

Columbus Consolidated Government

Summary of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC)

July 10, 2025

An in-person meeting of the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) was held on July 10, 2025, at 2:00 PM.

Members Present:

Brandy Tolbert, Denise Cambridge, James Jordan, Anthony Montgomery, Mike Welch, and Adrian Wade

Members Absent:

Xavier McCaskey, Tracy Belt, and Tollie Strode Jr.

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 at first, the board did not meet the quorum requirement to conduct official business.

Discussion

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

Board Chair Updates

Denise Cambridge, Board Chair, did not have any updates.

Director's Report

HUD Entitlement Funding

Food Mill Presentation

Olivia Amos from The Food Mill gave a presentation on the organization and its use of CDBG funding. She highlighted the importance of their various programs and how they work together to build a healthier Columbus. Olivia also shared that The Food Mill will be updating its metrics to more accurately track and reflect the community members they serve.

Annual Action Plan

Rob Scott, Director of Community Reinvestment provided a brief update on the status of the Annual Action Plan. He explained that because funding was received later than expected, the Department will need to repeat the public comment period and public hearing. Once those steps are completed, the Annual Action Plan will be ready for submission to HUD.

CAPER

Community Reinvestment is entering into their Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) timeline. Rob let CDAC know that the Department is in the beginning stages so as we progress CDAC will be updated.

Awards

Community Reinvestment received two National Achievement Awards for Strategic Innovation and Impact from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The recognized projects were the Food Mill Shared Kitchen and the Small Business Relief Grant Program. In addition, Rob was honored by the Boys & Girls Club of the Chattahoochee Valley with the 2025 Champion of Youth Award.

Projects Update

Mellon Street

Rob shared the success of the survey, noting its effectiveness was due to accessibility and the use of paper surveys.

Girls Inc

The kitchen renovation is moving forward. Staff are meeting with the architect soon, and all requirements have been met. The project is expected to be completed before the end of the year.

Dentures

This public service project will be in partnership with Valley Healthcare, providing free dentures to individuals aged 62 and older, a presumed benefit group.

Open Floor Discussion

Brandy asked for an update on the Georgia Farmers Market. Rob shared that a resolution passed to sell the Farmers Market back to the state at a cost, and the City will then lease it back from the state.

Denise raised the topic of back-to-school for Brewer. Rob shared that the City partnered with CMMR. Emma said she would share flyers from CMMR with the group.

Next Meeting

The next CDAC meeting is scheduled for September 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 3:05 PM.

