



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 05/09/2023

REQUESTER: Lisa D. Krieg

PRESENTER: Lisa D. Krieg; CDBG Grants Manager

ITEM TITLE: CONDUCTING AND CLOSING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE PROPOSED FOURTH YEAR ACTION PLAN FOR THE FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR NORMAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) APPLICATION WHICH INCLUDES THE 2023 HOME PROGRAM TOTALING \$1,400,424 TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD).

BACKGROUND:

On April 28, 2020 the Norman City Council approved the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan which is a comprehensive planning approach to identify and address the needs of low-to-moderate income residents of Norman. The Consolidated Plan provides a basis and strategy for the use of federal funds granted to the City of Norman by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) programs. While the Consolidated Plan serves as a planning document meeting the federal government statutory requirements in 24CFR 91.200-91.230, the Annual Action Plan is the mechanism where the programs and projects are authorized and funded. This Annual Action Plan covers the period beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 (2022 Federal Budget). The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines the City of Norman as an entitlement community due to its population and demographics. As an entitlement community, the City of Norman receives an annual formula allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funding dependent upon funding in the Federal Budget. Programs and activities described in this plan are intended to primarily benefit low and moderate-income residents of the City of Norman, neighborhoods with high concentrations of low-income and moderate-income residents, and the city as a whole.

This plan is the product of public outreach, public hearings, and consultation with multiple agencies that serve the needs of low and moderate-income residents of Norman and agencies that serve the needs of special populations. The Fourth Year Action Plan for the 48th Year Community Development Block Grant Program (\$941,659) and the 2023 HOME Program (\$458,765) includes the proposed use of funds with references to the Five-Year Consolidated Plan Objectives and expected performance outcomes, and totals \$1,400,424

A complete draft of this document was made available for public review beginning April 12, 2023.

DISCUSSION:

The Fourth Year Action Plan is based upon research which utilized existing documents, and the recommendations of the Community Development Policy Committee as a result of a formal citizen participation process. This process included multiple interactions with interested parties and also opportunities for citizen participation from the general public. This year these interactions were conducted in person and included neighborhood meetings for the seven target neighborhoods; multiple individual and focus group meetings where specific information regarding public services, public facilities, housing, homelessness, and economic development/anti-poverty were discussed; in January 2023, the annual Community Dialogue on housing and community development needs was held where issues that affect low and moderate income citizens were discussed in addition to the election of Policy Committee Representatives. The CDBG Policy Committee met six times and included an extensive review of the previous Action Plan's and the current Consolidated Plan's Goals and Objectives and discussed the information that was assembled from the Community Dialogue, neighborhood meetings and focus groups.

The CDBG and HOME projects proposed include housing rehabilitation and related housing projects at \$419,689. The housing related projects include housing rehabilitation and accessibility modifications in addition to staff support for these programs. In efforts to increase the supply of affordable housing, the entire \$458,765 of the HOME Investment Partnerships will be programmed to allow for development and partnership with a Community Housing Development Organization. New to this year's Action Plan is the focus on revitalization efforts for two specific neighborhoods, Original Townsite and First Courthouse. This grant proposal is in compliance with the statutory caps for Administration and Public Services. All projects are listed in the attached 2023-2024 Fourth Year Action Plan.

A thirty-day comment period on the proposed Action Plan ends on May 12, 2023. After approval by the Norman City Council, the Fourth Year (2023-2024) Action Plan will be forwarded to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for review.

Funds for CDBG and HOME projects have been included in the FYE 2024 City of Norman annual budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the Fourth Year Action Plan which includes the Forty-Eighth Year Community Development Block Grant Program and the 2023 HOME Program are recommended as proposed.