

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: October 27, 2009	1 st Reading _____ 2 nd Reading _____	Legal Review:	Work Plan # 258	Agenda Location: Public Hearing	Agenda Item: 9A
Subject: A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF FIRST PROGRAM YEAR ACTION PLAN FOR 2010 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING.					
Prepared by: Nicole Jeffers		Approved by: Jack Ethredge		Ordinance previously introduced by: _____	
Reviewed by: Jeff Coder		Presented by: Nicole Jeffers Neighborhood Services Manager			

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- An annual Action Plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from all jurisdictions receiving Community Development Block Grants.
- The Action Plan was developed in accordance with HUD guidelines 91.220.
- The Action Plan is the document that outlines how the City of Thornton plans to allocate the CDBG funding for the next year, in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning regulations. This includes a list of approved projects to receive CDBG funds.
- The primary objective of the CDBG funding is the development of viable urban communities, through providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities to meet the needs of the low- to moderate-income families.
- The City is expected to receive approximately \$545,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding as an Entitlement jurisdiction in 2010. Final CDBG allocations will be determined and awarded in the spring of 2010.
- The City will retain 20 percent of the total CDBG allotment from HUD to pay for administration of the CDBG program. The remaining CDBG fund amount will be allocated towards projects that benefit low- to moderate-income Thornton residents and special populations.
- The proposed projects in the Action Plan meet the national objectives of the CDBG program and support the activities identified by residents at the public meetings held in the summer of 2009 to identify needs and priority activities for CDBG funds. Residents identified the following activities (See Exhibit A) as a high priority:
 - housing and homeownership assistance,
 - rehabilitation of current housing stock,
 - revitalization of blighted neighborhoods,
 - public service activities for seniors, disabled, and youth.
- The public hearing is held pursuant to CDBG regulations, which requires a public hearing for the purpose of receiving written and oral comments on the City of Thornton's submittal of the First Program Year Action Plan. A summary of the proposed projects and has been available on the City's web site for the past 30 days.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

The recommended projects for 2010 are:

➤ Volunteer Home Improvement Project	\$ 50,000
➤ Overlook at Thornton Stair Improvements	\$106,466
➤ Digital Panoramic X- Ray for Clinica Family Health Services	\$ 37,870
➤ Remodel of Mountainland pediatrics, Community Reach	\$ 38,190
➤ Access Housing – Emergency Shelter Services	\$ 7,500
➤ Streetscape Improvement Projects	\$195,974
TOTAL	\$436,000

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Resolution because the recommended projects support the community priorities identified by residents at the public meetings held this summer to identify needs and priorities for CDBG-funded projects.

HISTORY: (includes previous City Council action)

- The Notice of Public Hearing was advertised in the Northglenn-Thornton Sentinel on September 24, 2009, October 1, 2009, October 8, 2009, October 15, 2009 and October 22, 2009.
- On September 29, 2009 – Council reviewed the applications for 2010 CDBG funds.
- In July and August 2009, the City held focus groups and community meetings with residents and nonprofits that provide housing and services to low- to moderate-income residents. The goal was to identify community needs and activities for CDBG funds. Residents identified the following activities as a high priority: housing and homeownership assistance, rehabilitation of current housing stock, revitalization of blighted neighborhoods, public service activities for seniors, disabled and youth.
- On May 26, 2009 - City Council approved applying for Entitlement jurisdiction status, which allows the City to receive CDBG funds directly from HUD.
- Since 1986, the City has entered into a series of Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) with Adams County in order to participate in an Urban County Consortium (the mechanism by which funds from HUD are distributed to the County and its member cities).
- All proposed projects for 2010 meet the low- to moderate-income requirements of the CDBG program. The following is a summary of the proposed projects with the amount requested by the applicant:

1. Volunteer Home Improvement Program

Requested Amount \$50,000

This housing rehabilitation program has provided free, minor home repairs to low-income residents since 2002. The program goal is to provide a safe, healthy and sanitary living environment for qualified, low income seniors and disabled individuals. Typical repairs may include light plumbing, electrical repairs, furnace/water heater replacement, painting, hazardous trees and ADA accessibility. The program includes two activities available to low-income homeowners:

- *Help for Homes* is a year-round minor home and emergency repair project in partnership with Brothers Redevelopment. To date, more than 135 homeowners

have received assistance through this program. Approximately 18 homeowners could receive assistance with the allocation.

