

**CITY OF LODI
INFORMAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING
"SHIRTSLEEVE" SESSION
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008**

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, February 12, 2008, commencing at 7:00 a.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members – Hansen, Hitchcock, Johnson, Katzakian, and Mayor Mounce

Absent: Council Members – None

Also Present: City Manager King, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Johl

B. TOPIC(S)

B-1 "Review of 2008-09 Community Development Block Grant Funding Requests and New Grading/Rating Matrix"

City Manager King briefly introduced the subject matter of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding requests and new grading/rating matrix.

Community Improvement Manager Joseph Wood provided a PowerPoint presentation and specifically discussed the annual CDBG allocation process, community-based organizations (CBO), application grading and scoring matrix, scoring categories, application review and scoring, CBO funding requests, current status, annual HOME allocation process, housing assistance programs, and staff recommendation.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Wood stated that, in understanding the difference between the 6 and 14 figures, each jurisdiction takes their program allocation from what is given to them from the County.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. King stated a portion of the funding does pay for a partial position to administer the program.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Wood stated the points can be adjusted to ensure higher compliance by applicants as the Council deems appropriate because the scoring elements are still being finalized.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Program Administrator Sara Bontrager stated the organizational and project delivery criteria focuses in on what specific experience the group has with the particular kind of activity and not necessarily with the grant itself.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Wood stated some organizations do receive funding from other cities and the County. He stated the City attempts to provide the amount of funding that is directly tied to the level of service provided to the citizens of Lodi.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Wood stated fair housing services are mandated by Department of Housing and Urban Development and the alternative would be to bring the service in-house; although, there are several complicated landlord-tenant issues that are referred out by the City to agencies with expertise in the area.

In response to Mayor Mounce, Mr. Wood stated that he does not have the exact address for the Hope Avenue Apartments, but they are in close proximity to the facility.

In response to Mayor Mounce, Mr. Wood stated the HOME program is advertised through local realtors and lenders and public meetings are held regarding the same.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Wood stated he is not aware of realtors charging an additional point or some similar practice for the HOME program service.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King stated the Council could focus in on brick and mortar types of projects rather than projects with ongoing operational costs. He stated the requests for brick and mortar types of projects will likely be larger in amount and the criteria could be adjusted as desired.

Discussion ensued between Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Council Member Johnson, and Mr. King regarding making funding available to brick and mortar types of projects as a priority and the City's criteria to do the same with the exception of graffiti removal programs. Mr. King provided a brief overview of the process, timeliness of schedule, and recommendations regarding allocations, which will be brought to Council at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Wood stated the staff recommendation will be made known to the applicants prior to the hearing.

Mayor Mounce and Council Member Hitchcock requested rankings and a clear understanding of the criteria be provided to the Council before the Council considers the matter at a Council meeting.

C. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

D. ADJOURNMENT

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl
City Clerk