

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Community Development Advisory Council
(CDAC)
Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2020**

A virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) held on October 8, 2020 at 3:00 PM.

Members Present: Danny Arencibia, Rev. Joseph Baker, Barbara Chambers, John Partin, Chris Poirier

Members Absent: Virginia Dickerson, Christy Lemieux, Tamika McKenzie, Johnson Trawick

Also Present: Community Reinvestment Staff: Brenda Burns, Marilyn Denson, Kevin Garza, Robert Scott

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Joseph Baker called the meeting to order at 3:16 PM. With five CDAC members present the CDAC board was able to conduct official business.

- CDAC approved meeting minutes from May 2020. The vote moved to motion by Chris Poirier and second by Barbara Chambers.
- CDAC approved the agenda amendment for the meeting. The vote moved to motion by Barbara Chambers and second by Chris Poirier.

DISCUSSION

1. CDAC Bylaws Discussion / Member Status

Rev. Joseph Baker provided a brief overview of the CDAC Bylaws to discuss the participation of CDAC members. Rev. Joseph Baker stated that there are nine CDAC members currently with three vacancies.

2. CDBG & HOME Financial Update

Brenda Burns provided a financial update on CDBG & HOME activities with explanation of the how payment process for grant funding.

3. CDBG-CV Recommendation Summary

Robert Scott provided an overview of the recommended funding allocation for FY2020 CDBG-CV Program that shall go to City Council for approval for the as a substantial amendment to the FY2020 Annual Action Plan for HUD.

NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled CDAC meeting date is December 10, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:19 PM.

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Summary of the
Community Development Advisory Council
(CDAC)
September 9, 2021**

A virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) held on September 9, 2021 at 11:00 AM.

Members Present: Danny Arencibia, Rev. Joseph Baker, Chris Poirier, Tracy Belt, and Mary Garcia

Members Absent: Christy Lemieux, John Partin, Johnson Trawick, Barbara Chambers, Virginia Dickerson, Tamika McKenzie, and Sendreka Lakes, and Tracy Belt

Also Present: Community Reinvestment Staff: Robert Scott, Michael Baker, Amber Staples, and Emma McCabe

ORDER OF MEETING

The meeting began at 11:20 am. With five CDAC members being present the CDAC board was unable to conduct official business due to lack of quorum.

DISCUSSION

1. CDBG & HOME Grant Update

Robert Scott, Community Reinvestment Director updated the board on the CDBG and HOME Grants. Robert shared about training the City's subrecipients in Neighborly for the CDBG and CDBG-CV programs, updating the HOME grant application, as well as the Small Business Economic Grant and the Rental Assistance Program.

NEXT MEETING

The next CDAC meeting December 9, 2021, time TBD.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:23 PM.

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Community Development Advisory Council
(CDAC)
Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2022**

A virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) held on March 17, 2022, at 11:00 AM.

Members Present: Danny Arencibia, Rev. Joseph Baker, Chris Poirier, Tracy Belt, Tamika McKenzie, Virginia Dickerson, Mary Garcia, John Partin, and Evan Collins (observer)

Members Absent: Christy Lemieux, Johnson Trawick, Barbara Chambers, Ben Link, and Sendreka Lakes

Also Present: Community Reinvestment Staff: Robert Scott, Michael Baker, Amber Staples, Kawana Hooks, and Emma Kimbrel

ORDER OF MEETING

The meeting began at 11:17 am. With eight CDAC members being present, the CDAC board was able to conduct official business.

- CDAC approved meeting minutes from December 9, 2021. The vote moved to motion by John Partin and second by Virginia Dickerson.

DISCUSSION

1. Vote for CDAC Chair & Vice Chair

Reverend Baker, Board Chair, advised to vote for members who were not nearing the end of their term. Emma Kimbrel, Community Reinvestment Coordinator, shared with the board the members who were not at the end of their second term. Reverend Baker opened the floor for nominations. Danny Arencibia nominated Chris Poirier to be the new chair. Reverend Baker asked for a motion to close the nominations. The vote to close was motioned by Mary Garcia and second by Virginia Dickerson. Chris Poirier was named Board Chair. Tracy Belt nominated herself for Vice Chair. Virginia Dickerson moved to close the nomination and Chris Poirier second. Tracy Belt was named Vice Chair.

