

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 08/09/10	Item Number: <u>J-2</u>
JOINT CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD AGENDA ITEM: 1) Allocation of Remaining Community Development Block Grant Recovery (CDBG-R) Funds Provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 to Fund a Portion of the Cost to Construct a Crosswalk at Washington Boulevard and Boise Avenue; 2) Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Filing for Funding from the CDBG-R Program; 3) Approve a Budget Amendment to Appropriate the Funding for this Project Upon Receipt of the Fully Executed Grant Agreement; 4) Authorization to Expend Redevelopment Agency Funds to Fund the Remaining Portion of the Crosswalk's Construction Cost; and 5) Adoption of a City Council Resolution and a Redevelopment Agency Resolution Making Certain Determinations and Consenting to the Expenditure of Redevelopment Agency Funds for the Construction of the Crosswalk.	
Contact Person/Dept.: Kriss Casanova, Economic Development Manager; Todd Tipton, Redevelopment Administrator Phone Number: (310) 253-5769/5783	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐ General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐ Action Item: ☐ Attachments: ☒	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒ Date: _____	
Public Notification: A legal notice was posted on July 8, 2010 at City Hall, the Culver City Senior Center and at the Culver City Branch Library; (Email) Meetings and Agendas – City Council (08/05/10) (E-Mail) Meetings and Agendas – Redevelopment Agency (08/05/10).	
Department Approval: Sol Blumenfeld (08/04/10)	City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (08/05/10) Agency General Counsel Approval: Murray Kane (08/03/10)
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (08/05/10)	Acting City Manager/Executive Director Approval: Martin R. Cole (08/05/10)
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends that the City Council: 1. Allocate \$52,942 in remaining Community Development Block Grant Recovery funds (CDBG-R) in order to partially fund the design and construction of a pedestrian signal at Washington Boulevard and Boise Avenue (Project); 2. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the filing for funding from the CDBG-R Program; and,	

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3. Adopt a Resolution making certain determinations and consenting to the expenditure of Redevelopment Agency funds to construct the crosswalk as a public improvement.
4. Approve a budget amendment to appropriate the CDBG-R funds for the Pedestrian Signal at Washington Blvd and Boise Avenue project (42800934) upon receipt of the fully executed agreement;

A 4/5ths vote is necessary to approve budget amendments.

AND

Staff recommends the Redevelopment Agency Board (Agency Board):

1. Authorize the expenditure of \$57,000 to fund the remaining portion of the Project's cost; and,
2. Adopt a Resolution making certain determinations and consenting to the expenditure of Redevelopment Agency funds to construct the crosswalk as a public improvement.

BACKGROUND:

The CDBG program enables local governments to undertake a wide range of activities intended to improve living environments, provide decent affordable housing and create economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income. CDBG-R funds are to be used to maximize job creation and economic benefit. Projects must meet all the regular CDBG funding requirements, but there are additional reporting and compliance requirements related to job creation/retention and other benefits.

On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA or "the Recovery Act") was signed into law and the Los Angeles Urban County subsequently received \$7.9 million in CDBG-R funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As a participating city, the City of Culver City was allocated \$92,016 in September 2009. The funds are administered by the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission (LACDC).

In December 2009, the City Council awarded a contract for the Sidewalk Replacement Project within the west Washington area. The sidewalk project was completed in June 2010 under budget so the City has approximately \$53,000 in CDBG-R funds that need to be reallocated promptly.

In January 2010, the City Council allocated regular CDBG funding to certain projects recommended by the CDBG Advisory Committee. The only project from that list not

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selected (due to inadequate funding) was the provision of landscape design services for four medians. Staff does not recommend using CDBG-R funding for this project because the project's budget is less than the remaining CDBG-R allotment, and the project will not create many jobs or maximize economic benefit. Due to time constraints, staff recommends a new project be created that meets CDBG-R eligibility criteria and facilitates on-going redevelopment efforts in the west Washington area.

DISCUSSION:

HUD requires that 50 percent of allocated funds be spent by January 2011 and any remainder be spent by June 2012. In order to satisfy this deadline, staff recommends that remaining CDBG-R funds be allocated to the construction of the Project in the Area Improvement Plan (AIP) area¹. See attached Site Plan. The January 2011 deadline will be fulfilled with the completion of the Project's design phase. Construction will follow shortly thereafter.

The crosswalk will benefit the AIP area because the next available crossing from Washington Boulevard and Centinela Avenue is located approximately 2,000 linear feet away at Wade Street and Centinela Avenue. This distance makes it difficult for residents and customers to safely cross the street. Placing a pedestrian crossing signal would reduce the distance between signalized crossings.

As an alternate if the proposed Project does not receive approval from the LACDC, staff recommends replacing existing non-compliant ADA ramps with compliant ADA ramps in CDBG-complying neighborhoods along Washington Boulevard.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The design and construction of the crosswalk will total approximately \$110,000 (this includes a 10% contingency). In addition to the proposed \$52,942 in CDBG-R funds that will be appropriated if the City receives authorization from the CDBG Administrator, there are sufficient tax exempt bond funds in Program 95100, Parking Participation, to fund the Agency's portion of the crosswalk improvements (\$57,000).

NOTE: This budget amendment will only be processed when a fully executed grant agreement is received. If for some reason, the fully executed grant agreement is not received, the budget amendment will not be processed.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Photos & Site Plan;
2. Proposed Resolution authorizing the filing of the City's CDBG-R application;
3. Proposed City Council Resolution; and
4. Proposed Redevelopment Agency Resolution.

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MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the Allocation of the City's remaining Community Development Block Grant Recovery (CDBG-R) funds, \$52,942, towards the design and construction of a pedestrian signal including procedures for accommodating changes in anticipated CDBG-R funding, as set forth in this staff report (or as amended this evening); and,
2. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the filing of the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 application for funding from the Community Development Block Grant Recovery Program, including all certifications; and,
3. Designate the City Manager as the authorized City official to execute and file all documents pertaining to the CDBG-R program, including making minor adjustments to project funding to address the actual 2009-10 CDBG-R Allocation; and,
4. Approve budget amendments to appropriate both the grant revenue and expenditure in the amount of \$52,942 in CDBG-R funds for the pedestrian signal at Washington Boulevard and Boise Avenue project, P-934 (42800934) upon receipt of the fully executed grant agreement.

A 4/5ths vote is necessary to approve budget amendments.

5. Approve the CDBG-R Reimbursable Contract with the County of Los Angeles concerning Culver City's Fiscal Year 2009/2010 CDBG-R Allocation; and,
6. Adopt a Resolution making certain determinations and consenting to the expenditure of Redevelopment Agency funds for certain public improvements; and,
7. Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents; and,
8. Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.

AND

That the Redevelopment Agency Board:

1. Authorize the expenditure of \$57,000 to fund the remaining Project balance; and,
2. Adopt a Resolution making certain determinations and consenting to the expenditure of Redevelopment Agency funds for certain public improvements.

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¹ The Redevelopment Agency and the City have been working to revitalize the AIP area through a multi-faceted approach including streetscape median improvements, a Commercial Façade Rehabilitation Matching Grant Program, Code Enforcement and Redevelopment activities. Revitalization efforts will significantly increase pedestrian activity. The crosswalk will further the goals of the Area Improvement Plan by enhancing pedestrian movement through the area, increasing accessibility and mobility opportunities, and assisting in current economic development efforts for the region. Business activity, parking and safety will greatly improve and HUD's firm deadlines and requirements for creating jobs and economic benefit will be met.