

Item 25-0031: Discuss and recommend Preliminary 2025-2026PY (Program Year) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Community Partner Allocations as specified in the attached documents

CDBG Advisory Board

Tue, Jan 28, 2025 11:00AM

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 01:59

Okay, moving on to public hearing and appearances. Item number 25-0030, public participation. Is there anyone that wishes to speak? Alderson Schultz, are you here to say hi to us or just listen? Wonderful. I believe this is the part—right, wonderful. I'll turn your microphone on at that time. Just remind me. Is this the place where I say this is a public hearing. Is there anyone who wishes to speak? Okay, well, I've said it once, once is good. We will close our public hearing.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 02:33

Next on to action items. 25-0031, discuss and recommend preliminary 2025-2026 Program Year Community Development Block Grant, CDBG, community partner allocations as specified in the attached documents. Do we get a motion to get it on the floor?

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 02:55

I'll move for discussion.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 02:56

Move for discussion. Do we have a second?

Isaac Uitenbroek (City Plan Commissioner) 02:59

Second.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 03:00

Second. All right. Community Development Specialist Galyon? Did I get that? All right, okay, and what microphone are you? District Two. All right.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 03:12

Okay, thank you all for being here today and for being part of the CDBG advisory board. I know it's a commitment of some hours to review all these applications. So, I just want to start out by saying that we really appreciate your willingness to serve the community in this way. So, I'm just going to quick walk you through the allocation process, just kind of a reminder of how it works on our side, and then we'll get into our staff recommendations for the funding, and then start the discussion and work out where you guys think the funding should kind of—your recommendations of where it will settle out for each of the applicants.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 03:50

So, each year for our CDBG programs in the fall, we start to kind of plan out where we think our allocation will come in. This year, we put out an allocation award estimate of \$588,232 and this is an average of the last five years allocations. So, this current CDBG year 2024 that started in April 2024 we received \$590,504 just for context. So, our estimate was just slightly below that. And this is a preliminary estimate. It really depends. Our allocation from HUD will come in, and it might be slightly above that. It might be slightly below, or maybe we

somehow knocked it out of the park and got it perfect. So, we'll find out probably in a few months. The budget for the HUD allocations for 2025 hasn't yet been passed, so we're still waiting on that.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 04:52

But so, we come up with our award estimate, and then from there we proceed with our initial core city program allocations. So, this includes programs like our housing rehabilitation loan program, city administration for CDBG dollars, our neighborhood grant program, and some other, like, core city programs that are continuously funded year over year. And then after that process is done and those are forecasted, we then move on to a city department application phase. And so, I think we had about six weeks for city departments to complete applications for the 2025 program year. And then following that once that portion of the application phase is completed, we then open the applications to our external applicants, and they, again, have about six weeks to complete an application. All external applicants are also required to do pre application training so that they know the parameters of the CDBG program, the types of projects that are eligible, and then any restrictions related to, say, labor on construction projects or other things like that. So, all organizations should be, like, well informed of all of the regulations regarding CDBG through that training. And then, as long as they complete the training, they'll receive the application.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 06:21

So, this year, going through this application process, we ended up with allocating \$443,231 to our city and core programs. That was a significant portion of our allocation, and is slightly higher than what we've allocated in previous years to the city and core programs. Our housing rehabilitation loan program had a significant request of \$200,000 this year, and that's mainly because in the previous few years, there was a lot of program income coming into that program because it's a loan. Once the house is sold, or the person, if they refinance, then they repay the loan to us. So, we were getting a lot of program income, especially in, like, 2021 and 2022 with low mortgage rates and finance rates. But then as those have gone up, we've seen less program income. So, we saw a need to kind of replenish those funds so we can continue delivering the housing rehabilitation loan services.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 07:26

And I'll also note that that amount, that \$200,000, is similar to requests that we've had in previous years. Especially through like 2000-2012 or so that was typically a higher amount requested. So, it's not like out of character for kind of where the city's at with those.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 07:47

So that, along with some other programs and projects that we had left \$145,000 available to allocate to our external applicants. So, then they went through that application process and we received six applications for funding from external applicants, but one of those projects was a request for public service dollars. And under the CDBG program, we have a restriction on the amount of funds that we can contribute each year to what HUD defines as a public service project. And at the city level, we have a project—it's Our Community Resource Navigator staff position. It's a joint project between the Appleton Health Department and the police department. And this person assists people experiencing homelessness and other basic needs crises. And the job definition is considered under public service, and we expect that to take up that whole about 15% cap on our public service project. So that application was removed from review just because we didn't have the funds to commit to the public service project like that.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 09:00

So that left us with those five applications that you guys received and reviewed. And prior to you receiving them, staff reviewed them, made sure everything was eligible under the CDBG guidelines, and everything checked out on all of those. So, no concerns there. They were sent to you for review, and then along with that, we also

reviewed them on our end, and just kind of based on our experience with the applicants and, like, where they had been previous—how the amount they had been previously funded, and other things, we came up with our city staff funding recommendations. So, I'll just kind of walk you through those and where we were at with those, and then open it up for any questions you have for me, otherwise, discussion on the recommendations that you guys would like to give.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 09:52

And like I said, just one reminder, this is all preliminary, so when our funding comes in, it might be increased. Last year, we had an increase of about \$13,000 from what we had projected versus what we actually got from the federal government. So, there may be some adjustments made at some point, but just wanted to point that out as a reminder.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 10:15

So, for our recommendations at the staff level, though, for Habitat for Humanity, we recommended \$50,000. They have routinely requested funds and completed a project to acquire a house and open it up for home ownership opportunity for low- and moderate-income residents. These houses, the project that we do with them, is usually somewhere around like \$40 - \$70,000 for the specific house. But sometimes they use it just to purchase all of the house. So, we felt that, based on kind of their previous allocations, and then what we had available, that \$50,000 was a reasonable amount for them.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 11:04

For Rebuilding Together Fox Valley, we decided—we recommended \$32,000. Rebuilding Together—so a lot of these, if you look at the percentage breakdown for most of them, it's somewhere around 30 to 35% of what they had requested originally, or 25 to 35 we'll say percent of what they had requested originally. Rebuilding Together Fox Valley does the—they do grants home rehabilitation. So, it's a little bit different than our rehabilitation loan program, because it is grant funded, so the—those receiving rehabs don't have to pay back those funds. And then they often do some smaller projects that are maybe more like \$2,000 to \$5,000 projects. So, they're able to assist a larger number of people in the community. So, we felt that making sure there was some priority of being able to fund those projects was important as well.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 12:05

For First Five Fox Valley we recommended \$25,000, and our largest consideration here was just that they have received a significant portion of American rescue plan act or ARPA funding, both from the city—we gave them \$750,000 in ARPA funding for a grant program—and then they also received a significant portion of funding from the county, the Outagamie County, through ARPA. So just consideration there on our end. But we still felt the project has a lot of value in the community, and will definitely be a benefit in the downtown area.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 12:44

So, for Pillars, we recommended \$28,000 for this. This one is the one that was higher than the others in terms of being closer to that full funding request. We know that keeping the shelters open and operating is a big priority across the community, so that was part of it. And then just making sure that that project can take place was another priority.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 13:09

And then the final one was the Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation, or WWBIC, and we recommended \$10,000 for them. In recent years, we funded them somewhere between \$12 and \$15,000 so this was close to kind of where we were at with that. And again, for most of these, it was somewhere between 25 to 35% of the funding requests, just because we do have limited funds available compared to previous years. So,

we're trying to balance that all out as well. So, if you have any questions for me, now, I'm happy to answer them, but otherwise we'll let you guys go into your discussion.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 13:46

One quick question. \$10,000 is your minimum?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 13:50

Yes, yep, \$10,000 is our minimum. Thank you. So, we can't award anything lower.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 13:59

Alder Van Zeeland.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 14:01

I just have a question. Last year, the WWBIC application came before the committee, and some of the concerns that we had were about the tracking and measurability of these. I'm just wondering if that's feedback that got shared with the applicant, or if there's any other information that the committee received that would help us look at that in a different way.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 14:26

Yeah, so the way that WWBIC reports to us, they are required to keep track of the businesses that they're assisting. So, I can look for that and kind of pull up that list while you guys are discussing it and see what we have. But they do report the businesses that they're assisting, and then the number of like jobs that they've created or retained, and then some other pieces like that. So, I can try to find that information quick, and I think that might be helpful, just so you can see, like, who in the community they've assisted with those funds.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 14:58

I think for these, um, requests that aren't, you know, "We're building an addition" which has, like, a very specific outline of what they're doing, that would really be helpful for me reviewing these in the future.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 15:11

Yeah.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 15:12

Thank you.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 15:13

What is the best way to approach this? Do we go one by one? Is it kind of popcorn about where there are questions, or what's the best way to kind of facilitate this? Oh.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 15:24

Thank you. There's not really a right way or wrong way. I mean, I think it's up to you all to decide what you feel comfortable with. I know Olivia just turned the Click Share off for a moment while she's looking up some of the reporting information from WWBIC, but the way that we ended up facilitating things last year was using the spreadsheet that Olivia has on her screen, and we'll have up on the big screen here shortly, to allow for making notes or toggling numbers up and down. As Olivia described in the attachment that was included in the agenda there was the average funding recommendation based on the feedback that we received from you all, from the advisory board, and then as staff, we basically did some smoothing to arrive at numbers that actually matched

up with the \$145,000 that we have available, projected to be available, to award. But those are really just a conversation starter.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 16:22

So, in a moment here, we'll pull that back up so that you can look at the aggregate scores. It doesn't necessarily mean that all five need to be awarded at all. We felt that each of them scored highly enough, at least to present an option that includes funding all five, but with lower amount than we had to make available last year, I could see an argument being made for, perhaps, unfortunately, choosing not to fund a project or two.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 16:53

I do think that that's a great point, because I think for those of us who have been on this committee before, it's a lot less money. And so, just for discussion, I am sort of wondering about the 10,000 for WWBIC, just because we have limited funds. I do have the same questions, because I think we did talk about this last year. Just they serve the whole region, so to dial into the Appleton clients that they serve would be important. \$10,000 is the lowest you can ask, and they still have a lot of requirements that come with it. Is it also worth? I mean, I'm sure they'd be happy to take the money, but I know that they also look for our funds to provide their match funding. So, I just wonder, could that money be better used in a project that has specific costs? So that's just for conversation.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 17:52

That was my main concern with WWBIC was each year—it's these funds are used for their match. There aren't any funds coming in. So that lack of sustainability is worrisome to me. Van Zeeland, Alder Van Zeeland.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 18:10

Yeah, and I just wanted to add now that I was listening to what you were saying. I forgot what I was going to ask. So, I had a question.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 18:18

You were listening.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 18:18

Yes. I was listening intently to what you were saying and forgot. Give me just, give me just a second. You can move on.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 18:25

Anyone else, any questions or thoughts on the proposed idea of not fully funding all projects? Aldersperson Schultz, you are district nine. Go ahead.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 18:41

Thanks. This isn't specific to that one concern, but just, I want to ask a question of staff as a general, I guess, hypothetical. The administration announced that pause in federal funding, including these block grants, for 90 days, and it's—let's just say there's a chance that funding could get reduced. And if that happens, what what's the process for if we approve all these at this at these levels today? Are these the first to get cut if that number shrinks? What's the essential—what are you guys talking about internally if that number is reduced? I just—and I don't know if it's appropriate or germane, but just, I want to get a sense of how we might handle if the number we're looking at here, let's just assume it's cut in half. What do you guys do?

