



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – October 24, 2018 Agenda Item 3A

Voting Session - Consent Item

Resolution Endorsing FY20 Community Development Block Grant Project

Recommended Council Action

Approve Resolution

Context with Key Issues

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides flexible funding for a variety of public service programs and capital projects which benefit low and moderate income populations as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City of Takoma Park is expected to receive an estimated \$91,000 in grant monies as a pass through from Montgomery County in FY20. CDBG funds have been used for a variety of public improvements over time, most recently funds have been earmarked to finance various streetscape improvement associated with the Flower Avenue Green Street project.

Staff have proposed that the City's FY20 CDBG allocation be set aside to offset the costs of a coordinated, multi-departmental neighborhood initiative. The initial focus of this effort would be on a cluster of small to mid-size garden style apartment buildings and residential buildings located along Houston Court in Ward 5. The proposed initiative would require the use of funds from a variety of sources, including the City's CDBG award, and the involvement of the Housing and Community Development, Police, and Public Works Departments. The project could include a combination of residential façade, streetscape and ADA improvements, energy efficiency measures, public safety modifications, the installation of storm water management improvements, and public art. CDBG funds may be used for a number of the proposed activities recognizing that they must be public in nature and approved by Montgomery County to ensure compliance with federal requirements. If successful, the project could serve as a model for future investments in other residential areas.

The Council, seeking comment on how these funds could be used for capital projects which would benefit Takoma Park's low and moderate income residents, solicited but did not receive any input from community members during a public hearing held on October 3, 2018.

The accompanying resolution, if adopted by Council, will be forwarded to the Montgomery County Council for consideration and incorporation in its FY19 budget.

Council Priority

A Livable Community for All

Environmental Considerations

The environmental implications are unknown and will be developed as the project progresses.

Fiscal Considerations

The Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs, which administers the CDBG program on behalf of the HUD, has indicated that an estimated \$91,000 in CDBG funds will be allocated to the City in FY20. The actual grant award may vary depending upon the allocation of funding at the federal level.

Racial Equity Considerations

This Council action will primarily benefit low and moderate income residents of Wards 5, where an estimated 72% of the residents are people of color.

Attachments and Links

Resolution Endorsing FY20 Community Development Block Grant Project

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION 2018-XX

ENDORISING FY20 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park participates in the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program; and

WHEREAS, the City anticipates receiving an estimated \$91,000 in FY20 from Montgomery County Maryland's annual CDBG entitlement funding; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2016-16, adopted by the Council on June 15, 2016, limits the expenditure of CDBG allocations to capital projects benefitting the community's low and moderate income neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Council has endorsed the use of CDBG funds for a targeted neighborhood initiative in Ward 5 to offset costs associated with a variety of projects including but not limited to streetscape modifications, ADA installations, storm water management measures, street lightning, and other public improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND that the following capital project has been accepted for consideration for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding in FY20:

Neighborhood Improvement Initiative \$91,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized to forward the project to Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs for further review, to execute any documents, and take any action necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution including the reallocation of grant funds among the endorsed grantees in the event the City's FY20 CDBG allocation is modified.

Adopted this __ day of _____, 2018.

ATTEST:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk