

HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

January 18, 2024

A meeting of the Human Affairs Committee was held Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance.

The roll call was taken with 5 members of the Human Affairs Committee present:

Alderman Thomas Lopez, Chairman, presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman Thomas Lopez, Chair
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly, Vice Chair (arrived at 7:01 p.m.)
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman Tim Sennott
Alderman Chris Thibodeau

Members of the Committee absent:

Also in Attendance: Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager
Kevin Pucillo, Nashua PD

ROLL CALL

ELECTION OF CLERK

Chairman Lopez called for nominations for the Committee Clerk for the 2024-2025 term.

ALDERWOMAN TIMMONS NOMINATED ALDERMAN SENNOTT AS THE HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CLERK

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO VOTE ON ELECTION OF ALDERMAN LOPEZ AS THE HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CLERK FOR THE 2024-2025 TERM MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARING

PY 2020-2024 CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HOME) PROGRAMS

Chairman Lopez

Mr. Long, would you like to give a quick intro to that?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Thank you. Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager. This is regarding the special allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds we receive through the Federal CARES Act. We received several rounds of this. The first round was used primarily to help businesses that were experiencing hardships at the very beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. One of those businesses assisted went out of business unfortunately and therefore that assistance had to be repaid to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development as the goal for those funds was not met in that situation and that's the amount of \$25,000. So that amount is now available to be reallocated. The Urban Programs Department is proposing that we reallocate to the United Way of Greater Nashua. Specifically, they have a program that refurbishes laptops, tablets, other technology for use of lower income households for things such as telehealth appointments, remote work, virtual schooling.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. Any questions from the Committee members?

Alderman Timmons

Thank you, Alderman Lopez. Mr. Long I have a question about the CDBG Grant. Is that in addition with the United Way with the CAC Grant?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

This is completely separate from CAC funds.

Alderman Timmons

Did they apply for CAC as well? I didn't get the whole list.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes Ma'am they did. I don't recall off the top of my head whether it's for this specific program. I can share though that the Urban Programs Department specifically reached out to United Way regarding this \$25,000 as originally our round four funds when those were allocated - those CARES Act funds. United Way was a recipient but after that award was made it was determined that the project was actually ineligible.

Alderman Timmons

Okay.

Chairman Lopez

So as a point of clarification for our following meeting it might be good. Would it be possible for you to check the CAC and see what the United Way applied for because I know it was a program like many, many an organization with many, many programs they may not have applied for the laptop program.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yeah, I can look that up in about 5 minutes.

Chairman Lopez

Okay, I thought so. So then we might have more clarification on that point Alderman Timmons but for any individuals who would be here to speak in either testimony in favor or against should it turn out that they are in fact applying for that in the CAC and now, we could still if we fund them through this then we don't have to necessarily fund them through that. The CAC which used to be called the "Review and Comment Program". It's the Mayor's allotments to different organizations. They have a pretty impressive review and ranking system which I think we all wish we could do here when we have to review the CDBG funds. Any questions over here?

Alderman Kelly

I just wanted to know if the program that is being requested to reallocate was one of the programs that was in front of us last year when we did the CDBG Funding Plan?

Chairman Lopez

Apologies. Urban Program Manager Long I don't remember the answer to that either.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

The answer is no. This is a new activity under contemplation.

Alderman Kelly

Okay. Did we get any information like we normally do when someone applies for CDBG?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Pardon.

Alderman Kelly

Did we get any information?

Chairman Lopez

Like an application, description to the program, all that stuff.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes. So we did not do an application process for this. Instead what we requested from United Way was a brief write-up of the project and then we did an eligibility analysis based on that.

Alderman Kelly

Okay. Thank you.

Chairman Lopez

One this I would note is that I noticed an announcement from United Way already and that's when this program was being brought back because it was really, really – it was very well received and important during the pandemic. Particularly, we had a lot of students who didn't have access to Chromebooks, or computers, or that type of thing. So I think they're going to do it whether we support it or not. The question is whether this money would be supportive of it.

I would just remind everybody though that we can have a more thorough discussion when it comes to the actual meeting and we're just mostly here for clarifying questions. Any questions Alderman Thibodeau?

Alderman Thibodeau

No, I'm good. What you just said answered it.

Chairman Lopez

Alright, then we will proceed with the public hearing part. Thank you Urban Manager Long.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

The public hearing was declared closed at 7:11 p.m.