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 19:24

Sure, very good question, interesting from a timing standpoint. So just so everyone is aware of what Alder Schultz is referencing, there's news that broke late last night, early this morning, that the Trump administration announced a freeze on federal grants, which would include community development block grant dollars. Don't want to venture too far off topic today, but I think it's important to remind ourselves where we're at in the overall process. So, the purpose today remains the same, and that is for the advisory board to arrive at preliminary recommendations. So, prior to the very recent news, the task was just that: to evaluate each proposal, arrive at preliminary recommendations with the understanding that they would need to be adjusted when the final allocation amount is made available to us. So, I would advise that we stay the course, arrive at preliminary recommendations, and then when we receive further information, when we receive final allocations, we'll toggle like we've done in in the past.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 20:30

Thank you. And just to—can I get a follow up?

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 20:32

Absolutely.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 20:32

I just what—has any—has that decision to pause for 90 days, is there any direct effect to the things that we've already approved. Is anything affecting the way we operate or the funding we've already approved last year, or are we essentially safe from anything affecting our funding to date?

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 20:51

That's a great question. Our strategy, at least at this point (and this is very fresh information. We're talking a few hours at most that we've been able to absorb this) is just to stay the course for now. We do have previous awards that were made for the current program year, previous admin dollars that have been made available for the past couple of years that we're working on spending down. So again, our strategy at this point is to stay the course and then adapt and adjust as necessary as further information is made available.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 21:21

I appreciate the answers.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 21:24

Thank you.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 21:26

Chair, I was able to find my question it that's okay.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 21:30

Go ahead before you lose it.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 21:31

Thank you. I wrote it down. I just wasn't looking in the right place. Okay. The question that I had was regarding the Habitat for Humanity application. There was some reference to some extensions, and then in the letter, there was some differing ways that they suggested we might be able to deal with their funding as far as disbursement. Can you give us a little background on what the extensions were for?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 21:59

Yeah, so occasionally we do have to extend our project period with organizations. So, with Habitat for Humanity, typically our applic—or our agreement with them, is set up so that they have a two-year period to acquire the property and then go through the process of getting a family into that location. So, the performance reporting that they do to us is not just whether or not they've acquired a property and are working on working on making it ready for a family, but they actually have to report on the end result of that property. So, who's moved into it, what their demographics are, their income, those kinds of things.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 22:45

So occasionally, with a project like that, it can take time to get a family actually moved into it. So, we've been willing to do some extensions with them. They've—often what has happened is they've acquired the property, they've put in their payment request, we've done the environmental review, we've done all of those pieces. It's just a matter that one of their families has not yet selected that property. So, I know there's sometimes that the, you know, it's on a busier street, so it's not being selected right away as a top priority, and so it just takes a little bit more time to fill a property so that's often like, why we've done an extension.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 23:27

For non-Habitat projects sometimes it's that it took, you know, a contractor a bit longer than they expected, or it took a little bit longer to get into a contract. So, it is normal for us to grant those extensions as needed. Of course, we review them and make sure everything is complying with our end of it. But so that's like kind of an example with Habitat of why we would grant that extension.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 23:52

Perfect. That makes sense. You know, when you think about the cycle of acquiring the property, building the property, and having the information of the person moving into the property. I didn't realize we went that far. So that is very helpful, and I have no concerns about the recommended amount of funding based on that.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 24:13

I do have a follow up to Aldersperson van Zeeland question. In the Habitat for Humanity, they were up front about needing an extension. They explained why in this current application. There was another applicant who needed one—an extension in previous years—did not refer to that in the current application. Does that worry you as a staff, that it's not forthcoming, even though you know it's there? Or is that just kind of an oversight?

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 24:40

Personally, I'm not all that concerned about—I mean, that the task for the completion of the application was to make a proposal for future program year. I mean, I understand the idea here that context is valuable and important, but I don't think it was in an intentional oversight, and I think it was just focusing on the task at hand in terms of pitching their proposal for a future program year.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 25:03

Any other follow up to the Habitat for Humanity extension questions or Habitat in general?

