

RESOLUTION NO. 2019 -55

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ASSISTANCE FOR PROGRAM YEAR (PY) 2019 UNDER TITLE I OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, AS AMENDED, INCLUDING THE PY2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE AND FILE THE PY2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, INCLUDING RELATED CERTIFICATIONS, AND UPON AWARDING OF THE GRANT, AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, under provisions of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (which title is hereinafter referred to as the "Act") and the regulations promulgated there under (24 CFR Parts 58 and 570, hereinafter referred to as the "Regulations"), the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized to make grants to units of general local government to help finance community development programs (as that term is defined in the Act and Regulations); and

WHEREAS, the Secretary has notified the City of Kent of its eligibility to apply for HUD/CDBG funds and the amount will be \$283,165.00 for Program Year 2019; and

WHEREAS, the City proposes to apply for such a grant for Program Year 2019 and has, in that connection and as required by and pursuant to the Act and Regulations, prepared its PY2019 Annual Action Plan marked Exhibit "A" and on file in the City Council office, which contains local objectives, identification of housing, homeless and non-housing community development priorities, a description of activities to be undertaken, a local community development budget, and certifications in the form of assurances; and

WHEREAS, this Council has duly reviewed and considered the PY2019 Annual Action Plan, as well as the comments and recommendations of the public and City administrative and planning officials.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Kent, Portage County, Ohio, at least three-fourths (3/4) of all members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1. That this Council hereby finds and determines that the PY2019 Action Plan gives maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low-to-moderate income persons or aids in the elimination or prevention of slum and blight and the PY2019 Action Plan includes those activities to be undertaken by the City with the funds provided for the 2019 Program Year that meet the housing and community development needs and objectives allowed by the Act and Regulations and identified in the City's 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan.

SECTION 2. That the City Manager, being the chief executive officer of the City as that term is defined in the Act and Regulations, or his designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the City to act in connection with the grant request and to provide such additional documentation or certifications as may be required by the Secretary or by other responsible agencies.

SECTION 3. That this Council hereby finds and determines that the City, in preparing its Consolidated Plan, has complied with the applicable requirements of the Act and Regulations, and this Council hereby approves the PY2019 Action Plan, together with all related documentation for submission to the Secretary.

SECTION 4. That this Council hereby directs that the City in carrying out the Program shall continue to comply with applicable requirements of the Act and Regulations and of other applicable laws, including, among others, requirements with respect to civil rights and anti-discrimination, citizen participation, relocation and land acquisition, environmental protection, cost accounting and administration, federal labor standards, flood control, conflicts of interest, political activity of employees, access to books and records and the requirements of giving maximum feasible priority to activities which will benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slum or blight, and this Council hereby authorizes the City Manager or his designee to execute and file with the Secretary certifications in such forms as the Secretary may prescribe, which will provide assurances concerning the foregoing matters, and concerning such other matters as may be required by the Secretary in connection with carrying out the Community Development Block Grant Program.

SECTION 5. That this Council hereby authorizes the City Manager or his designee to consent to assume the status of a responsible federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, insofar as the provisions of such act apply to the Secretary's responsibilities for environmental review, decision making and action to be assumed and carried out by the City Manager and authorizes the City Manager to consent on behalf of the City to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the purpose of carrying out the program. The City Manager or his designee is authorized to execute and file requests for release of funds and related certifications and prepare and file such other documents and take such other actions in connection with the environmental review process as may be required by the Act, the Regulations, particularly the regulations contained in 24 CFR Part 58, and by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

SECTION 6. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council, and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 7. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the residents of this City, for which reason and other reasons manifest to this Council this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately after passage.

PASSED: May 15, 2019
Date

EFFECTIVE: May 15, 2019
Date

ATTEST: Dawn Bishop
Dawn Bishop
Interim Clerk of Council

J. Fiala
Jerry T. Fiala
Mayor and President of Council

I, DAWN BISHOP, INTERIM CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF KENT, COUNTY OF PORTAGE, AND STATE OF OHIO, AND IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE ORIGINAL FILES AND RECORDS OF SAID COUNCIL ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF RESOLUTION No. _____, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON _____, 20_____.