2. FY21 CDBG & HOME Grant CAPER Update

Robert Scott, Community Reinvestment Director, shared the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). Rob explained the Community Reinvestment Department is required to submit the CAPER to assess how the department administers funds each year.

Amber Staples, Community Reinvestment Planner, shared the CAPER accomplishments for City FY2021. Rob emphasized that the department could not accomplish these goals without our partners.

Casey Baker, Community Reinvestment Finance Manager, gave a financial update about the grants for FY2021 and about unexpended funds from FY2017-2019. The City of Columbus made available a little over \$7 million in resources. The City has spent a total of \$3 million in grant funds for CDBG, CDBG-CV, CDBG-CV3, and HOME. The City expanded about 46.9% of its grant funds at the end of FY2021. Casey shared a few organizations who have benefited from these funds. There is still a little over \$3.7 million in grant funds available that are being used for CDBG-CV3 and HOME projects still in progress. Rob expanded a bit more about CDBG and HOME funding and the projects that correlate with the funding that was spent.

3. FY23 CDBG & HOME Grant Implementation

Rob updated the board on the CDBG and HOME Grants. Robert shared that the grants are currently active for both CDBG and HOME. The applications close on March 31st, 2022. The applications are what the Community Reinvestment Department use to recommend funding to City Council for their Annual Action Plans. CDAC plays a role in helping decide which organizations should receive funding by scoring the applications. Rob and the CDAC board planned which day to have training on how to score the grant applications.

Rob updated that the FY23 federal budget has not been passed and is unsure when the amount will be known. A more conservative number based off the past three funding cycles will be used as a framework until the budget is passed. Rob explained that there will be an initial funding recommendation and then once the budget is passed the department will go back and amend.

There is a public meeting to talk about the FY23 Annual Action Plan. Rob explained what the Annual Action Plan is and how activities are chosen based on the priority in the Consolidated Plan.

NEXT MEETING

The next CDAC meeting June 9, 2022, 11:00 am on Teams.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:21 PM.

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Summary of the
Community Development Advisory Council
(CDAC)
December 8, 2022**

A virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) held on March 9, 2023 at 11:00 AM.

Members Present: Mary Garcia, Armando Fernandez, and John Partin

Members Absent: Chris Poirier, Tamika McKenzie, Michael Ernst, Christy Lemieux, Virginia Dickerson, Charlotte Ingram, Evan Collins, Sendreka Lakes, Glenn Albright, and Tracy Belt

Also Present: Community Reinvestment Staff: Kimberly Mitchell, Michael Baker, Emma Kimbrel, and Kawana Hooks

ORDER OF MEETING

The meeting began at 11:06 am. With three CDAC members being present the CDAC board was unable to conduct official business due to lack of quorum.

DISCUSSION

1. CDBG & HOME Grant Update

a. NOFA Update

Kimberly Mitchell, Community Reinvestment Assistant Director, gave an update on the NOFA process. The Community Reinvestment Department held two workshops in January to explain the application process to those who were interested. The initial application period was set to close February 19th but was extended to March 3rd to accommodate applicants who felt they didn't have enough time to complete. Kim then explained the process of what happens after the application closes. There is a review, then a draft of the action plan, then a second public hearing, and then it goes to Council to be approved.

b. Sweet Home Columbus

Emma Kimbrel, Community Reinvestment Planner, gave an update on Columbus's down payment assistance program, Sweet Home Columbus. Emma explained what the program is and how it is utilized. Emma then shared some success stories about people who have successfully used the program.

c. Fair Housing Event

Emma shared details about the Fair Housing Event coming up in April. She shared details that would be covered at the event and encouraged CDAC members to come and share the information about the event.

d. Non-Profit Spotlight

i. Community Book Nook

Kawana Hooks, Community Reinvestment Coordinator, shared about a project done by the Literacy Alliance which involved lending libraries. So far three have been installed in south side locations. The importance of the Community Book Nook's is to increase awareness and importance of families reading together and to give caregivers and children access to books. Literacy Alliance partnered with Community Reinvestment and Boys and Girls Club for this project.

ii. Girls Inc.