Jenny Krikava (Community Foundation) 25:09

I guess I just wanted to bring up a recommendation to possibly move some dollars around. Just based on looking at organizations I—particularly First Five Fox Valley, I had recommended a—I'd recommended full funding, I will say that just because of the type of organization it is. It's a backbone entity that does more systems level work and coalition building among early childhood and early child care providers. They just they don't have that fundraising capacity, and I hear the fact that they have received significant ARPA funds from the city from the

county, but just in terms of the lens I was using when I was reviewing this application, it was really their fundraising capacity as an organization, and the large public benefit that we are going to get as a community from the services and the resource center that's going to be, you know, operating out of there. So, I just wanted to put on the table possibly moving maybe 15,000 from—you know, looking at the average funding recommendations, maybe moving 15 from Habitat to First Five.

Jenny Krikava (Community Foundation) 26:10

I am not—I am on the Habitat Board, so I don't know that I will vote on that particular recommendation, but I will add that I don't know how reducing that level to below—to like \$35,000, I don't even think they could buy a lot for that price in Appleton. So, I don't know that would give them much assistance, especially when they've asked. They actually have the lowest percentage based on what they asked for. Anyway. That's my feedback.

Terrence Smith (DEI Coordinator - Mayor's Office) 26:39

No.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 26:39

Isaac?

Isaac Uitenbroek (City Plan Commissioner) 26:44

Yeah, I'll comment on something. So, I looked at it based off the scores, and then really trying to look at where are we getting the most bang for the buck on some of this stuff. So, I know based off staff comments, First Five Fox Valley has gotten a significant amount of money so far. You know, I think \$2 million came from the county. So, I initially took them right off and give them zero for allotment to see how we can spread that out over some of the other applicants. And I looked at what they were requesting per unit cost, right? So, if we give them partial funding, is it really doing anything, or can it have a bigger impact somewhere else? So, with Habitat, I think they wanted three units at 80,000 a piece. The way I broke that down, I ended up not—you know, if we couldn't give them 80,000 is 50 going to get them to what they need. And if not, then looking at Rebuilding Fox—or Rebuilding Together, I have them allotted like \$78,500, to give them almost eight units. That's eight households they can get revamped through their program and have a larger impact. Pillars, I've awarded them the full ask for that for their flooring, because that impacts, per their application, 300 individuals. First Five again, I think their request was for fixing some doors for the facility, so I get their overall impact as an organization. I'm understanding that, but the ask is for—to fix a couple of doors. I guess, I think they can find that funding somewhere else. And then WWBIC I had the full amount down there as well at \$30,000, but I'm learning more that we have concerns. So.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 28:21

To follow up with Isaac, the Pillars, I also funded them at the full. When it comes to fundraising and, you know, oftentimes the sexy ask of, you know, "We're helping people", facilities and flooring is really hard to raise funding for. It's hard if you don't have those dollars. And so, I feel like this floor is truly needed. It is truly a safety issue. So, helping them fully fund that project that they might struggle to get funding elsewhere was where I was coming from.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 28:55

And then my concern with First Five Fox Valley, they are good stewards with their money. They do have a lot of funding. My concern was looking at what the project was, and I believe it said that—because they're redoing the former trout building. They say "historic building" in the application. My concern was, from what I gleaned, was that these doors and the repairing of these doors and windows, they didn't realize, with the first walk through in their first application of funding, that this was going need to be done. My concern is this is an old historic

building. When you repair things and open things up, you find things you don't want to find. And I just—I am concerned that this wasn't found first. I'm worried we're going to keep finding more. And is this sustainable funding for the construction? And I hate to say that because the work they do and this resource center is going to be very impactful. That's my feedback.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 30:00

Would it make sense to have Olivia put some numbers up?

