

Urban County Policy Board Meeting Minutes

Recording at: <https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/urban-county-policy-board>

March 11, 2024

URBAN COUNTY POLICY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor Glen Yung	Clark County
Mayor Troy McCoy	City of Battle Ground
Jim Hodges	City of Camas
Bryan Kast	City of LaCenter
Chuck Green	City of Ridgefield
David Scott	City of Washougal
Councilor Marina Viray	Town of Yacolt

GUESTS

Amy Reynolds, Brondalyn Coleman; Thalia McDaid-O’Neill (Share); Mark Herceg (City of Battle Ground); Scott Conger (Janus); Tasha Slater (City of Vancouver); Beth Landry (YWCA)

STAFF

Michael Torres, Rebecca Royce, Janet Snook

I. Introductions

II. February 12, 2024, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion made by Jim Hodges and seconded by David Scott.

III. HUD Funding Updates

Congress recently passed the Transportation-HUD budget; HUD has not had time to release allocations yet. Approved budget keeps CDBG funding level with PY2023 amounts and reduces HOME by \$250M. Amounts provided for award allocation are estimates. Minor adjustments will be needed once final allocation amounts are received. Total available 2024 CDBG funds is estimated to be \$2,081,226. Total available 2024 HOME funds is estimated to be \$756,326. HOME ARP will have \$45,000 of reprogrammed funds.

IV. Scoring and Recommendations

Scoring was tallied and the results were presented.

Applicant	Project	Total Score	Total Request	CDBG Award	HOME Award	HOMEARP Award
Affordable Housing and Homelessness					\$730,922	\$45,000
YWCA Clark County	Domestic Violence Survivors TBRA	97.00	\$273,000	\$63,000	\$210,000	
Janus Youth Programs	The Nest TBRA	95.25	\$195,000	\$45,000	\$150,000	
Lifeline Connections	Recovery TBRA	91.88	\$109,122	\$25,182	\$83,940	
Share	Affordable Housing & Stability Program	90.75	\$300,000	\$25,000	\$275,000	
Vancouver Housing Authority	Weaver Creek Commons***	83.50	\$300,000	\$0	\$11,982	\$45,000
Salvation Army, The	TBRA	74.75	\$122,850	\$0	\$0	
		Total	\$1,299,972	\$158,182	\$730,922	\$45,000
		Balance			\$ -	\$ -

For the Affordable Housing and Homelessness category, staff reminded the board that the Weaver Creek Commons project received an allocation of funds in 2021. Any funds available will be put towards the overall funding of the project. Staff also requested approval from the board to provide any additional reprogrammed HOME-ARP funds to the Weaver Creek Commons project. A motion was made by Mayor McCoy to accept the recommendations as presented and the ability to reallocate reprogrammed HOME-ARP funds. The motion was seconded by Bryan Kast and carried.

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Applicant	Project	Total Score	CDBG Request	CDBG Award
Public Facilities and Neighborhood Improvements			Amount Available:	\$1,200,000
Battle Ground, City of	N Parkway Avenue Sidewalks	88.86	\$300,000	\$300,000
Ridgefield, City of	Sargent Street Improvements	88.71	\$200,000	\$200,000
4D Recovery	Community center acquisition & rehab	76.13	\$204,545	\$0
Council for the Homeless	HSC Building Acquisition	68.13	\$300,000	\$300,000
Total			\$1,004,545	\$800,000
Balance				\$400,000

Staff informed the board that the 4D Recovery project did not receive funding from the city of Vancouver, therefore their proposed property is not eligible for county funding. Staff also mentioned that the project does not have other funding committed for the project and recommended the project not be awarded this year, but to re-apply for PY2025. A motion was made by Mayor McCoy to accept the Public Facilities and Neighborhood Improvements recommendation. The motion was seconded by Jim Hodges and carried.

Applicant	Project	Score	CDBG Request	CDBG Award	HOME Award
Asset and Economic Development			Amount Available:	\$1,123,044	
Evergreen Habitat for Humanity	Affordable Homeownership Program	89.38	\$300,000	\$300,000	
Greater Vancouver Chamber	Pathways to Opportunity & Dev.	87.25	\$78,000	\$78,000	
Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber	Latinx Business assistance	83.88	\$130,000	\$130,000	
Proud Ground	Homeownership assistance	83.25	\$300,000	\$300,000	
Fourth Plain Forward	BIPOC Business assistance	82.00	\$299,371	\$299,371	
Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon	Micro-Enterprise assistance	79.13	\$101,100		
Livelihood NW	Business Support Services	78.63	\$116,000		
Vancouver Farmers Market Assoc	Small Business Development	78.63	\$75,000		
Total			\$1,399,471	\$1,107,371	
Balance				\$15,673	

Staff informed the board that the unused funds from the Public Facilities and Neighborhood Improvements category was added to the Asset and Economic Development category. All but \$15,673 was allocated; not enough for the next application to move forward. Staff provided options for the board to consider including keeping the funds for contingency, allocating to an existing application or adding to the Homeowner Rehabilitation Program which is seeing significant requests for assistance. A motion was made by Dave Scott to accept the Asset and Economic Development recommendation, to include moving the balance to homeowner rehabilitation. The motion was seconded by Mayor McCoy and carried.

V. October – December 2023 Quarterly Report Review

Staff provided an overview of all active projects. Most projects are on schedule and progressing as expected. TBRA and business assistance programs are operated on a calendar year. Board requested more information to understand project timeliness and asked reports to be shared before funding awards.

VI. Program Updates

- Updated quarterly report template.
Staff presented updates to the quarterly report. Changes will ensure all accomplishment data is collected. Report updates include improved instructions, additional narrative question and

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direct benefit reporting will be due quarterly and now has sections based on program/project type.

- CDBG proposed rule.
HUD is accepting comments on proposed rule changes to the CDBG program. It updates timeliness, economic development activities, and Section 108.
- Central Park Place water damage
A frozen pipe burst flooding 37 units in January. All tenants were relocated. Units have been stripped to the studs to ensure no water damage. Estimated at least six months for repairs. Some costs are not covered by insurance. Request to find out if tenants are required to have rental insurance.

VII. Build America, Buy America Overview

Staff provided an overview of a new federal requirement. Products purchased in connection with construction projects that are funded with federal funds must be purchased in the US. Applies to all projects with total costs over \$250,000 regardless of funding source. HUD incorporating a staggered implementation process. Some waivers available. HUD requesting public feedback, due April 15.

VIII. Other

- Public Comment: none
- The 50th anniversary of Community Development Block Grant in April. National Community Development week is April 1-5, 2024. County will be celebrating with a proclamation and social media postings. All cities are encouraged to participate.
- Next meeting, June 11, 2024, 9:30am.

Meeting adjourned.