Rob, Kimberly, Kawana, and Emma had the opportunity to go tour Girls Inc. Emma shared about the experience with Kawana and Kim sharing their experience as well. CRD was able to see the details of the organization and the many services they provide.

e. Discussion

Mary Garcia asked about reviewing applications. Emma shared the details of how that would work.

Mary asked to be told about when the Action Plan would go to Council so those that wanted to be there could be. Emma told her that they would let them know.

f. 2023 Dates

i. June 8, 2023

ii. September 14, 2023

iii. December 14, 2023

NEXT MEETING

The next CDAC meeting June 8, 2023, at 11:00 am on Teams.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:23 AM.

Columbus Consolidated Government
Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC)
Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2024

A virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) was held on June 13, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

Members Present: Adrian Wade, Brandy Tolbert, Charlotte Ingram, Julio Portillo, Mike Welch, Tollie Strode, and Tracey Belt

Members Absent: Tamika McKenzie, Armando Fernandez, Evan Collins, Virginia Dickerson, and Michael Ernst

Also Present: Community Reinvestment Staff: Rob Scott and Emma Kimbrel

ORDER OF MEETING

The meeting began at 11:05 a.m. With seven CDAC members present, the CDAC board was able to conduct official business. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Tracey Belt.

CDAC approved the meeting minutes from September 8, 2022. The motion was moved by Tollie Strode Jr. and seconded by Charlotte Ingram.

DISCUSSION

1. Director's Report

a) Welcome

Rob Scott, Director of Community Reinvestment, welcomed CDAC members and asked the new members to introduce themselves. Brandy Tolbert and Tollie Strode shared about themselves and were welcomed to the board.

b) HUD Entitlement Funding

Emma Kimbrel, Planner for Community Reinvestment, shared that the department received its final funding numbers for the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). HOME funding decreased while CDBG funding increased. ESG is a new funding source for the department.

c) **Annual Action Plan**

Emma shared that the Annual Action Plan (AAP) would be getting an extension. The AAP was due by mid-May, but Community Reinvestment didn't receive its funding allocation until June. Currently, Community Reinvestment is waiting on guidance from HUD on how to proceed with updating and submitting the AAP.

Tollie Strode Jr., board member, asked about the decrease in HOME funding.

Rob explained that the decrease is due to market conditions and development costs. Tollie mentioned there could be a connection between the City receiving a decrease in HOME funding and receiving ESG funding.

Rob agreed, stating that if the City cannot create new units of affordable housing, the strategy must shift toward keeping the low-income population housed.

d) **Upcoming CAPER**

Emma spoke about the upcoming Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The main purpose of the CAPER is to summarize accomplishments from the past fiscal year. There will be a public meeting and a public comment period. Emma will keep CDAC updated on the progress of the CAPER and provide information on the public meeting and comment period as it becomes available. Rob encouraged CDAC to engage with these meetings and comment periods and to share them with their communities so that Community Reinvestment can ensure that their voices are heard.

Tollie asked if there was a dashboard that is updated periodically with information about what Community Reinvestment is doing in the current year.

Rob explained that they do not currently have a system outside of their annual reporting to show metrics.

Tollie expressed interest in helping develop such a system, noting that receiving all the information at once can be overwhelming.

Rob stated that Community Reinvestment would welcome ideas for improving information dissemination and marketing.

e) **HARP Program**

Rob discussed the Homeowner Accessibility Rehabilitation Program (HARP). The City provided Community Reinvestment with \$3 million for residential repairs for homeowners. To qualify for the program, homeowners must be low-income, earning no more than 80% of the area median income. Rob and the ARP Program Coordinator held nine information sessions and launched several advertisements to inform Columbus residents about the program. So far, 350 people have completed the pre-screening process. Rob shared that more information on the program is available on the Community Reinvestment website.

f) **SHC Increase**

Rob discussed an increase in funding for Sweet Home Columbus, the City's Down-

Payment Assistance Program. The program currently offers \$14,975 in assistance, but after researching, it was found that under \$15,000 is insufficient to close the gap. Community Reinvestment is working to increase the funding to \$30,000. With this increased funding, it is hoped that low-income households will have better access to affordable housing. Rob explained that with the funding, there is an affordability period: under \$15,000 is a 5-year affordability period, while \$15,000 and above is a 10-year period. This refers to the time the homeowner must remain in the home as their principal residence. Repayment of the grant is required only if the house is sold during the affordability period.

g) CDAC Introduction Planning

Emma asked if CDAC members would be interested in meeting before the next scheduled meeting to discuss the board's purpose and generate ideas for increasing engagement between the board and Community Reinvestment.