Regular Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Re: Community Development Block Grant CARES Act Round 1 Funding Reallocation

From: Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager
Re: Urban Programs Department Updates – December 2023

From: Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager
Re: CDBG Home Funding Overview for HAC

Without objection, Chairman Lopez accepted the communications and placed them on file.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-24-001

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Tim Sennott
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$26,800 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY INTO POLICE GRANT ACTIVITY "2022 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT
PROGRAM - ACTIVE THREAT TRAINING"**

Kevin Pucillo, Nashua PD

I'm here to speak on behalf of the grant. Emily from Emergency Management had a prior commitment and so we accepted it for her. This grant is for \$26,800. It's a federal pass through, through to Department of Homeland Security to the State Department of Safety. The funds will be used to backfill overtime for officers and fire personnel for two different things that we're going to be doing with the funds. One is training NFR personnel on TEC which is Tactical Emergency Critical Care. The second part of the funds will be used for training between the Police Department, Fire Department on warm zone training during active shooter training. So it would be the warm zone area where they set up like (inaudible) system to, you know, so everyone is on the same page if we have some type of active shooter incident we know what we're supposed to be doing, so. Those funds are due to expire September 29, 2025 and there's no match.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. So I think in context those who were on the Board last year might remember I think it was one of the last things we did was accept money for safety vests for firefighters. So I could imagine that maybe we're trying to enhance our response to situations where someone is armed so we can make sure the full 911 team is protected.

Kevin Pucillo, Nashua PD

Not that. So the TC part is the emergency care for - so even though our fire personnel, you know, we have AMR that obviously renders first aid the majority of the time. Fire and police sometimes arrive before the ambulance gets there so we train them. It's almost like combat training so you'd have your gunshot wounds, stab wounds. It could be from an explosion something like that where that aid needs to be rendered immediately and you can't wait for your medical personnel to show up. So that type of training. They learn how to do clot, sucking chest wounds, stuff like not to get too graphic.

The second part with the active warm zone training is to train in the warm zone itself with the fire personnel. We train as a Police Department. We do it all the time with the School District. So we're pretty competent in an active shooting. NFR that's not their specialty so we need to train with them more, and what to do when you have an active shooter incident, and then warm zone is usually outside of the hot zone where the active shooter is so it's another layer outside of that. That's why it's called the "warm zone". So it's a trained...

Chairman Lopez

That's very useful for clarification to have because I know I get questions from constituents. For example, there was a stand-off in proximity to, I think, Ledge Street and Boys and Girls Club which were affected by it but then because they were in the warm zone radius of it not necessarily in the hot zone.

Kevin Pucillo, Nashua PD

Correct. That's a good example right there.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. Any questions from members of the Committee or comments?

Alderwoman Timmons

Thank you. Thank you Officer Pucillo. I have a question. I'm glad it's with the fire and safety. Is that all the Fire Department or is it just...

Kevin Pucillo, Nashua PD

Yes.

Alderwoman Timmons

It is.

Kevin Pucillo, Nashua PD

Yes so the way they train, I believe, most of the time they train on duty because they'll put one fire house out on service and our guys will training them on the TECC during that time period and their station will be covered by other personnel.

Alderman Timmons

Can I have a follow up? The follow up so do you know how many licenses or how many spots that's in that particular...

Kevin Pucillo, Nashua PD

So it's not a license. It's every two years you get recertified in it. So the TECC is every two years. So it's almost like getting certified in CPR. There's no card or anything like that but they send it into I would assume it would be FEMA that everyone was trained in TECC.

Chairman Lopez

I meant to point this out earlier but just to clarify, no match means we are just getting money, right?

Kevin Pucillo, Nashua PD

Correct. We'll get the \$26,800.

Chairman Lopez

I figured the new members would love hearing that and that's what we're always looking for. Any further questions?

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE
MOTION CARRIED**

R-24-003

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd

AMENDING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021-2025 TO REALLOCATE ROUND ONE CDBG-CV FUNDING UNDER THE 2020 CARES ACT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN SENNOTT TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE OF R-24-003

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Lopez

Urban Program Manager Long if you want to come up. Were you able to figure out whether they were applying for a different program?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Good evening. Yes, I was able to pull the grant application that they submitted for Citizen's Advisory Commission funding for next year and United Way is applying for funding for their Learning Knighted Program which includes partially loaning out tablets, laptops, and other equipment but also encompasses more than just that.

Chairman Lopez

In light of that is there a timeline like a deadline for applying these funds?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

For the CARES Act funds or the...?

Chairman Lopez

Yes, my understanding is the reason we are doing this is because one of our programs didn't work and this is actually previous CDBG money. Is that correct?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes, that is correct. I believe we have until 2026 to expend the funds but I would want to double check that.