Isaac Uitenbroek (City Plan Commissioner) 30:03

So, we can start tracking. Yeah, I was just gonna say.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 30:05

So, like, for example, if you funded Pillars fully as a starting point.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 30:10

I so I know there was some discussion with WWBIC. We just throw in some numbers and adjust them. With WWBIC, it sounded like 10,000 would probably be the most, or maybe it's not funded. What are we thinking for what we want to put in there for now?

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 30:42

I'd argue zero for now, would—'cause we can move it, but maybe...

Jenny Krikava (Community Foundation) 30:48

Do we have an understanding of what's—the match can come from any, any source, or does it have to come from a—?

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 30:57

The WWBIC match?

Jenny Krikava (Community Foundation) 30:58

Yeah, do we know?

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 31:00

Is that our responsibility?

Jenny Krikava (Community Foundation) 31:02

No, no. I was just asking.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 31:03

Oh, sorry. Okay.

Jenny Krikava (Community Foundation) 31:04

It was just a question.

Unknown person 31:05

No, we don't know.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 31:06

Okay.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 31:07

Yeah, I'm not sure exactly how their match process works. I'll say, typically, for these grants that you have to have a match for it's that you can use any other like federal grant that's not—that you're not billing those same services to as match. So, if they had a grant that they needed, say, \$10,000 in match funds for, as long as they're not like billing to us for CDBG funds for activities and then also billing that same activity to whatever grant they're trying to use our funds to match for then, like, that's kind of how it would be looked at. But they couldn't use, like, the same funds for the same project.

Jenny Krikava (Community Foundation) 31:56

I guess I'm looking at organization—sorry.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 31:57

Oh, no. Go ahead.

Jenny Krikava (Community Foundation) 31:58

Just organizational capacity. I feel like they could find that 10,000. So, I think we could—I'd be open to moving that 10,000 to another project.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 32:10

Alder van Zeeland.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 32:11

Thank you. I just wanted to say that I'm first and foremost for fully funding Pillars because I think the investment in Pillars actually affects city services in a way immediately that some of the others do not. So, I would like to see that. In regard to First Five Fox Valley, I know that we are sort of reading and making our assumptions based on what the application says, but what I understand when you're looking at redoing doors in a facility for accessibility, that if you are remodeling a building in a certain way, that actually is something you must do that you can no longer be grandfathered under. So that's something that I think is really important. Yes, we are fixing—we would be fixing doors, but it's for accessibility, and really, if that's not done, the rest of the building would be an issue. Thank you.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 33:13

So, we have, we—just for now. We have pillars that fully funded, and do we want to—is that zero or—?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 33:23

Yeah.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 33:23

Okay.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 33:23

Yeah. I just puts it in as a dash.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 33:26

If you went back and did the 50, 32, and 25—like how the recommendation goes—where, where are we?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 33:32

Yeah.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 33:32

Just to see what where we were.

[There was a lot of cross talk as Olivia Galyon put up numbers]

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 34:04

So, yeah, we'd have \$1500 to move or move to someone.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 34:11

So then just reviewing, if you can go up, that is the full Pillars. It's \$25,000 to First Five, and then \$30 to Rebuilding Together, and \$50 to Habitat. How do we feel about these preliminary?

Terrence Smith (DEI Coordinator - Mayor's Office) 34:26

Can I ask a quick question?

Terrence Smith (DEI Coordinator - Mayor's Office) 34:28

Just, and I just don't remember reading this, particularly about Habitat. Was that guarantee? Because it was about buying properties, right? Was that guaranteed that those properties had to be in Appleton?

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 34:28

Yeah.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 34:42

Yes, they will have to be in Appleton.

Terrence Smith (DEI Coordinator - Mayor's Office) 34:44

Okay.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 34:46

So, if you have a little extra, where would you want to put that?

