



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

Office of the City Manager

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Kurt D. Hodgen
City Manager

TO: Kurt Hodgen, City Manager
FROM: Kristin McCombe, Grant Compliance Officer
DATE: October 12, 2016
RE: HUD FY-2014 and 2016 CDBG Amendment

Summary: \$14,104 of CDBG funding that had previously been allocated to the 2014-2015 Mercy House Small Mercies Expansion project will be moved to the 2016-2017 Fire Department's AED project.

Background: In the 2014 CDBG Plan Year, Mercy House was awarded \$28,210.00 in CDBG funds to rehab and expand the space they use for their Little Mercies daycare area that serves families living in their shelter units. As we got into the planning phase of the project, both CDBG and Mercy House staff determined that due to the many federal regulations that come along with CDBG funding, this project would not be a wise use of CDBG funds. Therefore, CDBG staff encouraged Mercy House to consider looking at alternative projects that would benefit those living in their housing units. Earlier this year we moved \$14,106 of these funds to the Kitchen Appliance Upgrade Project. They have expressed gratitude for those funds and have chosen to return the balance of \$14,104 to the city's CDBG fund.

Key Issues: One of the best ways to combat cardiac arrest is by the use of early defibrillation. Though there are defibrillators on fire engines and ambulances, there are often other administrative staff, police investigators, or even employees or trained visitors that would be able to provide that defibrillation in a timely manner. The fire department is requesting that AEDs be available in each Police Department and Fire Department staff vehicle, as well as having an AED placed in City Hall.

Environmental Impact: An environmental review will be conducted in accordance with CDBG regulations. It is anticipated that the project will be exempt.

Fiscal Impact: CDBG funds operate outside of the City's general budget. The grant is a reimbursement grant, so funds must be expended from the City's accounts prior to reimbursement from HUD.

Prior Actions: 5/10/16 – Council approved the CDBG 2016 Action Plan that included funding for the Fire AED project in the amount of \$19,622.30. This included the \$14, 104 in funding from the Mercy House. HUD responded to our Action plan advising us that we instead needed to do an amendment to add this funding to the AED project. The AED project is therefore currently funded at only \$5,518.30. This amendment will bring the total funding back to \$19,622.30.

Alternatives:

- (a) Hold a public hearing and 30 day public comment period.
- (b) Do not hold a public hearing and 30 day public comment period.

Community Engagement:
10/10/16 – Amendment advertised in the DNR

Recommendation: Staff recommends that council hold a public comment period and open the 30 day public comment period

Attachments: None

Review:

The initiating Department Director will place in Legistar, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.

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