



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

March 24, 2008

Agenda Item No. 34
Roll Call No. 08-
Communication No. 08-141
Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community
Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) contract (COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN) for the 2007-2008 CSBG Program Year.

SYNOPSIS:

Approval of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) contract made to the Iowa Department of Human Rights/ Division of Community Action Agencies for the City of Des Moines Community Services Program for low-income persons from October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$526,864 (revenues)

Funding Source: Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) through the Iowa Department of Human Rights/ Division of Community Action Agencies, deposited to the FY08 Operating Budget, Community Services Block Grants – SP027, CDD049900, CSBG2008001, pg. 106.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

CSBG provides funding for the City's Community Action Agency with services delivered through the Community Development Department's Community Services Division. Services are delivered through the downtown office in the Armory Building and the Forest Avenue, Logan, Archie Brooks and Four Mile Community Services site offices. CSBG funding is leveraged with the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and United Way which also provide funding to the City's Community Action efforts. CSBG funds provide the necessary staff support so that 100% of funds from sources such as the City franchise and MidAmerican I-CARE funds can be used solely to assist households in maintaining heating and electrical service. In addition to the many other programs and services provided by the Community Services division, CSBG funds also help, in conjunction with donations and/or grants, support the personal pantries at the Forest and Logan offices, the City's holiday basket and garden projects and assists households in maintaining heating and electrical service.

The Community Services Division operates as the Community Action Agency for the City of Des Moines. It is charged with providing services to the City's low-income families and trying to address and eliminate causes of poverty. The City became a public Community Action Agency (CAA) in 1977.

The origin of Community Action can be found in the signing of the federal Equal Opportunity Act in 1964. There are now 1,000 Community Action Agencies in the U.S. The City of Des Moines is one of eighteen Community Action Agencies serving Iowa.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: July 23, 2007

Roll Call Number: 07-1468

Action: Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Community Action Plan for 2008-2009 CSBG Program Years. (Council Communication No. 07-440) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date: July 11, 2007

Roll Call Number: N/A

Action: Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) recommended approval of CSBG Community Action Plan (application).

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Approval of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Community Action Plan Application for 2008-2009 CSBG Program Year.

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