



CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

Item No. _____

FROM: CITY ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION FOR THE 45TH YEAR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020

MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 5, 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Conduct public hearing
2. Adopt the resolution authorizing the allocation for the 45th year of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for Fiscal Year 2019/2020.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Commerce is a participant city in the County of Los Angeles Small Cities Block Grant Program that distributes Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Each year, the City receives an allocation of funding administered by the Community Development Commission of Los Angeles County for programs and projects that benefit low to moderate-income persons. The allocation for fiscal year 2019/2020 is estimated to be \$130,808. The allocation amount is derived from a formula based upon poverty and population estimates drawn from census data for each participating jurisdiction to use within their communities to address identified community development needs. The new Fiscal Year 2019/2020 allocation of \$130,808, as well as, \$10,977 of unallocated prior year funds for a total of \$141,785 will be utilized to fund the proposed Fiscal Year 2019/2020 CDBG projects.

There are a number of restrictions and requirements related to programs eligible for CDBG funding. One of these requirements is that not more than 15% (percent) of the City's annual allocation of funds may be appropriated for activities that are classified by HUD as public services. These programs include recreation and education programs, public safety services, drug abuse counseling and graffiti removal services.

The City Council will use a resolution authorizing the allocation of the CDBG Funds to demonstrate City approval and adoption, which will be forwarded to the Community Development Commission of Los Angeles County.

ANALYSIS:

The City has provided funding for a variety of programs and projects over the years, including the Home Preservation Grant Program, Community Policing, and Code Enforcement. The following is a list of continuing programs that the City is recommending for funding in Fiscal Year 2019/2020.

Continuing Projects/Programs:

- **Home Preservation Grant Program**
CDBG funds provide grants to income-qualified households throughout the City with up to \$20,000 to conduct code compliant home improvement repairs, such as painting, roofing and window replacement.

- **Code Enforcement Program**
The City will use CDBG funds to pay personnel costs, purchase equipment, hardware and software license(s) renewal for Code Enforcement staff to conduct activities, including the collection of housing and other code violation case data located in the northern and southern portion of the City. Specifically, the areas located in low/mod Census Tract 5323.02 (Bristow, Ayers and Bandini), Census Tract 5323.03, (Rosini area) and within the southern portion of the low/mod Census Tract 5323.04, Block Group 1 (Veterans Park and Lanto areas). These census tracts are the City’s low/mod residential areas and therefore staff will continue to focus activities in these areas.

- **Community Based Policing Program**
CDBG funds are used to help pay for Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department services and Community Policing equipment and vehicle expenses for crime prevention program activities.

The tables below show the funds allocated for the above-mentioned programs for the proposed Fiscal Year 2019/2020. As shown, the bulk of the new allocation funds are earmarked to be used to improve residences via the Home Preservation Grant Program.

PROGRAMS/PROJECTS	FY 2019/2020 CDBG Budget	CDBG Project Account Nos.
<i>Continuing Programs/Projects</i>		
Home Preservation Grant Program; Construction and Direct Program Admin.	\$120,000	29-2910-71715-10337
Code Enforcement Program; Personnel Cost, Equipment and Software	\$10,000	29-2910-80210.10703
Community Based Policing Program; Sheriff Services, Vehicle Maintenance and Equipment	\$11,785	29-3035-54050; 29-3035-62090-10040 & 29-3035-80300
Total CDBG Funding:	\$141,785	

FISCAL IMPACT:

CDBG funds are Federal funds allocated to the City through the Community Development Commission of Los Angeles County. They provide an additional source of revenue to fund needed programs and reduce the impact to the General Fund.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

The issue before the Council is consistent with the Community Quality of Life Guiding Principle 5 of the City’s Strategic Action Plan: “Foster environmentally conscious initiatives and continue to identify and develop city codes that support a clean, well-maintained, sustainable community”. An Action Item titled “Pursue quality of life initiatives through the operating budget and CIP plan” was also developed to provide a pathway for the vision of the Guiding Principal to be realized.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Approve staff’s recommendation
- 2. Provide staff with alternative direction

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Resolution

Approved by: Maryam Babaki, Director of Public Works & Development Services
Prepared by: Esther Luis, Program Consultant
Reviewed by: Vilko Domic, Finance Director
Approved as to form: Noel Tapia, City Attorney
Respectfully submitted: Edgar P. Cisneros, City Administrator