(SEAL)

DAWN BISHOP
INTERIM CLERK OF COUNCIL



CITY OF KENT, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Date: February 26, 2019

To: Dave Ruller, City Manager

Cc: Hope Jones, Law Director
Bridget Susel, Community Development Director
Dawn Bishop, Interim Clerk of Council
PY2019 CDBG Action Plan File

From: Dan Morganti, Grants & Neighborhood Program Coordinator *[Signature]*

Re: PY2019 CDBG Funding & Project Recommendations

The Community Development Department is preparing the City's funding request for the PY2019 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The funding request is submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in June on an annual basis and must include a list of proposed projects that will be implemented with CDBG funding during the year. The City's funding amount has not yet been determined by HUD, but it is anticipated the City will receive near the same level of CDBG funding as last year, which was \$277,478. A total of seven (7) project proposals were received seeking CDBG funding assistance in response to the City's publically issued request for proposals. The total amount of funding requested was \$338,000. Based on a review of these proposals and in consideration of all applicable CDBG regulatory requirements, staff is recommending Council approval of the below projects and amounts at its May meeting. As done in years past, discussion of the staff recommended projects is being requested at the March 6th Committee meeting, but formal approval is not requested until May. This schedule allows time for a public comment period and a second public hearing to be held on the draft plan prior to its formal authorization by Council.

1. City of Kent, Engineering Department – Walnut Street Reconstruction

This activity provides funding to assist with the design and full depth reconstruction of Walnut Street from Cherry Street to Dodge Street. The work involves new sidewalks, concrete curb and gutter, a waterline replacement and storm sewers to improve drainage along the roadway. This is a multi-year project with design set to take place in 2019 and construction being scheduled for 2020 (Phase 1 – Cherry to Harris) and 2021 (Phase 2 – Harris to Dodge).

Funding Requested: \$170,000
PY2018 CDBG Funding: \$106,000

Funding Recommended: \$130,000

2. City of Kent, Parks & Recreation – Hike/Bike Trail Design (Brady’s Leap Segment)

This activity will provide funding to assist with design costs associated with this segment of the trail that connects the Main Street Bridge area to the Fairchild Bridge area. Design costs are an eligible CDBG expense, but overall eligibility is contingent upon actual construction of the project. The design phase of the project is currently underway and construction of this portion of the trail is anticipated to take place in 2020.

Funding Requested: \$25,000
PY2018 CDBG Funding: \$10,000

Funding Recommended: \$10,000

3. City of Kent, Police Department – Neighborhood Policing Program

The Neighborhood Policing Program provides additional patrols and police visibility primarily in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods and in assisted housing complexes. The program has a goal of improving communication, trust and understanding between residents and the Police Department. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Public Service 15% funding limitation.

Funding Requested: \$24,000
PY2018 CDBG Funding: \$18,000

Funding Recommended: \$18,000

4. CAC of Portage County – Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program

The applicant is requesting funding from the CDBG program to continue its “Kent Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program” that provides inspections, tune-ups, or the replacement of failing or inefficient furnaces and/or hot water tanks for low-to-moderate income households.

Funding Requested: \$35,000
PY2018 CDBG Funding: \$35,000

Funding Recommended: \$35,000

5. Family & Community Services – Homeless Shelter Services

The Homeless Shelter Services program provides services at the M. Marie Miller Community House an emergency homeless shelter. Funding helps pay for shelter nights spent by Kent residents including needed case management, counseling and housing placement. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Public Service 15% funding limitation.

Funding Requested: \$15,000
PY2018 CDBG Funding: \$15,000

Funding Recommended: \$15,000

6. Family & Community Services – Kent Social Services Cold Storage Expansion

This project helps install a permanent walk-in cooler/freezer combination unit and its associated foundation construction, carpentry work and electrical upgrades. The expanded food storage, which will be affixed to the rear of the building, will help support increased demand in hot meals and food pantry assistance, as well as the ability to accept food donations in bulk quantities.

Funding Requested: \$50,000
PY2018 CDBG Funding: \$0

Funding Recommended: \$40,000

7. City of Kent, Community Development – Administration

These funds are used to cover grant administration costs such as the cost of staff, supplies, advertising, postage, copying, travel costs for trainings, and other related costs. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Planning and Administration 20% funding limitation.

Funding Requested: \$0
PY2018 CDBG Funding: \$35,978

Funding Recommended: \$10,478

8. Fair Housing Contact Services– Fair Housing Services

These funds will be used to cover the costs associated with the provision of fair housing services. Fair Housing Contact Services provides counseling in the areas of housing discrimination and landlord-tenant issues. They also investigate fair housing complaints and provide a variety of public education and outreach services in the City. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Planning and Administration 20% funding limitation.

Funding Requested: \$19,000
PY2018 CDBG Funding: \$19,000

Funding Recommended: \$19,000

A spreadsheet summarizing the requested and recommended funding amounts has been attached for review. Copies of all submitted PY2019 CDBG proposals also are available for review at the Community Development Department.