

To: Community Development Commission
From: Randy Cole
Date: 11/5/2017
Subject: 11/8/2017 CDC Agenda Item Summary Memo

Overview

The purpose of this memo is to provide a brief summary of the 11/8/2017 CDC meeting agenda items.

New Business

FY 2019 Community Development Needs Survey

Each year the Community Development Commission conducts its community needs survey. This survey provides an update on public preferences for the various community development needs the City funds with CDBG and HOME funds. This survey aligns directly with the goals included within the FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and provides an update to commissioners to take into account while making funding recommendations for FY 2019 proposals. The FY 2019 Community Development Needs Survey will serve as a valuable tool for evaluating FY 2019 proposals in the spring/summer of 2018. The CDC needs to review the attached survey from FY 2018 and discuss any needed updates before releasing the FY 2019 Community Development Needs Survey. 362 responses were received last year, which was the most surveys collected on record for the CDC.

FY 2017 CDBG Funding

HUD released CDBG funding to the City of Columbia on October 3, 2017. CDBG agreements were placed on the 11/6/17 Council agenda for approval. City staff did not include a funding agreement for the Wilkes Blvd United Methodist Church, due to communication with the organization. \$50,000 in CDBG funds were initially intended to go for renovations in the portion of its facility serving homeless persons with day center services. Wilkes staff informed City staff that it could not agree to federal requirements for CDBG funding, or City policy of providing CDBG funds in the form of a loan secured to the property.

The City released \$43,000 in general revenue funding to Wilkes Blvd United Methodist Church in FY 2017 to fund a portion of the improvements. These improvements have been completed. The CDC needs to discuss and consider an efficient and effective way of recommending the allocation of this \$50,000 in excess CDBG funding. Previous practices typically involve reallocating funds to other FY 2017 proposals operating ahead of schedule and with significant capacity to put the funding to good use. The City is currently ahead of schedule for CDBG expenditures program wide, therefore the CDC could delay reallocating funds to a later date to allow for further consideration of the most effective strategy. The FY 2017 Budget spreadsheet is also included with the agenda.