

HOUSING AND PUBLIC SERVICES GRANT ADHOC COMMITTEE
September 22, 2016
CONFERENCE ROOM 1A
CITY HALL
77 FAIR DRIVE
COSTA MESA, CA

CALL TO ORDER: Mike Linares called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Roll call: Phillip Morello – Present
Leah Ersoylu – Present (Joined the group at 6:42 p.m.)
Christian Eric – Present
Yvonne Rowden – Unexcused Absence
Jeff Mathews – Present
Eric Vu – Present (Joined Meeting at 6:08 p.m.)
Tony Capitelli – Present
Andrew Smith – Present
Rebecca Trahan – Present
Dave Goodman – Unexcused Absence

Also in Attendance: Jacqueline Y. Reeves, Management Analyst
Willa Bouwens-Killeen, Zoning Administrator

Resident in Attendance: None

Mike asked Rebecca Trahan and the committee to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Phillip Morello made the motion to approve the minutes
Motion seconded by Tony Capitelli.
Motion carried: Seven Ayes. None Opposed.

Ayes: Phillip Morello, Christian Eric, Jeff Mathews, Eric Vu, Tony Capitelli, Andrew Smith Rebecca Trahan
Noes: None

OPENING REMARKS:

Mike Linares stated the purpose of tonight's meeting is to discuss the 2015/2016 Annual Performance and Evaluation Report; and to explain the reason for the name change to Consolidated Annual Plan. HUD would like to consolidate all different grant application processes into one, which is called the Consolidated Plan, or Consolidated Annual Performance Report.

The first year of the new five-year Consolidated Plan was 2015-2016. About a year and half ago, the Consolidated Plan was presented to the Committee, and to get official public comments, the Consolidated Plan was approved by City Council on May 2015. So, the report period covers July 2015 to June 30, 2016, and will be submitted to HUD by Tuesday of next week.

Two specific reports were required to be submitted to HUD: The annual Grantee Performance Report (**GPR**) and the **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** Financial Summary Report. The GPR contains information about specific activities that were funded throughout the fiscal year. It has accomplishment information with a short narrative. The last report is a CDBG financial summary report, an outline primarily for HUD valuation. It discusses the funding that city has available and how it utilizes the fund.

There are two caps:

- Public services cannot spend more than 15% of the grant
- Program Administration cannot spend more than 20% of the Grant

Mr. Linares gave highlights of last fiscal year which included:

- Nineteen Home funded rehabilitation Grants were completed
- Code Enforcement had 286 new cases opened; 197 of those cases were closed.
- Twenty-four individuals assisted through transitional housing.
- Two individuals were assisted with Rapid Rehousing program.
- Nine individuals were prevented from becoming homeless
- Six hundred and sixty-eight seniors were assisted with two meals program, the meal on wheel, and etc.
- The senior counseling program: Social workers at the senior center provide counselling services for seniors or family members of a senior.
- We funded the council on aging program that goes into care facilities that treat and care for safety and sanitary – dignify matters.
- Disabled services assisted 44 individuals
- New services: 238 plumbing services in Mika. Fair Housing Foundation and working wardrobe – 366 individuals were loaned and assisted by these two programs. No survey captures the specific population.

Two park projects (improvements to the Senior Center and **???? Jacquie—please get the name of the park or parks where the improvements are occurring**) are under way; improvements to the Senior Center are complete. Andrew Smith asked if there is a delay in funding for **XXXXXXX (name of parks)**.

Mr. Linares answered in the affirmative and explained that it was due to bidding difficulties; that there are several phases of the **XXXXX park** project with HCD funding just the ADA portion of the project. Since the overall project will not be done by the time the report needs to be submitted, and the project will not be completed before the report is due, it is considered to be under way. As for **XXXXXXX park**, the City is currently working on the design and the ADA improvements.

There are also two phases of improvement of the senior center. Phase one is complete and there is still some funding remaining which will be used to complete some flooring. Phase 2 is now underway to replace skylights and redesign the patio as well as to bring the bathrooms into compliance with ADA accessibility requirements. Mr. Smith asked if workout equipment on the patio was part of the project and Mr. Linares responded that it was not; he confirmed that phase 2 should be completed in the in this fiscal year.

Mr. Linares also said that we have 1 public infrastructure project, which is street pavement on 8th ???? – Jacquie – we have no 8th street. Although the project has been completed, the funding process is still incomplete; once the payment matter is resolved, the project will be considered complete.

Mr. Linares explained how various items are reported, citing examples throughout the document.

Mr. Smith asked if there any effort from the city of Costa Mesa to publish these good news, to quickly inform the people about our achievements on social media throughout the year. Mr. Linares felt that it would be simple enough to inform people of our achievements and will be following up.

Mr. Morello stated that is was difficult to find information about the Ad Hoc Committee's meeting time, location and etc. on the website.

Mr. Capitelli stated that Mr. Linares mentioned there may be a crackdown on using the fund for code enforcement. Mr. Linares responded that the City had been monitored last year regarding the use of CDBG funds for code enforcement and that there were no findings.

Mr. Morello asked if anybody was aware whether there is any plan regarding installation of sidewalks either City wide or just in specific areas. Mr. Vu stated that he had noticed sidewalks marked in certain areas. A discussion regarding sidewalks for safe routes to schools versus neighborhoods that don't want sidewalks ensued. Ms. Bouwens-Killeen Willa stated that she will follow-up regarding sidewalks on Towne Street.

Mr. Morello asked if we distinguish between resident and nonresident transients assisted on the west side? Mr. Linares stated that the agencies we work with would have that information.

In response to an inquiry, Ms. Reeves explained that, depending on the type of Program assistance requested, loans and grants for rehabilitation improvements are available only to property owners with certain income levels, as well as some additional criteria.

Mr. Capitelli asked how many homeowner loans had been given in the last year. Ms. Reeves stated that since the inception of the 3% simple interest requirement only one rehab Loan has been funded. Mr. Smith asked if is there a way for seniors to know about the program through the Senior Center; Ms. Reeves responded that she works with the Senior Center staff make referrals; information flyers are taken to the Senior Center; and the program is advertised throughout the year. Mr. Mathews asked if it is getting harder to find people who need the program or is it an ending opportunity to apply. Ms. Reeves responded that although it is not difficult to locate applicants, it is difficult to qualify for the grant because of the 50% of the area median income set by City Council. Mr. Vu asked if the requests are typically triggered by Code Enforcement or through an application; Ms. Reeves stated that they come to HCD's attention through both.

Mr. Smith Andrew asked if we have a list of approved contractors; Ms. Reeves replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Morello asked if we keep track of loans and foreclosures; Ms. Reeves answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Smith asked for staff's opinion as to why we think the applications are low for HOME loans; Ms. Reeves stated that a large number of the seniors do not want to diminish the equity in the home by the deferred 3% simple interest. Mr. Smith stated that as long as the property is secured by a lien and equity, relaxing the standards so the repairs can be made would be a plus for everyone.

Project update:

None

Next meeting will be held in late February or March for 2017 – 2018 Public Grants. The committee expressed the desire to keep the meeting to one night

Mr. Morello motioned to adjourn and Mr. Mathews seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 7:10 p.m.