Charlotte Ingram expressed interest.

Rob emphasized the importance of communication between the board and Community Reinvestment and facilitating discussions.

CDAC approved two planning meetings to be scheduled between July and September.

The motion was moved by Tollie Strode Jr. and seconded by Charlotte Ingram.

Emma will send out dates for the planning meetings after the board meeting.

2. OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION

N/A

NEXT MEETING

The next CDAC meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. on Teams or in person at 420 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Columbus Consolidated Government

Summary of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC)

September 11, 2025

An in-person meeting of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) was held on September 11, 2025, at 2:00 PM.

Members Present:

Denise Cambridge, James Jordan, Anthony Montgomery, Travis Anderson, and Xavier McCaskey

Members Absent:

Tracy Belt, Brandy Tolbert, and Mike Welch

Also Present:

Community Reinvestment Staff: Rob Scott and Emma Kimbrel

Order of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 2:05 PM. With only six CDAC members present, the board did not meet the quorum requirement to conduct official business. The following notes are submitted for recordkeeping purposes only.

Discussion

Since there was no quorum, the approval of December 12, 2024, meeting minutes were postponed.

Board Chair Updates

Denise Cambridge, Board Chair, introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Denise turned the meeting over to Rob and Emma to give their CAPER Update.

Director's Report

CAPER Update

Emma Kimbrel, Community Reinvestment Planner, presented the draft CAPER (Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report). She provided an overview of the department's progress in utilizing federal funds over the past year. Emma highlighted total funding received and expended, as well as the number of residents served across the community through CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.

Key accomplishments were shared, including National Community Development Week activities hosted by Community Reinvestment, which showcased local projects and increased community engagement. She also reviewed HOME Program accomplishments, noting that this planning year focused on preparing several development projects for launch in the next fiscal year.

Emma then highlighted major CDBG-funded initiatives such as The Food Mill Shared Kitchen, a project expanding access to healthy food and local food entrepreneurship, and the Boys & Girls Club North Club Renovation, which improved youth recreation and programming space. ESG accomplishments were also noted, particularly the partnership with United Way to support homelessness prevention through the use of their HMIS system.

Rob Scott, Director of Community Reinvestment, then outlined the department's forward-looking vision for FY26. He discussed the SHINE Program, designed to expand affordable, supportive housing options for single-parent households. Rob also provided updates on several active or upcoming development efforts, including:

- Mellon Street Pocket Park – creating new community green space and enhancing neighborhood revitalization.
- Nueva Valley – an affordable housing development currently moving into construction.
- Providence Pointe – continued build-out of affordable homes for low- to moderate-income families.
- Salvation Army Center of Hope – facility improvements that will strengthen emergency shelter capacity.
- Warren Williams / River Homes Redevelopment – ongoing transformation of public housing into modern, mixed-income communities.
- HARP and ARP Affordable Housing Initiatives – initiatives leveraging relief funding to expand affordable housing opportunities.

Rob noted that these projects, either underway or beginning in the coming fiscal year, will collectively address critical needs in affordable housing, public facilities, and homelessness prevention throughout Columbus.

Next Meeting

The next CDAC meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2025, at 2:00 PM in person at the Annex, located at 420 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.



Columbus Consolidated Government

Summary of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC)

December 11, 2025

A hybrid meeting of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) was held on December 11, 2025, at 2:00 PM.

Members Present:

Denise Cambridge, James Jordan, Shannon Rowe, Travis Anderson, Xavier McCaskey, Brandy Tolbert, and Mike Welch

Members Absent:

Anthony Montgomery and Tracy Belt

Also Present:

Community Reinvestment Staff: Kimberly Mitchell and Casey Baker
Public: Chris Kelly

Order of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 2:05 PM. With seven CDAC members present, the board did meet the quorum requirements to conduct official business.

Discussion

CDAC approved the meeting minutes from December 12, 2024. The motion was moved by Xavier McCaskey and seconded by Mike Welch.

