



Revised 6/19/20

City of Newport
REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Jamie P. Bova & Members of the City Council
From: Joseph J. Nicholson, Jr., Esq, City Manager
Date: June 15, 2020
Subject: Public Hearing - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application 2019
Staff: Patricia Reynolds, Planning and Economic Development Director

RECOMMENDATION:

City Administration recommends approval of a resolution authorizing the filing of the annual Community Development Block Grant Application on behalf of the City with the State of Rhode Island's Department of Administration, Office of Housing and Community Development.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City of Newport is considering the filing of its annual application for a RI Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program under the U.S. Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. This year, the 2019 Grant Year, will be the 42nd year the City has participated in this program. The primary purpose of the CDBG Program is the development of viable urban communities through the provision of decent housing, suitable living environments, and expanded economic activities, principally for persons of low and moderate-income.

The Application includes planned activities in the amount of \$1,275,000 with an eligible administration amount of \$187,500, for a total of \$1,462,500. This increase of \$25,000 reflects new information provided from the Department of Public Services.

During the course of the annual CDBG application process, the City is required to conduct two public hearings. The First Public Hearing will be held June 18, 2020, virtually due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The Second Public Hearing will be held at the June 24, 2020 virtual City Council Meeting.

A resolution approved by the City Council is a required element of the application. The wording of this resolution has been established by CDBG Program Regulations and should generally not be changed.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

None

FISCAL IMPACT

☐ Currently Budgeted (Account _____) ☐ Requires additional appropriation ☒ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution
Project list

Finance Dept. Review: _____ Date By: _____ (if applicable)

THE CITY OF NEWPORT

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
COUNCIL**

No.

Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program
FY 2019 – Year 42

Revised 6/19/20

WHEREAS: funds are available under the Rhode Island Community Development Block Grant Program, administered by the RI Department of Administration, Division of Planning, Office of Housing and Community Development; and,

WHEREAS: the Governor of the State of Rhode Island has authorized the Director of said Department/Office to disburse such funds; and,

WHEREAS: it is in the interest of the citizens of the City of Newport that application be made to undertake a local Community Development Block Grant Program. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: by the City Council of the City of Newport that the filing of this application for the amount of up to \$1,462,500 to implement the activities proposed herein hereby authorized and that the City Manager, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to file this application with the Office of Housing and Community Development, to provide any additional information or documents required by said Office, to make any assurances required in connection with this program, to execute an agreement with the State of Rhode Island and to otherwise act as the Representative of the City of Newport in all matters relating to this application and any award which may be based upon this application.

IN COUNCIL
READ AND PASSED

Laura C. Swistak
City Clerk

**PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF NEWPORT
2019 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

Revised 6/19/20

The City of Newport is preparing a Community Development Block Grant application to undertake the following activities:

- 1. Public Facility: Provide funding for capital improvements to the Florence Gray Center located at 1 York St.
Amount: \$ 300,000**
- 2. Public Facility: Provide funding for window replacement at the Boys and Girls Club located at 95 Church St.
Amount: \$ 80,000**
- 3. Public Facility: Provide funding for Merton Rd for repairs and improvements.
Amount: \$ 500,000**
- 4. Public Facility: Provide funding for upgrades to the playground on Kingston Ave.
Amount: \$ 100,000**
- 5. Public Services: Provide funding to support the McKinney Shelter's provision of services to it's homeless client residents.
Amount: \$180,000**
- 6. Public Services: Provide funding to support EBCAPs dental program offered to residents of Newport County.
Amount: \$35,000**
- 7. Public Services: Provide funding for the Community Housing Resource Board/Housing Hotline of Newport County to continue to provide emergency housing of homeless persons in motels when no other options are available. The CHRB also provides housing counseling, referral services, and education and outreach to affirmatively further Fair Housing in Newport County.
Amount: \$80,000**
- 8. City Administration
Amount: \$ 187,500**

A Public Hearing before the City Council will be held June 24th 2020 at 6:30pm for the purpose of obtaining citizens' views of the proposed activities. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY IN COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNOR RAIMONDO'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-25- 1.