

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
ALLOCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
February 22, 2024 11:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

The Allocation Committee met at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 22, 2024, in conference room 301 of the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach Street, Flint, MI 48502.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Chris Durgan called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Dr. Beverly Brown, Brad Dick, Terry Peck, Coetta Adams, Chris Durgan and Sheila Taylor

Absent:

James Avery, Martin Cousineau, Jeff Lutze, Shelley Thompson and Colleen Brown

Others Present: Damon Fortney, Anthony Kelly and Renate Soto

There were no members of the public in attendance, nor were any comments received from the public regarding the Allocation Committee meeting or the agenda items.

Ms. Durgan welcomed new Allocation Committee member Coetta Adams, from Montrose Township.

*****III. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 26, 2023 MEETING**

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Terry Peck **Seconded by** Brad Dick to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2023 meeting as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. 2024 Action Plan Update

Mr. Damon Fortney stated that staff has been working on the 2024 Action Plan for the past couple months. The Action Plan is essentially an application to HUD to receive CDBG, ESG, and HOME funding for Program Year 2024, which starts May 1, 2024, and ends April 30, 2025. The Plan lists priorities, goals, expected outcomes and the specific projects and activities planned for the year and is based on data from HUD, a housing conditions survey, the Consolidated Plan, U.S. Census data, information from local agencies, citizen input and data from other sources. Typically funding for the current program year is received around August or September. Proposed ESG and HOME projects for the year are still being finalized, so a completed Action Plan draft can be expected at next month's Allocation meeting. The expected CDBG allocation amount of \$1,770,505.00 is estimated based on the 2023 funding amounts received. Mr. Fortney reviewed the breakdown of the CDBG areas that the funding will be used for. Mr.

Anthony Kelly reviewed the expected amounts of \$159,068.00 for ESG funding and \$932,209.00 for HOME funding and what activities that funding would potentially be used for. Mr. Fortney spoke about the next steps for the Action Plan, which include: approval of the ESG projects by the Continuum of Care (CoC); a public comment period; approval by the Allocation Committee at the next meeting in March; present to the Community & Economic Development Committee (C&ED) (after receiving the allocation amounts typically in April or May) and subsequently submit to the full Board of Commissioners for approval; submit to HUD for approval; and sign the subrecipient agreements with local units of government and agencies. Mr. Forney included the list of approved 2024 CDBG projects in the presentation to the Committee and this list is included in the agenda packet as well. Discussion ensued.

V. 2025-2027 CDBG Call for Projects Update

Mr. Fortney explained the process for the 2025-2027 CDBG Call for Projects. Staff met with each local unit of government starting in October 2023, to go over the community needs, funding amounts and types of eligible projects. Local communities then held their own public hearings, allowing the public to provide any ideas for projects they may have. Each community is allocated funding using a formula based on population, poverty, and over-crowded housing units. Local units can choose how funding is distributed to any eligible projects. Pre-Applications were due in December and submitted through our online portal called Neighborly, followed by the full application being due in January. 79 projects were moved on to the full application stage. Staff has been reviewing the applications, requesting any additional information needed and completing site checks for all projects. Mr. Fortney reviewed a draft list of projects with the Committee. All projects must undergo an environmental review process to receive final approval. Once those reviews are completed, the projects are assigned to years 2025-2027, to split up the funding between those program years. The final list of projects will be provided to the Allocation Committee for approval. Discussion ensued.

VI. HUD Updates

Ms. Sheila Taylor stated that during the first week of March, HUD will be monitoring our HOME program year 2022. They will be specifically looking at our Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program and our Home Improvement Program (HIP). HUD just recently provided guidance on how to close out some of our old HOME grants, starting with program year 2015 and moving forward. We still have funding starting in program year 2019 through the current year. Program years 2019-2021 grants should be closed out in the next year or two as well, as that funding should be utilized soon. We are still waiting on our 2024 funding allocations, so our Action Plan with estimated amounts will be presented to Allocation Committee for approval and then submitted to C&ED Committee and the full Board of Commissioners once the actual funding amounts are released from HUD.

VII. Other Business

Ms. Durgan reviewed the GCMPC Annual Report that was just recently completed for 2023. Every year, staff develops this report to highlight the activities and projects that were accomplished in the previous year. Ms. Durgan encouraged committee members to take some time to review the report and discover the projects that have been either started or completed in 2023 by the staff at the GCMPC. This year's report goes into more detail and depth than in previous years' reports.

Ms. Taylor explained the ARPA-funded projects that the GCMPC staff is currently implementing. The Genesee County Board of Commissioner's recently approved \$100,000 to be used at each of the 16 Genesee County Senior Centers. Applications have been received from all of the senior centers encompassing approximately 46 projects. Some examples of the projects are furniture, flooring, new ceilings, electrical work, paint, expansion of garages, and a van purchase. Environmental reviews will be conducted on all the projects, and contracts are expected to be signed in late spring or early summer. The funds must be utilized by the end of 2024.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Durgan adjourned the meeting at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Renate Soto, Secretary
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission