



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: JANUARY 28, 2015

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER 

BY: MIKE KAMINO, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 

SUBJECT: CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 15-1776, APPROVING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECTS/PROGRAMS FOR THE 41ST PROGRAM YEAR (JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016)

The request before the City Council is to conduct a public hearing to consider approval of attached Resolution No. 15-1776, approving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects/programs for the 41st Program Year (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016).

Each year, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are allocated to Cities by the Federal Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) and administered through the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission (CDC). Funding for participating Cities of the Los Angeles Urban County CDBG Program is based upon the total number of participating Cities. It is also based on the Cities' need to provide housing, economic and social service, and community development opportunities that principally benefit seniors and persons of low and moderate income levels, aid in the prevention of neighborhood blight, and meet other urgent community development needs due to natural disasters or other emergencies. The City of Agoura Hills has participated in the CDBG Program since 1984. In order to continue its participation in the upcoming 2015-2016 program year, which begins on July 1, 2015, and ends on June 30, 2016, the City must prepare and submit its proposed CDBG project descriptions to the CDC no later than February 2, 2015, for review and approval.

While the City Council has flexibility in selecting projects/programs that best suit the City's needs, these programs/projects must also comply with the specific federal qualification criteria of low-moderate income and slum/blight. Previous CDBG funding allocations approved by the City Council included the Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation Program, which provided loans and grants to qualified low and moderate income households for qualified home improvements, and the City Community Services Department's Senior Citizen Recreation Program. From 2007 through the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year, the City exchanged its annual allocation of CDBG funds for general funds, as was allowed by the CDC. However, in 2013, the CDC eliminated the exchange of funds between participating Cities, and Agoura Hills' designated funds for this current

Program Year were rolled-over to the 2014-2015 Program Year and are being used for the installation of exterior louvered window shades for the senior center portion of the City Recreation Center, as well as for the installation of surface area and construction of a shade structure within the Senior Center patio of the Recreation Center.

The City's estimated CDBG allocated funds and unallocated funds for the 2015-2016 Program Year total approximately \$131,170. These funds include \$63,676 allocated for the 2015-2016 Program Year, \$41,094 of anticipated unused allocations for the 2014-2015 Program Year, and \$26,400 of unallocated funds (Single Family Housing Rehabilitation Program loan payment) from this current Program Year. Staff wishes to emphasize that this is a planning estimate only; the CDC will not release final appropriations from HUD until Spring 2015. The City's final CDBG allocation may be more or less than the CDC's planning estimate. However, at this time, staff estimates the available CDBG funds to be sufficient for the cost of this proposed project. .

Staff is requesting the City Council approve designating all available CDBG funds for the 2015-2016 Program year to construction improvements at Old Agoura Park; specifically for widening of the Chesebro Creek bridge on the north side of Driver Avenue, in order to provide an accessible path of travel for the City's disabled population to cross Driver Avenue from the south side of the street. Currently, there are no street sidewalks on the perimeter of the park. It would be staff's intent to: 1) provide a new cross walk on the street, adjacent to the bridge; 2) widen the sidewalk on the bridge; and 3) provide a new, concrete accessible path of travel from the bridge to the existing play equipment located on the west side of Chesebro Creek. Although the new sidewalk on the bridge would serve the City's disabled population, staff would note that it would also allow for safer equestrian crossing between both sides of the park.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends the City Council conduct a public hearing and approve Resolution No. 15-1776, approving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs/projects for the 41st Program Year (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

Attachments: Resolution No. 15-1776
Site Plan of Proposed CDBG Project for Old Agoura Park
Photograph of Existing Chesebro Creek Bridge Sidewalk

RESOLUTION NO. 15-1776

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING PROJECTS FOR THE FORTY-FIRST (41ST) PROGRAM YEAR (JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016) LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on August 22, 1974, the President of the United States signed into law the Housing and Community Development Act (Act) of 1974; and,

WHEREAS, the primary goals of Title I of the Act are the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills has estimates receiving \$131,170 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to further the attainment of these goals during Fiscal Year 2014-2015; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council has published information regarding eligible activities under the Act and has conducted a duly noticed public hearing on January 28, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 30001 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills, California; and,

WHEREAS, the notice of the public hearing was posted and advertised pursuant to applicable federal, state and local laws; and,

WHEREAS, both oral and written testimony was presented to the City Council at the public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Agoura Hills as follows:

Section 1. That the City of Agoura Hills desires to fund eligible CDBG projects with the 41st Program Year funds.

Section 2. That City staff is hereby directed to submit to the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission, through this document, the City's intent to approve and fund CDBG projects.

Section 3. That City staff is hereby directed to prepare and submit documentation required for the approval and implementation of the 41st Program Year CDBG projects.

Section 4. That for planning purposes, the City's estimated annual allocation for the upcoming 2015-2016 Program Year will be approximately \$131,170 and those funds will be utilized for the widening of Chesebro Creek bridge, on the north side Driver Avenue, and construction of accessible paths of travel between the bridge and existing play equipment located within Old Agoura Park, which is located on the northwest corner of Driver Avenue and Chesebro Road.

Section 5. That City staff is authorized to perform modifications to the approved projects, as required, to conform to CDBG requirements, and to provide for the expedient expenditure of funds.

Section 6. That the Mayor and/or City Manager are authorized to execute the contractual and related documents to be prepared by the County of Los Angeles that are required for the implementation of projects set forth herein.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of January, 2015, by the following vote to wit:

AYES: (0)
NOES: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)
ABSENT: (0)

Illece Buckley Weber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberly M. Rodrigues, City Clerk, MMC

PROPOSED CDBG PROJECT FOR OLD AGOURA PARK

Install ADA
Path of Travel
Between the Bridge
and Play Equipment

Remove Existing
Cross Walk

Widen Bridge Sidewalk

Install New
Cross Walk

Driver Ave.

