




REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: JANUARY 22, 2020

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER 

BY: NATHAN HAMBURGER, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER 
JOHN TREICHLER, ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST 

SUBJECT: CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-1922, APPROVING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE 46th PROGRAM YEAR (JULY 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2021)

The request before the City Council is to conduct a public hearing to consider approval of attached Resolution No. 20-1922 approving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs/projects for the 46th Program Year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021).

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are allocated on an annual basis to municipalities by the Federal Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) and administered through the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA). Funding for participating cities of the Los Angeles Urban County CDBG Program is based upon the total number of participating cities and on the cities' need to provide housing, economic and social service, and community development opportunities that principally benefit seniors and persons of low to 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 ("City") has participated in the CDBG Program since 1984. In order to continue its participation in the upcoming 2020-2021 program year, which begins on July 1, 2020, and ends on June 30, 2021, the City must prepare and submit its proposed CDBG program/project descriptions to the LACDA for review and approval by the required February 3, 2020 deadline.

While the City Council has flexibility in selecting programs/projects that best suit the City's needs, these programs/projects must also comply with the specific federal qualification criteria of benefiting persons of low-moderate income, including seniors, and certain public projects for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Most recently, the City Council allocated CDBG funds for this current Fiscal Year towards the resurfacing of Forest Cove Park's lower playground, including accessible paths of travel and parking lot improvements, in addition to the annual allotment for senior social services classes being offered through the Community Services Department. These classes, which include various topics such as caregiver support, health care and finances, are provided by Senior Concerns and are held at the Recreation and Event Center.

The City's estimated CDBG allocated funds for the 2020-2021 Program Year total approximately \$73,525. Staff wishes to emphasize that this is a planning estimate only; the LACDA will not release final appropriations from HUD until later this spring. The City's final CDBG allocation may be more or less than the LACDA's planning estimate.

This year all CDBG participating Cities will be able to utilize up to twenty percent (20%) of their annual CDBG allocation for Public Service activities. This is an increase from the previous years which was set at fifteen percent (15%). Staff is requesting the City Council approve designating twenty percent (20%) of the funds (\$14,705) toward the senior social services program. This is the maximum amount the City may allocate toward public service programs.

Currently, funding from the current Fiscal Year has been allotted to the Forest Cove Park Project and the City is waiting for final approval from the LACDA/CDB and once approved we will then be able to seek bids. Additional direction on projects to focus on were prioritized by the Community Services Subcommittee and City Council with park improvements as the top priority. The next proposed improvement would be at Chumash Park which would include improving the paths of travel to the playground, removal of the engineered wood fiber, and replacing with a rubberized pour-n-play surface.

Funding for the Chumash Park Project is estimated to require two annual allotments from the LACDA which would consist of the remainder of the 2020/2021 allotted funds approximately \$58,800.00 and 2021/2022 allotment which is undetermined, but previous year's allotments average about \$60,000.00. Participating cities with the LACDA have the flexibility to use any unallocated balances towards a future project.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends the City Council conduct a public hearing and adopt Resolution No. 20-1922 approving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs and projects for the 46th Program Year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021).

Attachment: Resolution No. 20-1922

RESOLUTION NO. 20-1922

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE 46TH PROGRAM
YEAR (JULY 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2021)**

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 certain public projects for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); and,

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills estimates receiving \$73,525 of allocated funds in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to further the attainment of these goals during Fiscal Year 2020-2021; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council has published information regarding eligible activities under the Act and has conducted a duly-noticed public hearing on January 22, 2020, 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 46th 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 46th Program Year CDBG projects.

Section 4. That for planning purposes, the City's estimated annual allocation for the upcoming 2020-2021 Program Year is estimated at \$73,525.00 and those funds will be utilized for: 1) eligible senior social service programs, not to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the Program Year allocation, including senior advocates information and resources, support groups for senior caregivers and care-giving spouses, and legal and financial services to seniors; and 2) allocating the remaining balance of funds towards a future project.

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 22nd day of January 2020, by the following vote to wit:

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

ATTEST:

Illece Buckley Weber, Mayor

Kimberly M. Rodrigues, MMC, City Clerk