

HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

JUNE 8, 2020

7:00 PM

Call in Number: 1-978-990-5298; Access Code: 273974

If there is a problem with the audio, please dial 603-821-2049 to advise.

ROLL CALL

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Carrie Schena, Urban Programs Manager

Re: R-20-026 (HUD Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

R-20-026

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**ADOPTING THE 2020 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR
AND EXPEND THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (“CDBG”) AND HOME
INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021**

GENERAL DISCUSSION

PUBLIC COMMENT

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

POSSIBLE NON-PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT



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Community Development Division
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Community Development 589-3095
Planning and Zoning 589-3090
Building Safety 589-3080
Code Enforcement 589-3100
Urban Programs 589-3085
Transportation Department 880-0100
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Memo

To: Human Affairs Committee
cc: Mayor Jim Donchess; Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director
From: Carrie Schena, Urban Programs Manager *Carrie Schena*
Date: June 3, 2020
Re: R-20-026 (HUD Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan)

The City was in the process of developing our HUD Annual Action Plan, which this year is part of a new 5-year Consolidated Plan, when the COVID-19 public health crisis resulted in the Governor taking actions to reduce the spread of the virus (i.e. Stay-at Home Orders, etc.). In March it was decided to table R-20-026 in order to re-evaluate the proposed activities as well as direct attention to the immediate needs resulting from the pandemic.

As this Committee is aware, the City received CDBG funds under the CARES Act and implemented a new program to assist in the stabilization of existing small businesses and non-profits that had significant disruption due to the impact of coronavirus. In addition to the CARES Act funding, we reprogrammed existing CDBG funds toward the COVID-19 Impact Fund Program, a portion of which were originally in R-20-026. With that background in mind, I would like to propose a path forward.

First, Urban Programs reached out to each agency to verify if they wished to proceed with their proposed FY21 CDBG projects. Initially there was some concern whether the projects would be feasible given the need to fundraise to reach the full project cost. However, with a little time and stability back in our professional worlds, the agencies all responded that they wish to proceed; that they would either fund-raise the balance needed or scale back the scope of work (where that is possible). This should answer those questions raised back at the February HAC meeting.

Secondly, funding within R-20-026 is now short as a result of pulling the reprogrammed amount of \$41,527.00. The original idea was to remove or scale back proposed projects to balance out, but we would like to present a different solution. Given the recent months of social distancing (and isolation), we would also like to leave the City's requests in-tact. Noting the importance of offering quality park-space to Nashua's youth, especially as (or when) the use of our recreational facilities is resumed.

We propose using existing program income to cover the gap. Program income is derived from the repayment of Housing Improvement Loans. At the start of the fiscal year we estimate the amount anticipated to be received, and any excess is placed back in the Housing Improvement account (acting as a revolving loan fund). We are near the end of the fiscal year and have received \$67,450 in program income above the original estimate. Normally, we would not advocate taking funds from a housing activity, yet given the emergency nature of our previous actions, it makes sense as a solution in order to proceed forward with the FY21 Plan.

Lastly, I want to highlight that the DRAFT - 2020 Consolidated Plan (including the first year Action Plan) has been posted and is available for public comment. The Plan and additional information can be found on the Urban Programs webpage at www.nashuanh.gov.