

FY-2025 CDBG FINAL PUBLIC HEARING  
Council Chambers, City Hall, Franklin, PA  
October 6, 2025

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor  
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor  
James Johnson  
Ashley Zaccari  
Christian Marshall  
Todd Zahner

Members Excused: Samuel Lyons

In Attendance: James Wetzel, City Manager  
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor  
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary  
Kevin Siragian, Franklin Police Chief  
Amanda Power, Community Development  
Cindi Power, City of Franklin  
Alex Spaid, Dale, Woodard, Gent, McFate  
Helen Fielding, The Derrick  
Annie Welsh, Oil Region Library Association  
Elijah Daubenspeck, 232 Grant Street  
Deb Eckelberger, Galaxy Federal Credit Union  
Darla Dodds, Hand In Hand Mental Health Services  
Joy Strain, McGill, Power, Bell  
Bridget Sottiaux, 956 Liberty Street  
Nicholas Hess, 1001 Elk Street  
Chip Pfohl, Galaxy Federal Credit Union  
Dave Ballard and Melissa Ditzenberger, 233 Overlook Drive  
James Smith, 1212 Elk Street  
Andrea Smith, 1212 Elk Street  
Jenna Dillion, Venango County  
Anthony Gonzalez, 1212 Elk Street  
Ashlynn Cornmesser, 415 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Rob Hoover, 316 Big Oaks Drive  
Corbin Henry, Franklin YMCA  
Ashleigh Litwin, 1539 Elk Street  
Lily Rice, 1263 Elk Street

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Mrs. Power explained that this was the second and final required public hearing for the City's FY-2025 CDBG Program. She indicated the hearing's purpose is to take final public comment on the proposed uses of the FY-2025 CDBG allocation of \$305,575. After designating \$55,000 for administration, the remaining \$250,575 will be allocated for the rehabilitation of the Atlantic Avenue Playground, located in the Third Ward of the City of Franklin. The project consists of demolition and replacement of the existing fence and the replacement of existing

playground equipment to include ADA compliant and sensory equipment.

Mrs. Power further explained that all CDBG activities must benefit low/moderate income persons, prevent or eliminate slums and blight, or address an urgent threat or need. She added that at least 70% of project funds must be used to benefit persons with low to moderate incomes, and that no displacement of families will occur. A HUD-compliant, randomized Community Income Survey was conducted and determined that 67% of the residents within the project area met the low-moderate income criteria.

She invited those interested to review the FY-2025 CDBG application and make public comments contacting the Community Development office by 4 P.M. on Friday, October 17, 2025. If there is no opposition to the proposed application, City Council will take formal action on the application at a special meeting at 4:00 P.M. on Monday, October 27, 2025, to be held in Council Chambers at City Hall, 430 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Franklin, PA 16323.

There being no comments or questions from Council, the hearing was adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



T.J. Parks,  
Recording Secretary