
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

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2012 Funding Allocation Plan Focuses Block Grant Dollars on the Community

The annual allocation plan for federal grant dollars recommended by the Community and Economic Development Committee yesterday creates a framework that, if adopted by the full Common Council next week, steers more dollars toward community-based organizations.

Annually, the Community Development Grants Administration receives federal dollars in four major fund categories: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships, Stewart E. McKinney Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

The CDBG program, established in 1974, provides funds to municipalities to help develop viable urban communities. The Community and Economic Development Committee develops an allocation plan to distribute the funds to various entities in order to meet the overarching goals set forth by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In Monday's meeting, the committee voted to move monies from the CDBG fund program for the city to those programs that serve the following categories: Community Organizing: Community Partners Initiative (add \$50,000); Housing: graffiti abatement (add \$20,000); Community Prosecution Unit (add \$75,000); Community Organizing: neighborhood strategic planning (add \$90,000); Public Service-General: Youth Services (add \$200,000); and Public Service-General: driver's license recovery (add \$100,000).

"This framework for grant dollars helps to give Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) the tools they need to keep their successful programs in place and gives them the opportunity to serve the city," Alderman Davis said.

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2012 Funding/ADD ONE

“In tight economic times, helping to secure federal dollars for community programs that have great impact on our residents is essential. What the committee has done is sent a message that as our budget process begins, this is how we’d like these community aid dollars to be spent and these are the programs we support,” Alderman Davis said.

The file, #110342, moves to the full Council on July 26, 2011 for approval. The annual distribution process for CDBG funds takes place in October and community organizations that work in the categories that HUD mandates apply for the funds through a Request for Proposal process.

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