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 34:51

Before we do that, can I have Aldersperson Schultz, you had a question to jump in with.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 34:56

Yeah, just maybe my opinion on First Five, a little bit and recommendation for remodeling in that space. The Trout—current Trout Museum is fully ADA compliant and has access to all five, six floors with a compliant elevator. So, I suspect that remodeling is looking at spaces that they're going to reuse in a way that would help access other areas of the building that are currently accessed by the public and they have installation so I guess I feel like the current building, in some way, shape, and form, is compliant. And if we're talking about financial impact of these grant dollars—I mean, I'm not on the board, but I would prefer to see those monies go to, again, Pillars or Habitat where it's going to have a little bit more significant impact to a family or a home purchase or land purchase, that sort of thing versus some additional access to some spaces that may not be accessible at the moment in a building that's already ADA compliant.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 35:57

Melissa, I'm sorry. I cut you off.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 35:57

Oh no, that was fine. I was just saying, do we want to put the—just to even it out, to continue our recommendation?

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 36:12

Do we—I don't know—

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 36:14

Chair, if you don't mind, I like where Marissa is going with this, but I can't see what that remainder is. Can you just remind us right now what's outstanding?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 36:25

So, we're at \$143,500. So, we have \$1,500 to adjust right now and then we can kind of adjust within applications from there.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 36:33

Thank you. I appreciate it.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 36:35

Does it make sense to put it at Rebuilding Together? Just because they have a more flexible—they can fund units that are smaller, maybe on rehab projects that are smaller?

Isaac Uitenbroek (City Plan Commissioner) 36:45

Yeah, they were at about—were they proposing 10 units? So, they were at about \$10,000, I thought, a unit. So, I think—

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 36:54

To make that 33,500?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 36:55

Yeah, yeah. I think that makes sense. I'll just say, like I said, there's some variety, sometimes in the type of project they fund. So sometimes the projects are \$600 to put in grab bars and a bathtub adjustment so it can be a walk-in shower and stuff like that. So just from that perspective, I think funding-wise, it's—that additional \$1,500 is probably most movable for them compared to others.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 37:25

I feel like I like this, but I also could see reducing First Five.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 37:34

To—and again, maybe this is two in the weeds, but in their application, it does, you know—"this older building must be changed just to support the accessibility needs for people who use wheelchairs, walkers, strollers, and other equipment for entering and utilizing the building. Project would replace old, heavy glass manual doors with automatic opening, double electronic double doors for better accessibility and two new electronic doors." So just on the doors it is—they probably are ADA compliant, but making them more accessible.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 38:05

I think they just have one accessible route, and they probably want to make all of their access points accessible. There's also an elevator in the building.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 38:16

What would be your proposal of reduction?

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 38:20

I mean, I'm fine with this list, but I felt like there were some concerns with First Five's numbers. So, I think if we wanted to move some of theirs to the housing section, or I'm fine with this too.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 38:37

We could start small and say I'm in agreement with the extra funding going to Rebuilding together Fox Valley, because, again, that is a safety, public safety issue that really affects our bottom line as a city.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 38:51

Other thoughts on moving, putting elsewhere, feedback, ideas? Just to recap, Habitat at 50,000. We put the remainder at Rebuilding Together \$33,500. First Five Fox Valley at \$25,000. Pillars at 36,500. Zero for WWBIC, for a total of \$145,000. I see a lot of head nods. I wasn't expecting this this quickly. What do then?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 39:36

I think if, yeah, if everyone agrees—

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 39:39

I was looking to Attorney Abshire if we want a motion to kind of formalize the amended dollar amounts here.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 39:48

Do I need to state all the dollar amounts again for that motion?

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 39:52

So how do you do because you had a motion and a second already, but just for discussion. So then, do you have to rescind that or you have to start—?

Attorney Amanda Abshire (City Attorney) 39:59

That's what I was going to say. So right now we have on the table a motion for discussion. If the original mover wants—who was Katie Van Zeeland—wants to rescind that, and then the seconder was Isaac. If you guys want to rescind that, and then make a motion to approve and then memorialize those dollar amounts in your motion, that would be probably the cleanest way to do it.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 40:18

So, you can rescind your second first and then I'll rescind.

