King, Jr. Center programs, up to the amount applied for. If these extra funds exceed the application amounts for either the Housing programs or the King Center programs, then the remaining funds will be set aside for Demolition activities.

If funds are awarded less than \$902,000, all programs and activity budgets will be cut proportionally.



August 28, 2014

Mayor Dennis Pauley & City Council Members
City of Rock Island
1528 Third Avenue
Rock Island, IL 61201

Dear Mayor Pauley and City Council Members:

The Citizen's Advisory Committee has completed their review of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding requests for the 2015 – 2016 grant 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, September 8, 2014. The Committee agrees that the budget presented will disburse monies in a way that improves the 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.

The committee budgeted \$902,000 for this round of CDBG allocations, which represents an anticipated 5% decrease in funds from the 2014-2015 grant year. The Committee received funding requests for a total of \$1,224,425. Unfortunately we are facing a shortfall of \$322,425 and cannot accommodate every applicant's full request for administrative and program costs.

After thoughtful discussion, the Committee agreed that although the services provided by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center represent high quality and useful programming, unfortunately, we must focus our limited funding on those programs that provide the greatest impact for the highest number of residents. Therefore, the Committee will allocate a portion of CDBG funding to the King Center's Afterschool Program, Summer Day Camp and ACTIVE Club programs, but are unable to fund the Rock Island Boxing Club, Rock Island Athletic Club and the GATEWAY experience at this time. Please note that the King Center allocation of \$128,568 represents an increase of 7% over last year's funding.

CDBG 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 September 8th. Please don't hesitate to contact me in advance, if necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lori Roderick', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lori Roderick, Chairman
Citizens Advisory Committee