



City of Avondale

City Council Online Meeting

Monday, July 27, 2020

Mayor and Council

Kenn Weise, Mayor

Pat Dennis, Vice Mayor

Tina Conde, Council Member | Bryan Kilgore, Council Member
Veronica Malone, Council Member | Curtis Nielson, Council Member
Mike Pineda, Council Member

Administration

Charles A. Montoya, City Manager
Gina Montes, Assistant City Manager
Tracy Stevens, Deputy City Manager
Nicholle Harris, Interim City Attorney
Marcella Carrillo, City Clerk

Online Meeting

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City Council Online Meeting Notice & Agenda Monday, July 27, 2020

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WORK SESSION 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR

1. ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CARES ACT FUNDING

City Council will receive an update from staff on the Community Development Block Grant Cares Act (CDBG-CV) funding and communicate recommended program activities.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Scheduled Recess

**The City Council will adjourn for approximately 15 minutes
prior to the start of the 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting.**

Council Members of the City of Avondale will attend either in person or by telephone conference call. Individuals with special accessibility needs, including sight or hearing impaired, large print, or interpreter, should contact the City Clerk at 623-333-1200 or TDD 623-333-0010 at least two business days prior to the Council Meeting.

Los miembros del Concejo de la Ciudad de Avondale participaran ya sea en persona o por medio de llamada telefonica. Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo personas con impedimentos de vista u oido, o con necesidad de impresion grande o interprete, deben comunicarse con la Secretaria de la Ciudad at 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos dias habiles antes de la junta del Concejo.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

SUBJECT: Community Development Block Grant Cares Act Funding

MEETING DATE: 7/27/2020

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Chris Lopez, Director of Neighborhood & Family Services, (623) 333-2711

THROUGH: Charles A. Montoya, City Manager, (623) 333-1016

PURPOSE:

City Council will receive an update from staff on the Community Development Block Grant Cares Act (CDBG-CV) funding and communicate recommended program activities.

BACKGROUND:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has allocated \$426,811 in CDBG-CV funds to the City of Avondale for fiscal year 2020-2021. To be eligible to receive funds, the City of Avondale is required to complete a five-year Consolidated Plan, an Annual Action Plan, and an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. These were completed and approved by the City Council on May 5, 2020 and it is anticipated HUD will provide approval of these plans by the end of August 2020 making these funds available to be utilized in our community.

DISCUSSION:

The CDBG-CV funding of the Cares Act is required to be used on eligible CDBG activities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the time of preparation of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans, staff estimated that existing activities in the plans could accommodate these funds and would support residents and business alike with eviction prevention. Staff has been communicating with business owners, predominantly in Historic Avondale, to determine what challenges they are facing to develop a program(s) to meet relevant needs.

At this time, no additional regulations have been adopted by Congress and no additional guidance has been provided from HUD regarding these funds beyond what is allowable within the current CDBG regulations. Staff has been working to ascertain what the business needs are to best determine how funds should be programmed to best meet needs of the community. CDBG grantees are still expected to carry out activities that primarily benefit low to moderate-income persons or meet an urgent need related to coronavirus:

- Grant funds may not be used to pay costs if another source of financial assistance is available to pay that cost.
- Expenditures must be necessarily incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to coronavirus disease.
- CDBG grantees should be very careful to not provide the same benefit that other funding sources might provide, including funding from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Public Assistance and Individual Assistance, HUD's Emergency Solutions Grants program for the homeless and the Small Business Administration(SBA).

- Grant funds must meet a National Objective and must be for activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
- Expenditures must not have been accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the Cares Act) for the State or government.

Based on the HUD regulations, community need, and administrative capacity staff recommends that CDBG-CV funding be utilized for the following activities:

Activity	CDBG-CV Funding Allocation	Maximum Amount of Assistance	Minimum # of Anticipated Beneficiaries
Residential Eviction Prevention	\$192,065	\$4,500	42Households
Small Business Assistance	\$234,746	\$10,000	23 Businesses

These activities involve eviction prevention for both residential and small businesses in Avondale, with the primary focus of keeping low to moderate income residents housed and small businesses in place and operational.

BUDGET IMPACT:

The City budgets for grants that were not originally planned during the FY2021 budget process. The budget authority for this will be transferred from the unanticipated grant award line item. The CDBG-CV grant does not have a match requirement for the City, so all program expenses will be offset with grant reimbursement.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for information and discussion.