



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 04/23/2024

**REQUESTER:** Lisa D. Krieg

**PRESENTER:** Lisa D. Krieg; CDBG Grants Manager

**ITEM TITLE:** CONDUCTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE PROPOSED FIFTH YEAR ACTION PLAN FOR THE FORTY-NINTH YEAR NORMAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) APPLICATION WHICH INCLUDES THE 2024 HOME PROGRAM TOTALING \$1,400,424 TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD).

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### 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, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (2023 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. NOTE: Due to the delay of Congress adopting the FY23 Federal Budget, the actual formula appropriation has not been received by the City of Norman as of this date. In accordance with the Citizen Participation Plan and guidance from CPD-24-01, this Fifth Year Action Plan is based upon estimated allocations.

Adjustments will be made as follows once the allocation amount is formally received: CDBG – increases or reductions will be made with in the Housing Rehabilitation Cost Center; HOME Investment Partnerships – increases or reductions will be made within the Development of Affordable Housing Cost Center. These adjustments should be relatively minor based upon award

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projection information provided by HUD. If substantial changes are warranted outside of these two cost centers, the Citizen Participation Process will begin again to adjust for the changes.

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 Fifth Year Action Plan for the 49th Year Community Development Block Grant Program (\$941,659) and the 2024 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 21, 2024. Public Comments will be received until May 15, 2024.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The Fifth 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 2024, 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 three 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 majority of the \$458,765 of the HOME Investment Partnerships will be programmed to allow for development and partnership with a Community Housing Development Organization. Again included within this year's Action Plan is the focus on revitalization efforts for three specific neighborhoods, Old Silk Stocking, 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 2024-2025 Fifth Year Action Plan.

A thirty-day comment period on the proposed Action Plan ends on May 15, 2024. After approval by the Norman City Council, and the official notification of the CDBG and HOME awards, the Fifth Year (2024-2025) 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 2025 City of Norman annual budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approval of the Fifth Year Action Plan which includes the Forty-Ninth Year Community Development Block Grant Program and the 2024 HOME Program are recommended as proposed.