- *Rebuilding Days* is Thornton's mini-makeover community event in collaboration with the nonprofit Rebuilding Together. All work is performed by volunteers and completed in one day. To date, seven homeowners have received assistance and more than 125 volunteers have participated. Approximately four homeowners could receive assistance with the allocation.

2. Overlook at Thornton Capital Improvements ***Requested Amount \$106,466***

Adams County Housing Authority has requested \$106,466 to make improvements to the stairs and parking lot at the Overlook at Thornton, 647 W. 91st Avenue. Of this total request, \$77,700 is the estimated expense for replacement of the stair risers and handrails and \$28,766 is estimated for repairing, sealing, and striping the parking lot.

The Housing Authority purchased the 160-unit community apartment complex in 2005. All of the units are reserved and accessible only to families at or below 60% of the area median income.

3. Clinica Family Health Services ***Requested Amount \$37,870***

Clinica Family Health Services has requested \$37,870 to purchase a direct digital panoramic X-ray dental machine and components for its Thornton clinic at 8990 N. Washington Street. The panoramic x-ray will allow Clinica's dentists to consistently evaluate and treat children's back-of-mouth cavities, patients' erupting wisdom teeth and older patients' need for dentures. The dentist will be able to get a single image of the patients' entire mouth, and, thus provide necessary services at an affordable cost to patients.

In 2008, clinicians served 8,816 patients at the Thornton Medical Clinic and 1,750 dental patients. The Thornton clinic is the only Clinica location with a dental facility.

4. Community Reach ***Requested Amount \$38,190***

Community Reach has requested \$38,190 to remodel the Mountainland Pediatrics at 8889 Fox Drive in Thornton. The current Mountainland facility is twelve years old, and its exam rooms and work spaces are inefficient and outdated. There are no rooms that are wheelchair accessible.

The existing pediatric facility will be remodeled in order to enlarge exam rooms, add a procedure room that is wheelchair accessible, a consultation room, and more storage space. Current staff work rooms will be removed and redesigned allowing workspaces to be located in closer proximity to the patient entrance. This will allow nurses to serve patients more efficiently, and will provide the space needed to enlarge exam rooms. Nursing stations will be created in two separate areas that will allow a direct line of sight to all exam rooms. Providers will be located on a center hallway between nursing stations in order to better facilitate communication and service provision.

5. Access Housing

Requested Amount \$7,500

Access Housing has requested \$7,500 to support 20% of the salary of a case manager to facilitate the provision of the following services: homeless prevention, adult education, job services, life skills training, transitional and permanent housing, summer youth activities, resource information and linkages to community partners.

Access Housing has served more than 1,500 homeless and near homeless families in 2008. Approximately 20% of the agency's clientele indicate that they were residents of the City of Thornton. Access Housing anticipates expanding their services in the next year based on their involvement in the Adams County Homeless to Home Partnership. The program is a collaboration with nonprofits, public agencies, churches and businesses to care for homeless persons during the winter season, provide self-sufficiency services to homeless families and develop a ten-year plan to address homelessness in Adams County.

6. Streetscape Improvements

Requested Amount \$195,974

This project will improve and revitalize a low- and moderate-income area. The improvements include replacing damaged sidewalks, improving sidewalk accessibility and ADA compliance, removal of hazardous trees, and incorporation of water-wise landscaping. The project site is located along Hoffman Way in Original Thornton and it will begin at 88th Avenue and extend along the east and west sides of Hoffman Way. (See Exhibit B).

This is a multi-year project to complete the streetscape on Hoffman Way from 88th Avenue to Dorothy Boulevard. Design was completed in 2009. The City held two community meetings to show the design and hear the residents' reaction to proposed streetscape. Citizens at the community meeting were in favor of the project.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF FIRST PROGRAM YEAR ACTION PLAN FOR 2010 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING.

WHEREAS, the City of Thornton (City) will be its own Entitlement jurisdiction in 2010 and receive Community Development Block Grant funds directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

WHEREAS, the City accepted applications from nonprofits and internal departments for projects that serve low- to moderate-income residents and special populations; and

WHEREAS, the City has conducted a public hearing on October 27, 2009, and having considered the matters presented, has reviewed the First Program Year Action Plan and its associated activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the City Council hereby approves the submission of the First Year Program Year Action Plan for 2010, and its associated activities.
2. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute and submit the First Year Program Year Action Plan for 2010 to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Thornton, Colorado, on _____, 2009.

CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO

Erik Hansen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Nancy A. Vincent, City Clerk