

FY-2024 CDBG PRELIMINARY PUBLIC HEARING  
Council Chambers, City Hall, Franklin, PA  
July 1, 2024

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

Members Excused: None

In Attendance: James Wetzel, City Manager  
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor  
Harmony Motter, Finance Director  
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary  
Amanda Power, Community Development Director  
Cindi Power, City of Franklin  
Kevin Saragian, Police Chief  
Helen Fielding, The Derrick  
Alex Spaid, Dale, Woodard, Gent, McFate  
Bruce Smeal, Whalen Contracting  
George Tice and Michaela Brown, 1140 Buffalo Street  
Tye and Andre Duvall, 1340 Liberty Street  
Stephanie Felmlee, 313 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
Aracelis Carela, 1107 Buffalo Street

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7 P.M, and handed the floor to Mrs. Power to present the FY-2024 CDBG Preliminary Public Hearing.

Mrs. Power introduced the City's FY-2024 Community Development Block Grant Program. Public comment will be received by the Community Development Department until July 15, 2024. The City was granted \$307,040, which is equal to the amount received last year. After deducting 18% administration costs, there is an estimated \$251,740 remaining for projects.

She explained that all CDBG activities must benefit low-moderate income persons, prevent or eliminate slums and blight, or address an urgent threat or need, and that at least 70% of project funds must be used to benefit persons with low to moderate incomes, with no more than 30% used to eliminate slums or blight.

Mrs. Power reviewed the low-moderate income ranges for Venango County and presented the City's LMI percentages, and pointed out those areas eligible for area-wide projects. HUD issued a memo today and informed that municipalities are now subject to current American Community Survey data, which indicates that the City of Franklin is no longer eligible for city-wide benefit.

Mrs. Power then went on to review the types of eligible and ineligible projects, and past CDBG-funded activities. She reviewed the City's Statement of Replacement for occupied or occupiable homes which requires any structure considered to be a low-moderate income dwelling lost to CDBG-funded demolition must be replaced within three (3) years, within the same jurisdiction and must be of the same size and capacity and remain a low-moderate income dwelling for ten (10) years.

The second and final hearing for the FY-2024 CDBG program is planned for September 9, 2024. Pending no adverse comments after the second public comment period ends, the proposed projects will be presented for Council's approve at its October meeting. The City's Community and Economic Development Department will receive questions, comments or suggested uses of funds.

There being no comments or questions from Council, the hearing was adjourned at 7:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



T.J. Parks,  
Recording Secretary