Call to Order:

Community Development Operations Manager Marjan Behzadi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. 16 persons were present. After a brief welcome, Ms. Behzadi recognized Housing Coordinator Lynn Oshita 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 (CDBG). These funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CDBG funding must be used to primarily benefit lower-income persons or households.

- The July 1, 2019 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. In addition, the City has $31,445 available from prior years that could be allocated to 2019 activities. Therefore, for planning purposes, currently the City expects to have an approximate budget of $394,145 in CDBG funds available for residential rehabilitation and other community improvements from July 2019 through June 2020.

- Now through Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 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 www.toaks.org on the Community Development page.

- CDBG funds are limited and application process is competitive.

- Both Federal Davis-Bacon laws and State of California prevailing wage laws would apply to all projects that do not involve affordable housing units. The State considers funding to these activity types as a public work project and benefit to the public.

- After receiving CDBG funding applications for 2019-20, 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 HUD advises the City of the actual dollar amount of the City's 2019-20 CDBG entitlement grant. The City’s CDBG funding year begins in July 2019 and ends in June 2020.

This past Fall, the City Council took the following actions:
• In October, the City Council declared a shelter crisis in the City under Resolution 2018-067 and has agreed to work collaboratively with the County of Ventura and the 9 other Ventura County cities. The City continues to support a regional coordinated approach in solving the countywide homelessness issue. The City has made this a high priority.

• Last month, the City Council consolidated the Community Grants Programs which included the Social Service Endowment Fund (SSEF) grants. The Social Service Ad Hoc Committee made its last recommendation to Council in June based upon a 2-year grant application for Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20.

• The new Community Funding Review Committee will conduct an annual review of SSEF grant applications starting with the July 2020 grants.

• CDBG public service grant applications will not be evaluated with this new Community Grants Committee but will be evaluated by City Staff annually.

• The current public service grants are in their 1st year of the 2-year grant application cycle. City Staff will be reviewing and evaluating all current public social grants as it prepares for the proposed 2019 (to) 2020 budget.

In compliance with the City’s “Citizen Participation Plan,” under City Council Resolution 2015-023, 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.

Staff was available to respond to any of your questions about the City’s Low-Income Residents’ Needs Assessment process prior to the opening of the public hearing. Staff provided clarification on the social grant process for FY 2019-20.

Public Comments:

Community Development Operations Manager Marjan Behzadi invited those present to provide comments on the needs of low-income Thousand Oaks residents. Ten speakers were heard. Public comments received are summarized below.

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<td>1. Espy Gonzalez, Program Manager Rain Transitional Living Center</td>
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7. Jim Wolf  
Senior Alliance for Empowerment (SAFE)  
SAFE is an organization that provides a rehabilitation program for very low-income seniors which reside in mobile home parks, including many veterans. The group has used CDBG funds for new roofs and windows. Thanked the City for their support and mentions how vital it is to have the City’s financial support to continue to assist these individuals.

8. Jason Meek, Executive Director  
Turning Point Foundation/Safe Haven  
Non-profit dedicated primarily to serve the homeless population suffering from mental illness. Safe Haven, is the only 24 hr. behavioral health shelter in the County. Thanked the City for their support and continued funding would help their 14 robust programs with ongoing operations, case management, outreach and treating individuals holistically. In 2017 their Thousand Oaks goal was exceeded by 50 percent.

9. Megan Glynn, Chief Officer  
Southeast Ventura County YMCA  
Last year, organization introduced a summer program at Conejo Elementary School, dedicated to children of lower income families which included targeted programs with credentialed teachers, crafts and field trips. At the end of the program, students gained 2 months in reading and 2 ½ months in math. YMCA would like to continue this program and expand program to other schools.

10. Lee Sherman, Grants writer  
Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association  
This organization is Ventura County’s only non-profit provider of comprehensive home health, medical hospice and family support operating since 1947. The organization provides a continuum of care that starts in a hospital and shifts to home care. Organization does not turn anyone away despite of their diagnosis and inability to pay. Thanked the City for their support.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Community Development Operations Manager Marjan Behzadi closed the public hearing and adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.