

2018 Low-Income Needs Assessment – Administrative Hearing
4:00 p.m., January 8, 2018 – Board Room

Meeting Notes

Call to Order:

Deputy Community Development Director Peter Gilli called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. According to the sign-in sheet, 25 persons were present. After a brief welcome, Mr. Gilli recognized Senior Analyst Caroline Milton for staff comments.

Staff Comments:

The City of Thousand Oaks annually receives an entitlement grant from the Federal government known as the Community Development Block Grant or CDBG. These funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development or HUD. CDBG funding must be used to primarily benefit lower-income persons or households.

The City leverages CDBG funds with \$100,000 annually from the Social Services Endowment Fund for operational support grants to local non-profit agencies offering essential public and social services to income-eligible low-income persons.

- The July 1, 2018 CDBG grant is estimated to total approximately \$558,000. Sixty-five percent of this amount or \$362,700 would be available for community development projects such as low-income residential rehabilitation and other community improvements from July 2018 through June 2019.
- Now through Friday, January 19, 2018, the City is soliciting CDBG funding applications from non-profit agencies seeking an award of CDBG funds to address an unmet need of the lower-income population. The application can be found on the City's website. From the City's home page, type "CDBG Grants" in the search box and press enter. That will take you to a page with a direct link to the CDBG funds application titled, "Project Proposal, FY 2018-19" which is a pdf file.
- The City is also soliciting applications from public and social services providers for operational support grants for the period July 2018 through June 2020. This application is also on the City's website and must be submitted to the City's Community Development Department by 4:00 p.m., January 19, 2018.
- After receiving CDBG funding applications, staff will evaluate the proposals and prepare a proposed spending plan that is expected to be available for 30 days of public review, as soon as the US Department of Housing and Urban Development advises the City of the actual dollar amount of the City's 2018-19 CDBG entitlement grant. The City's CDBG funding year begins in July 2018 and ends in June 2019.

In compliance with the City’s “Citizen Participation Plan,” this administrative hearing is being held to receive public comment on the needs of the City’s lower-income persons. These needs may potentially be addressed by the City using CDBG funds or another funding resource.

The staff is available to respond to any of your questions about the City’s Low-Income Residents’ Needs Assessment process.

Public Comments:

Deputy Director Gilli invited those present to provide comments on the needs of low-income Thousand Oaks residents. Ten speakers were heard and one person submitted a statement card. Public comments received are summarized below.

Public Comments

1.	Kathryn Goodspeed, President Senior Alliance for Empowerment (SAFE)	This 501-c-3 advocates for the needs of very low-income seniors, primarily residing in mobile home parks. The group has used CDBG funds for new roofs and windows at Thunderbird Oaks Mobile Home Park, and is starting work at Ranch MHP. The next project will include mobile homes at 3 other locations in the City.
2.	Rena Sepulveda, Turning Point Foundation	Thanked City for support to Safe Haven, a shelter and services facility for homeless, mentally ill persons. Turning Point desires to continue its partnership with the City as the need is great.
3.	Barrie Gilster, Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association	LMVNA is the only non-profit medical hospice doing at-home care in Ventura County. Very low-income clients are assisted including those with Medi-Cal coverage.
4.	Dinah Frishling, Conejo Valley Village	As of April 2017, this non-profit is assisting the elderly to age in place by providing rides to doctor appointments, help with grocery shopping and dog walking, home repairs, etc. Many of those served live alone and have no family to call upon.
5.	Vicky Odle, Long Term Care Senior Ombudsman	Partially supported with CDBG funds, the Senior Ombudsman Program advocates for quality care of patients living in 72 long-term care facilities in Thousand Oaks. Sixty trained volunteers protect the welfare of this vulnerable and high-needs population.



6.	Janet Young, Conejo Valley Senior Concerns	By 2020, 20 percent of the population will be age 65 or older. Needs include day care for seniors with dementia, addressing food insecurity and elder abuse. In response, the City's funding supports the Adult Day Care, Meals on Wheels and Senior Advocates programs.
7.	Lisa Safaeinili, Westminster Free Clinic	WFC serves a low-income, primarily Latino population – the working poor -that are not covered by the Affordable Care Act. The City's CDBG funds purchase meds, lab tests, medical and dental. Medical professionals donate their services and 94 high school students serve as interns.
8.	Susan Murata, Hospice of the Conejo	This program benefits from City funding and offers non-medical hospice services and grief support. Many families are in need and continuing City support is essential to addressing these needs.
9.	Steve Dwyer, Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County	This organization works with the City and other local governments to rehabilitate the homes of lower-income seniors to allow them to safely remain in their homes. Thanked the City for its support.
10.	George McGehee, Director of Housing Assets, Area Housing Authority of Ventura County	Thanked the City for supporting the preservation and rehabilitation of multi-family rental housing restricted to occupancy by lower-income families and seniors.
Public Statement		
11.	Carolyn Goodenough, Assistance League of Ventura County	The needs of low-income residents keeps growing. Operation School Bell is now providing assistance to high school students, in addition to elementary school pupils.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Deputy Director Gilli closed the public hearing and adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

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