

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 7, 2024
TO: Melissa Marsh - City Manager
FROM: Giles Tucker - Community & Economic Development Director
SUBJECT: CDBG Recommendations for PY 2025 Application

SUMMARY:

Each year the city submits its Program Year (PY) application to Oakland County for inclusion in their Annual Action Plan to the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development. The deadline for submitting our Program Year 2025 application to Oakland County is December 6,2024. Based on the estimated \$137,359 staff expects to receive, staff recommends funding the following projects:

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| 1. Public Service- (Senior Seasonal Yard Clean-Up) | \$20,603.00 |
| 2. Code Enforcement | \$86,000.00 |
| 3. Minor Home Repair | \$30,756.00 |

Anticipated Allocation Total \$137,359.00

Public Service (Senior Seasonal Yard Clean-Up) provides funds to be used to help income qualifying seniors and those with disability by providing a lawn cutting service to them at no charge. This program is advertised at the Active Adult Center and serves around 50-60 seniors each year. While senior lawn cutting remains the primary service for this project area, this year’s application has been modified to “Senior Seasonal Yard Clean-up” to allow greater flexibility to use these funds for Fall & Spring clean-ups, tree removal and snow removal as funds allow.

In recent years “Public Service” projects have been limited to 30% of the total allocation request made by each community. Oakland County reduced this to 15% starting in Program Year 2024 and has kept this restriction in place. Due to this reduction imposed by Oakland County CDBG, cuts to the amount of lawn cutting provided, or to the number of seniors could be felt in calendar year 2026. City staff will continue to recommend Oakland County to increase limit to fully restore funding to this longstanding project for our community.

Staff also suggests that remaining funds should be used to fund our code enforcement efforts and for minor home repair. The CDBG program allows the city to pay for a second code enforcement officer to cover low/mod income areas of the city. Code enforcement not only identifies and addresses property maintenance issues that contribute to blight, but they also identify issues that may be addressed with the CDBG Minor Home Repair program. The Minor Home Repair grant funds repair projects such as roof, furnace, and water heater replacement projects for up to \$10,000 for income qualifying residents. This program protects the health and safety of residents and help stabilize neighborhoods.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the funding of the PY 2025 application should be as follows:

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|--|-------------|
| 1. Public Service- (Senior Seasonal Yard Clean-Up) | \$20,603.00 |
| 2. Code Enforcement | \$86,000.00 |
| 3. Minor Home Repair | \$30,756.00 |

Anticipated Allocation Total \$137,359.00

Staff further recommends that City Council authorize the PY 2025 CDBG application to be submitted to Oakland County for inclusion in Oakland County's Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and hereby authorize the Mayor to execute all documents, agreements or contracts which result from this application to Oakland County. A proposed resolution is included along with this memo.