Council Communication

Department: Community Development	Resolution No.: 20 -	City Council: June 8, 2020

Subject/Title

2019 Amendment to the Annual Action Plan for Community Development Block (CDBG) funds.

Background/Discussion

Background

The City of Council Bluffs is an entitlement community under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which results in annual funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In order to receive these funds, the City is required to submit to HUD an Annual Plan, which was already submitted and approved by Council. In May 2020, the City of Council Bluffs received addition funding due to coronavirus (COVID-19) as part of its entitlement status with HUD; therefore, this amendment to the Annual Plan is required. HUD requested we amend our 2019 Annual Action plan to include the additional resources.

The Annual Plan details the City's objectives, revenues, expenditures and other actions. This document is prepared by the Community Development Department with input from the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC). In FY2019, the City received approximately $967,131 in CDBG funding. Eligible projects had to meet the following national objectives: benefit to persons of low-to-moderate income, elimination of slum and blight and urgent need. In addition to the 2019 Annual funding, the City of Council Bluffs received $580,840 in CDBG-COVID-19 (CV) assistance to provide immediate funding to prevent, prepare for and respond to the COVID-19. These funds were also allocated to the City through HUD CDBG entitlement designation. The total CDBG program budget is $1,547,971 and includes the following sources of revenue:

2019 Annual CDBG Grant	967,131
CDBG-CV Grant	580,840
Total	**1,547,971**

Discussion

No changes to the Annual CDBG grant are required. The CDBG-CV funding is earmarked to provide COVID-19 specific assistance to local residents and businesses to ensure sustainability during the nationwide pandemic. Locally, funding is needed for direct assistance to residents and business who have lost income directly related to COVID-19. A listing of the programs and projects for CDBG-CV funds is outlined in "Attachment A" and the draft guidelines for the funds are in "Attachment B" for your review. Staff plans to request applications from local nonprofits to assist with implementation and distribution of funding. The Community Development Department and Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) are now recommending the allocation of the CDBG-CV funds.

Upon City Council approval, the Community Development Department will forward the amendment to the 2019 Annual Plan to the City of Omaha and to HUD.

Staff Recommendation

The Community Development Department recommends that City Council adopt a resolution approving the use of the CDBG-CV funds as outlined in the attached budgets; direct the Mayor to submit the 2019 Amendment to the Annual Plan to the City of Omaha and to HUD; and direct the Mayor to execute contracts with HUD for the use of the CDBG-CV funds.

Community Development Advisory Committee

On May, 27, 2020, CDAC met to review the CDBG-CV funds and recommend their approval. CDAC recommends the following for approval:

1. Amending the 2019 Annual Action Plan and allocating CDBG-CV funds to activities as outlined in "Attachment A." Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of those present. VOTE: AYE: Schlott, Rowe, Mathews, Adkins, Heininger; NAY – None; ABSTAIN –None; ABSENT – None.