

Culver CITY

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 8, 2020
TO: Dr. Jay Shery, Chair
Honorable Members of the Disability Advisory Committee
THROUGH: John Nachbar, City Manager
FROM: Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development Director
Todd Tipton, Economic Development Administrator
Glenn Heald, Project Manager
SUBJECT: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project Requests for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

CDBG Project Requests for FY 2020/2021

Economic Development staff is currently preparing the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for fiscal year 2021/2022 (funding to become available July 1, 2021). In order to present potential projects for consideration by the City Council we ask that you submit all funding requests no later than November 1, 2020. Project requests should take the form of a memo addressed to Glenn Heald, CDBG Program Administrator, and should include the following information:

1. A detailed description of proposed projects, including a brief explanation of the project's value to the underserved, low-income, elderly and/or disabled residents of Culver City. Pictures of the proposed project site should be included.
2. Street address or area, the nature of the work to be performed, project manager, and identification of the staff person or persons who will implement the project.
3. A cost estimate, including project costs and any required matching funds. The cost estimate should include the preparation of plans and specifications, installation, project management (if this cost is to be charged to the project), delivery charges, sales tax, and any other costs directly associated with the project. If an estimate is not available at this time, provide a timeframe indicating when it will be obtained.

Culver City is expected to receive approximately \$190,000 in funding for FY 2021/2022. Staff anticipates that approximately \$161,500 of that amount will be available for capital projects and a maximum of ~\$28,500 will be available for Social Services programs (i.e. the Disability Services Specialist staff position salary). A brief description of CDBG eligibility rules and related maps are attached.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Glenn Heald at 310-253-5752 or at glenn.heald@culvercity.org.

Community Development Block Grant Funding Eligibility Requirements

Public Infrastructure

Between 70% and 100% of all City Community Development block Grant ("CDBG") funds should be obligated for projects benefiting persons/neighborhoods whose income is no more than 80% of the median income for Los Angeles County (not exceeding \$60,600 for a family of four). Rehabilitation and new construction of publicly owned facilities benefiting senior citizens and eligible disabled persons remain eligible anywhere in the City.

Federal requirements for CDBG public infrastructure projects, which are limited to eligible neighborhoods, are based on 2010 Census data. As a result of demographic changes occurring since the 2000 census, the former Census Tract 7024.00, Block Group 2 has been split into the new Block Group 3 and Block Group 5. The area comprising the new Block Group 3 is no longer eligible for Category 1 funding. The attached maps indicate the areas in Culver City that are eligible for CDBG funding in this category. Culver City may allocate CDBG monies to residential public improvements (neighborhood street reconstruction, curbs, gutters, street lights, street trees, sidewalks) under two eligibility categories:

Category 1: The project is located in a Census Tract or Block Group (Census Tract subset) in which at least 51% of the residents have incomes not exceeding 80% of the County median income as documented by federal data. In east Culver City, only Census Tract 7024.00, Block Group 5 is eligible in this category. In west Culver City, only Census Tract 7028.02, Block Group 4 and Census Tract 7028.03, Block Groups 1, 2 and 4 are eligible. There is no limit on the allocation of CDBG monies for eligible projects in this category.

Category 2: The project is located within an area approved by the City Council and certified by the County (under Housing and Urban Development regulations) as environmentally deficient or "blighted." In Culver City, the only eligible area in this category is Census Tract 7024.00, Block Group 5. Culver City could, if desired, allocate all of the City's estimated allocation in this category without requesting a waiver from the County. The 30% federal limitation for public improvements in environmentally deficient or "blighted" areas became effective in 1991. Prior to that date, the funding limit for our then-eligible east Culver City block groups had been 40% of the City's annual allocation.

Exceptions for Elderly/Disabled/Code Compliance

There are exceptions to the CDBG funding requirements stated above. Capital projects benefiting the elderly/disabled, including compliance with mandates pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), are eligible Citywide, and rehabilitation projects for compliance with City health or safety codes are eligible on a "spot basis" anywhere in the City.

Public Service Projects:

The maximum amount eligible for public service projects is 20% of the City's annual CDBG allocation, which for the past thirty years has been used to partially fund the Disability Services Specialist staff position at the Senior Center. By Council policy, private non-profit organizations are not eligible for