

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Rita Ali and Members of the City Council

Thru: Joe Dulin, Community Development Director

From: Patrick Kirchhofer, Chairperson CDBG Public Services Advisory Commission

Date: March 29, 2022

Re: 2023 Public Service Application and Process

I am addressing you on behalf of the CDBG Public Services Commission to request the City Council approve the 2023 Public Service application that incorporates eight (8) funding priorities.

CDBG Public Service Application Priorities

In December 2012, the City Council directed the CDBG Public Services Commission to narrow the priorities for accepting applications for CDBG public service funds. Since this direction, the Commission has identified funding a handful of priorities as a recommendation to City Council for approval.

At the March 18 Commission meeting, the Commissioners voted to recommend eight (8) priorities for the application process this year. At the request of the Commission, City staff gathered area data and statistics to present to the Commission prior to the selection of priorities. Staff then created an online survey to include the eligible activities allowed per federal regulations. Each Commissioner, using his or her community knowledge and social service experience, ranked his or her top ten (10) priorities. The survey totals were calculated using a weighted scale for each response where the top priority was given ten points with the points lowering through the tenth priority.

The top eight priorities, ranked highest to lowest, included:

- 1) Youth Services (13-19)
- 2) Child Care Services (Under 13)
- 3) Employment Training
- 4) Services for Abused and Neglected Children
- 5) Substance Abuse Services
- 6) Services for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault
- 7) Mental Health Services
- 8) Food Banks

CDBG Application Process/Materials/Timeline – 2023

Independent of the funding priorities, the Commission has thoroughly vetted the application materials, process, and timeline for the 2023 grant awards. The Commission requested only one application could be submitted per organization. In addition, the minimum funding request is \$10,000 and the maximum funding request is \$30,000.

At this time, the Commission recommends for approval from City Council the application materials, timeline, and process for the 2023 CDBG Public Service grants.

Summary

As the City Council considers the requests presented to them, I would like to provide additional information that may help to better explain the position of the Commission. In my opinion:

- The 13 volunteer members of the Commission bring a broad spectrum and duration of community knowledge to the table and give of their time very generously. They truly care about the needs of people in our community and want to help people realize their fullest potential.
- The Commissioners, as well as staff, understand that many needs exist in our community, and that it is extremely difficult to address all needs with limited funds; an estimated \$263,000 in 2023.
- The Commission believes that the selection of funding priorities helps to better achieve measurable outcomes for 2023 applicants.