



May 18, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Simison and City Council

FROM: Crystal Campbell, Community Development Program Coordinator

CC: Dave Miles, Chief of Staff; Daniel Torres, Economic Development Administrator

RE: CDBG Project Recommendations for PY23 Funding

Overview

The Meridian CDBG Program is working on the Program Year 2023 (PY23) Action Plan, which includes the allocation of CDBG funding for various projects. We have followed our competitive application process to select projects in the areas of public service, housing, and public facility/infrastructure.

Project Selection

The selection process involved three separate competitive applications for public service, housing, and public facility/infrastructure projects. Housing and public facility stakeholders were invited to submit a Notice of Intent in March 2023, and eligible projects were invited to apply in April 2023. The Public Service Application was open to all qualifying applicants in April 2023.

The public facility and infrastructure application was reviewed internally by three City employees representing Community Development, Finance, and the Mayor's Office. Housing and public service applications were reviewed by a scoring committee comprised of three City employees from Community Development, Finance, and the Mayor's Office, one Council member, and two citizen representatives. The program manager for Our Path Home, the local HUD Continuum of Care, provided advisory support during the review process.

The following projects were selected:

Public Facility and Infrastructure - \$178,700

- **LMA Walkability – \$178,700:** This project aims to improve walkability in Meridian's designated low-mod area through combined sidewalk and streetlight projects. It will continue throughout the 2022-2026 Consolidated Plan, with any reallocated funds from the Consolidated Plan going toward this project unless otherwise specified.

Housing Projects - \$178,700

- **NeighborWorks Boise Homeowner Repair Program - \$160,000:** This project focuses on improving the weatherization, accessibility, energy efficiency, and visitability of existing homes in Meridian. Its goal is to make homes safer and more financially sustainable.
- **NeighborWorks Boise Homebuyer Assistance - \$18,700:** CDBG funds will be used in conjunction with NWB's second mortgage products, combined with qualified first mortgage products, to make home purchases more affordable. Depending on NWB's remaining funds at the end of the current program year, this funding may not be necessary. Staff will monitor NWB's spending on this project through December 2023 and reallocate funds to the Homeowner Repair Program if they are able to utilize it.

Public Service Projects - \$72,354

- **Faces of Hope Victim Services Program - \$20,000:** This program provides services to victims of interpersonal violence in Meridian.
- **Jesse Tree's Emergency Rental Assistance Program - \$42,761:** It offers one-time rental assistance to Meridian residents who are at immediate risk of homelessness.
- **Boys & Girls Club Scholarship Program - \$20,000:** Scholarships will be provided for children to participate in extended care programs.

If the Mayor and Council do not have any major concerns with the recommended projects, staff will be using these recommendations to complete the PY23 Action Plan. The PY23 Action Plan will be presented to Council on June 27, 2023 and will include an overview of the projects. To ensure all questions and concerns are addressed, please raise them as early as possible, allowing staff to incorporate the necessary adjustments in the plan.

To provide a clear timeline for completing the PY23 Action Plan, please note the following dates:

June 15:	PY23 Action Plan will be open for public comment.
June 27:	Presentation and public hearing for the PY23 Action Plan.
July 15:	Public comment period closes.
July 25:	Final PY23 Action Plan and a resolution to accept the plan will be submitted on the consent agenda.

These projects are anticipated to start on October 1, 2022. Council will see the subrecipient agreements on the consent agenda around that time.