Isaac Uitenbroek (City Plan Commissioner) 40:22

Sure. I rescind my second.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 40:25

I'll rescind the motion for discussion and then make a motion to approve the numbers as listed on the spreadsheet.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 40:35

Isaac, would you like to second?

Isaac Uitenbroek (City Plan Commissioner) 40:36

I would.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 40:39

All right, so we have them—

Attorney Amanda Abshire (City Attorney) 40:41

Olivia just memorialized.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 40:44

Yep.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 40:46

Would you like me to do that?

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 40:47

I would love you.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 40:48

I would gladly do that. Okay, so that would—the funding would be \$50,000 for Habitat for Humanity, \$33,500 for Rebuilding Together, \$25,000 for First Five Fox Valley, and \$36,500 for Pillars, for a total of \$145,000.

Attorney Amanda Abshire (City Attorney) 41:15

We have a second so we have the motion.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 41:18

All right, those in favor signify—

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 41:20

Actually, can, I just make a statement first, if you don't mind? And I would just say that if, in the future, if WWBIC wants to reapply, what I would like to see as a member of the committee, if I were to be a member of the committee, would be to some kind of tracking, some kind of letter from someone from Appleton that they've helped, something that helps us better, you know, better make a decision to give them any funding. Thank you.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 41:50

Any other follow up? All those in favor, signify by saying aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That is six zero, and it passes.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 42:02

Let me bring up the agenda, because I was not ready for that. All right, we have no information items.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 42:13

Sorry, just wait. I'll rescind that too.

Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 42:18

Deputy Director Kress.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 42:19

Thank you. If I could just to look out into the future here. As we discussed earlier, these are preliminary recommendations. Over the years as the final allocation has come in, we've taken two different paths, and so just wanting to put some feelers out at this point in time. Probably the cleanest way would be to use a proportional approach to either toggle up or down for each award depending on the final allocation amount, with the exception being, I suppose Pillars. If we received more than we're projecting, obviously we're not going to give them more than they're requesting.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 43:02

The other potential path is, if we would be interested, as a group, as a board here, in deviating, potentially, based on final allocation, we could pull the board back together just to pin down the final numbers. So just, I guess, quick feeling among the group in terms of like, which strategy or approach feels most appropriate in this case.

Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 43:26

I feel like you're consistently on the same—

Alderperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 43:31

I'm okay with pro—with proportion, because these are going to come in front of the Council anyway.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 43:37

Correct.

Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 43:38

And then, just to confirm, does this have to go to community development—

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 43:42

Correct.

Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 43:42

—for approval there, and then. Okay.

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 43:45

So, the preliminary allocations will go to Community Development Committee for approval. They'll then be passed on to Common Council. And then, once we receive our actual allocation amount from HUD, we can go through that, if we'll do the proportional toggling there, and then would take it directly back to Community Development Committee for final allocation approval, and then up through Common Council for that as well.

Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 44:10

And if the nonprofits have questions or concerns about how the funding was done, do you offer them office hours to talk about it and explain?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 44:19

Yeah, we can discuss it with them if they have any questions.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 44:23

Any final questions?

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 44:25

I'm just curious, did um—when they—before they submitted their application, did they know that it was going to be a much less money?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 44:31

Yes, yep, that is something that we made them aware of, and then also did put out information about the lack of public service dollars available. So.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 44:43

Is that where Leaven would normally would fall, under public service?

Olivia Galyon (Community Development Specialist) 44:46

Yes, Leaven would typically, yeah. So, we did not receive an application from them this year, but I think they knew that there weren't funds available for that. So.

Marissa Downs (ARA Chairperson) 44:54

Got it.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 44:55

One other thing to add there, and perhaps you saw it in the applications, but we do also ask the question. If each applicant will be willing to accept a partial award. And in each case here, the applicants that are before you, were before you, expressed willingness to accept that. So, between being transparent on the front end about the amount that we project to have available and asking the question about partial awards, we felt confident with the way we brought it forward today.