Board Chair Updates

New Member Introductions: Denise Cambridge, Board Chair, introduced herself to the board. A few new board members were present, so the board went around and introduced themselves.

Resignations/Vacancies: Denise shared that Clerk of Council and City Council were discussing current boards/councils/commissions and their current status. Both are trying to find ways these spaces can grow. CDAC is meeting regularly but there has been an issue with quorum, so there is hope that going forward that new members coming onto the board will be more active. Denise shared that Emma Kimbrel, Planner for Community Reinvestment, has been in contact with Clerk of Council and ensuring that minutes are being properly documented as well as summaries for meetings that didn't have quorum.

Vice Chair Appointment: The last Vice Chair resigned from the board in March of 2025. Denise nominated James Jordan, Board Member, for the role of Vice Chair for the 2026

calendar year. Denise asked for some other recommendations. No other recommendations were given, so Denise moved forward with unanimous consent to vote and no objections were heard. James Jordan is the new CDAC Vice Board Chair.

2025 CDAC Recap: Denise shared the many accomplishments of the board in the year 2025. While the board meets monthly it can feel like not a lot is happening, but there definitely is. CDAC participated in National Community Development Week and were apart of many of the activities the Community Reinvestment hosted, as well as hosting a few events themselves. They actively participated in the Departments Annual Action Plan meetings and scoring of Public Service Applications. They participated in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report public hearing, allowing the hearing to happen during their meeting time to encourage members of the public to come. Mike Welch, board member, connected the Department with Easterseals, allowing a new partnership to form.

Denise highlighted that it is the work behind the scenes that often happens slowly, that is making a difference in amplifying the message of the Department and of the Board.

Meeting Times for 2026: The board discussed what would be a good meeting time for the body to be meeting. They confirmed that the second Thursday of every other month, with a break in October/November, and then the final meeting of the year being the second Thursday in December. Xavier motioned and Brandy Tolbert seconded. The motion carried. The 2026 schedule for CDAC is as follows:

January 8, 2026, at 2:00 PM

March 12, 2026, at 2:00 PM

May 14, 2026, at 2:00 PM

July 9, 2026, at 2:00 PM

September 10, 2026, at 2:00 PM

December 10, 2026, at 2:00 PM

[Director's Report](#)

HUD Entitlement Funding

Consolidated Plan: Kimberly Mitchell, Assistant Director of Community Reinvestment, shared that we are working on our Consolidated Plan, which is the department's five-year plan for HUD Funding. This is a big picture plan that talks about the goals and different activities the department may want to do with the funding it receives. It's a good time for the board to get involved and learn more about what we are doing. There is a website that will be launched as well as a survey coming up soon. The week of January 12th-16th will be a week full of events. The Department's consultant, Mosaic, is coming down from Atlanta so there will be public meetings, pop-ups, and focus groups happening.

Public Service Applications: Kimberly shared that every year we have our Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) that engages our Public Service Applicants. If CDAC members are willing, the Department would appreciate their support in scoring those applications. It is a little time-consuming, but the Department would sit down and walk the members through what the process will look like. The NOFA meeting will be on January 14th at 5:30PM at the Columbus Public Library, Synovus Room.

Handouts: Kimberly shared the handouts that were given to the board members. Specifically Sweet HOME Columbus booklet, about our down-payment assistance program, the CDAC Newsletter that was done by Denise, as well as the final edition of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) from 2025. Kimberly stated how the board is our outreach into the community, so to share the information where it is needed to ensure the community is informed.

Discussion

Denise shared the importance of getting information into the board members' circles as well as looking for opportunities to share information. The board is not expected to be subject matter experts, but they can at least have a high-level understanding, be able to share, and direct the community to the appropriate Community Reinvestment Staff Member when needed.

Denise also asked for assistance with the CDAC Newsletter. The newsletter is published every month, in between the CDAC meetings. Denise is looking for content, CDAC member spotlight info (headshots, biography), and anything else the board feels is important to include.

Denise is currently working on clarifying roles, duties, and responsibilities of the Board and how the Board can continue to help amplify the message of the Department to the community.

Next Meeting

The next CDAC meeting is scheduled for January 8, at 2:00 PM in person at the Community Reinvestment Conference Room, located at 1111 1st Avenue, 3rd Floor.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:28 PM.



