

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 03/21/23

**M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 23-0222

**LOG NAME:** 19CDBG WORTH HEIGHTS CC

## **SUBJECT**

(CD 8 / Future CD 8) Authorize a Change in Use and Adjust Existing Appropriations in Community Development Block Grant Funds in the amount of \$250,000.00 to Fund the Worth Heights Community Center Renovation Project and Authorize a Substantial Amendment to the City's 2019-2020 Action Plan

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize a change in use and adjust existing appropriations in Community Development Block Grant Funds in the amount of \$250,000.00 to fund the Worth Heights Community Center Renovation Project; and
2. Authorize a substantial amendment to the City's 2019-2020 Action Plan (Mayor & Council Communication 19-0016).

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## **DISCUSSION:**

On August 6, 2019, City Council approved the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan, Mayor & Council Communication (19-0016). The 2019-2020 Action Plan authorized the use of federal grant funds in the amount of \$12,280,561.00 awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs. For Program Year 2019-2020, the City received \$7,270,678.00 in CDBG funds and an estimated amount of \$150,000.00 in CDBG program income (\$7,420,678.00 total).

\$1,122,476.80 of the awarded grants were dedicated to fund Americans with Disability Act-compliant accessibility improvements at: Worth Heights Community Center- 3551 New York Avenue, 76110 (Worth Heights); Southside Community Center- 959 E. Rosedale Street, 76104; and North Tri-Ethnic Community Center- 2950 Roosevelt Avenue, 76106. Projects included upgrades to bathrooms, entry ways, parking lots, and other improvements that benefit City residents, especially seniors and persons with disabilities. For Program Year 2019-2020, Southside Community Center was allocated \$370,500.00 in CDBG funds and Worth Heights was allocated \$524,000.00. Initial repairs at Worth Heights included the rehabilitation and reconfiguration of an area previously used as a dental clinic into office space to be used by Community Action Partners (CAP) staff. These improvements were completed in 2021. However, City staff has since identified additional improvements necessary to accommodate CAP staff, whose daily responsibilities include conducting online intakes and community outreach.

While Southside Community Center has needs that are still being considered, the funding required to renovate and bring Southside Community Center into full compliance exceed the 2019-2020 Action Plan funding allotment. Because the renovations at Worth Heights are required immediately, staff recommends authorizing a change in use of \$250,000.00 in existing CDBG funds currently allocated to the Southside Community Center project to fund the additional renovations at Worth Heights. The City's Property Management Department will utilize existing City agreements to fulfill the improvements and renovations at Worth Heights with this additional funding. All contracts for the project will be produced in compliance with state laws and City policy.

A public comment period on this proposed change in use and substantial amendment to the 2019-2020 Action Plan was held from October 31, 2022 to December 2, 2022. Any comments received are maintained in the Neighborhood Services Department in accordance with federal regulations.

Funding comes from the 2019-2020 Action Plan. The Action Plan funding years may vary and be substituted based on the principle of first in, first out (FIFO) in order to expend oldest grant funds first. The funds may be used for any CDBG-eligible costs related to this project on behalf of low- and moderate-income residents.

Funding is budgeted in the Neighborhood Services Department's ADA Southside Community Center funds within the Grants Operating Federal Fund for the CDBG (PY19-20) project for the purpose of funding the ADA Worth Heights Community Center, as appropriated.

The project is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 8/FUTURE COUNCIL DISTRICT 8.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: City of Fort Worth

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## **FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are available in the current operating budget, as previously appropriated, in the Grants Operating Federal Fund for the CDBG (PY19-20) project to support the approval of the above recommendations, authorization for the change of use and execution of a contract. Prior to any expenditure being incurred, the Neighborhood Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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