



CITY OF WAUWATOSA
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
AGENDA • APRIL 18, 2017

Special Meeting**Committee Room #2****7:15 PM****7725 West North Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53213**

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ITEMS

1. Proposed resolution informing Federal Officials of opposition to the proposed elimination of Community Development Block Grant Funding in the Federal Budget

Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act who requires the meeting or materials at the meeting to be in an accessible location or format, must contact the City Clerk at voice telephone 479-8917 or TTY 471-8484 (City Hall, 7725 W. North Avenue, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53213) for accommodations. Requests for accommodations for meetings should be made at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting. Every effort will be made to arrange accommodations for all meetings; so please give the City Clerk as much advance notice as possible.

CITY OF WAUWATOSA
Resolution

By: Government Affairs Committee

WHEREAS, the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program provides the City of Wauwatosa and its partners with the flexibility needed to develop essential programs and projects to assist low- and moderate income households in the community; and

WHEREAS, the City has been allocated approximately \$4.5 million in CDBG funds over the past five years to provide critical services to senior citizens, improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities, undertake improvements to public facilities, promote economic development, promote equal opportunity in housing, and increase and improve affordable housing opportunities for low-and moderate income people in the City; and

WHEREAS, the expenditure of CDBG funds has accomplished the following results:

- CDBG funds have been integral to funding City planning studies that have proven to be invaluable tools for revitalization efforts and facility improvement projects, and have created jobs and transformed commercial districts;
- Each year, through the organizations such as the Senior Center, over 1,800 seniors are provided vital services such as social/recreational classes, transportation assistance, home visits and minor home repairs to help older adults live in their homes safely as long as possible;
- Over 30 low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS each year, including 10 full-time residents in need of critical supportive housing, receive counseling services, transportation to appointments, nutritious meals and emotional support;
- Each year approximately 675 households are provided emergency food supplies, hygiene products and clothing by non-profit, volunteer run food pantries;
- CDBG economic development funds have provided one-on-one technical assistance and business education classes to foster small or micro-business start-ups and expansions, leveraging hundreds of thousands of dollars in private loan funds and creating over 25 jobs;
- Additionally, 12 small businesses have been award CDBG economic development forgivable loans or low-interest loans to open or expand businesses in the City, resulting in the creation of over 200 jobs and vibrant, successful redevelopments;
- Each year, 15 homes occupied by low-moderate income households are provided assistance for remedying code violations and health/safety hazards, along with undertaking accessibility modifications, security improvements and structural repairs, to ensure a well-maintained, quality housing stock in the City. This program would cease without CDBG dollars;
- A 34-unit subsidized residential facility for low-income seniors and the physically disabled built in 1984 under HUD's Section 8 program, has been updated to modern and efficient standards with improved resident safety using CDBG funds;
- Two senior care facilities have used CDBG Funds to make necessary upgrades their facilities, thereby preserving other funding sources to serve low-income older adults without the ability to pay for their care and leveraging philanthropic support to increase the number of adults served each year; and

WHEREAS, elimination of the CBG Program would significantly negatively impact the City's most vulnerable populations, especially seniors, hinder economic development and job creation efforts, and halt housing rehabilitation programs for low-income homeowners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT City officials urge Congressional representatives to support HUD's CDBG Program and the appropriation of at least \$3.3 billion in formula funding for the program in FY 2018.

Passed and Dated _____

Clerk

Approved _____

Mayor

Adopted:

Page:

Journal: