



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
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Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2020-121

File ID:	AB2020-121	Version:	1	Status:	Approved
File Created:	02/28/2020	Entered by:	SMildner@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	County Executive's Office	File Type:	Resolution Requiring a Public Hearing		
Assigned to:	Council	Final Action:	03/24/2020		
Agenda Date:	03/24/2020	Enactment #:	RES 2020-011		

Primary Contact Email: smildner@co.whatcom.wa.us

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution regarding support for a Community Development Block Grant funding application and review of current CDBG funding opportunities

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Whatcom County Council in the Council Chambers, Whatcom County Courthouse, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing is to review community development and housing needs, inform citizens of the availability of funds and eligible uses of the state Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and receive comments on proposed activities, particularly from lower income persons residing in Whatcom County. \$131,227 is proposed to be available annually to Whatcom, Skagit and Island Counties, through the Opportunity Council, to fund public services that principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons. Comments on the county's and Opportunity Council's past performance and use of their 2019 CDBG Public Services Grant will also be received. A Resolution will be reviewed, which would authorize the County Executive to submit an application to the State of Washington for this funding. The draft grant application, including an overview of the proposed public services, will be available for review at the Whatcom County Executive's office, Suite 108, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, after April 9, 2020. Comments may also be submitted in writing to the Whatcom County Council until the public hearing has been closed. In addition to the public services grant, the County Council will review other CDBG funding opportunities, including the Economic Opportunities Grant Program, which proposes up to \$500,000 of available funding in 2020.

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
03/10/2020	Council	INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING Aye: 6 Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, and Elenbaas Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Kershner	Council
03/24/2020	Council	APPROVED Aye: 6 Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, and Kershner Nay: 1 Elenbaas Absent: 0	

Attachments: Staff memo, Proposed Resolution, Fact sheets, Scope of work and budget, Fact Sheets & Public Hearing Handout, Notice of Hearing for 3.24.2020, Public hearing comments received for 3.24.2020

SPONSORED BY: Consent

PROPOSED BY: Executive

INTRODUCTION DATE: 3/10/20

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-011

APPLICATION FOR A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

WHEREAS, Whatcom County is authorized to apply to the state Department of Commerce for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County has identified a community development and housing priority need for which to seek CDBG funding; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that certain conditions be met to receive CDBG funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Whatcom County authorizes submission of the following application to the state Department of Commerce: a request for up to \$131,227 and any amended amounts to fund public service activities in coordination with the Opportunity Council, and certifies that, if funded, it:

Will comply with applicable provisions of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and other applicable state and federal laws;

Has provided and will provide opportunities for citizen participation that satisfy the CDBG requirements of 24 CFR 570.486;

Will not use assessments against properties owned and occupied by low- and moderate-income persons or charge user fees to recover the capital costs of CDBG-funded public improvements from low- and moderate-income owner-occupants;

Has established or will establish a plan to minimize displacement as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds; and assist persons actually displaced as a result of such activities, as provided in the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended;

Has provided technical assistance to citizens and groups representative of low- and moderate-income persons that request assistance in developing proposals;

Will provide opportunities for citizens to review and comment on proposed changes in the funded project and program performance;

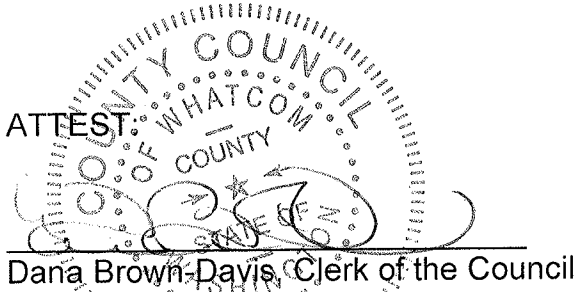
Will conduct and administer its program in conformance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fair Housing Act, will affirmatively further fair housing (Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968); and


Has adopted and enforces a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in nonviolent civil rights demonstrations; and has adopted (or will adopt) and implement a policy of enforcing applicable state and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such nonviolent civil rights demonstration within its jurisdiction, in accordance with Section 104(1) of the Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended;


Certifies to meeting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through a determination the CDBG-funded public services will not have a physical impact or result in any physical changes and are exempt under 24 CFR 58.34(a), and are not applicable to the other requirements under 24 CFR 58.6; and are categorically exempt under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) per WAC 197-11-305 (2); and

Whatcom County designates Satpal Sidhu, County Executive, as the authorized Chief Administrative Official and authorized representative to act in all official matters in connection with this application and Whatcom County's participation in the Washington State CDBG Program.

APPROVED this 24th day of March, 2020.

ATTEST:
The seal of Whatcom County, Washington, is circular with a double border. The outer border contains the text 'WHATCOM COUNTY WASHINGTON' at the top and 'COUNTY OF WHATCOM' at the bottom. The inner border contains 'COUNTY COUNCIL' at the top and 'COUNTY' at the bottom. In the center, there is a map of the county with a star and the text 'STATE OF WASHINGTON'. A signature is written across the seal.
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Civil Deputy Prosecutor