Chairman Lopez

As an opinion, I'm not ready to make a motion, but personally I wouldn't mind seeing more opportunity for other programs to apply just because there does seem to be a duplicate. As I understand the program, it's mostly donating laptops, refurbishing them, and then giving them back out. It wouldn't be terrible to have somebody from United Way be able to explain exactly what the \$25,000 would be for and it wouldn't be terrible for other programs that might be running emergency programs right now to be able to have an opportunity to express what they would do with it.

Alderwoman Timmons

Thank you, Alderman Lopez. I hate to say I really love United Way. They do wonderful, wonderful things. I mean non-stop. I'm a member of United Way. I do a lot of volunteering for United Way but the double-dipping I'm a little concerned. It seems like it's that way. It may not be but what you just - you can clarify if I'm wrong. It seems to be double-dipping in two different pots of money but with the same agenda. Is that correct or I'm wrong?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

The funding wouldn't be for the exact same usage. There is overlap between the two requests. Some possibilities here would be certainly if the Board of Aldermen approves this amount of funding that would be communicated to the Citizen's Advisory Commission. I also am staff liaison to that board and inform them of which organizations also receive CDBG funding or have applied for CDBG funding so they can be aware of that information as they make their funding decisions.

Chairman Lopez

Alderman Kelly.

Alderwoman Kelly

Yeah, I also have some concerns about going forward with this right away. I'm sort of interested in if we don't have to do anything til 2026 could we potentially consider it when we look at all of the applications that we get from CDBG for this year.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Unfortunately, I don't think it is really possible because general CDBG funding doesn't have all the requirements that CARES Act funding does. The CARES Act/CDBG funds have to tie into the prevention response to the COVID-19 pandemic which general CDBG activities do not.

Alderwoman Kelly

So if I could follow-up? So what you're saying is this laptop refurbishment is something that came about during COVID because people were home and doing remote things.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes, that's correct. When we approached United Way, we discussed, you know, is this something that you think is still viable and needed due to ongoing concerns with the pandemic.

Alderwoman Kelly

Okay.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

If the Committee wishes though, we could put out a call for applications and that new call for applications could be tailored to the requirements of the CDBG Cares funds.

Alderwoman Kelly

I could potentially be open for that. I think \$25,000 is a good chunk and when we go through our typical CDBG, we do a lot of vetting so. I love the United Way as well. I know they're doing great work but as Alderman Lopez pointed out, it would be nice to hear from them a little bit more about the program and make sure we're being equitable in our choices.

Chairman Lopez

I would also want to amend Alderman Timmons' because I know sometimes when you're trying to express something on the spot it's a little hard. I think maybe contingency planning would be another way of describing it because as somebody who has a background in non-profit development, you don't want to put all your eggs in one basket if you care about the program at all especially when it's a new one. So the sustainability plan would be to try and find multiple sources of something.

In addition, this is sort of a windfall where we reached out to them so they may not even have really considered when they applied their CAC that this would be available or a possibility at all and ultimately, you kind of want to see which way the wind blows when it comes to applications because you don't just give up the program. One person says no, you go to the next one. Is that a fair summary Alderman Timmons?

Alderman Timmons

Thank you Alderman Lopez. I just if you can just out of the comfort of your lane which is really great Julian but do you have an idea of what they applied for under CAC?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes. So for the Learning Knighted Program, they describe as having three main aspects including one-on-one tutoring program, their school supply pantry which provides supplies for schools in our District, and technology which is the tablets, laptops, etc.

Alderman Timmons

May I? And that cost is how much?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

The request that they've submitted is for \$20,000 through the CAC funds.

Chairman Lopez

Alderman Timmons you're the CAC representative, aren't you?

Alderman Timmons

Yeah, that's why.

Chairman Lopez

So you'll be seeing this in detail.

Alderman Timmons

Yeah but I just want to know because I don't want to just knock them off and say no you can't get this grant because you're getting this grant. I just want to compare the two that's all.

Chairman Lopez

Yup that's fair. I think one thing we could do is just table this for a month, give them a chance to figure out which one they want to do. CAC their schedule is kicking in now, right., and as a member or a participant in that both you and Alderman Timmons would be able to kind of read the room in there and see how they're feeling too I think, right?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes, Sir. The CAC's next meeting is next Wednesday, January 24th.

Chairman Lopez

Now do they this year have enough money for all the applications?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

No, Sir.

Chairman Lopez

They're in the same boat as CDBG.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

I believe we are still working with an estimate not a final amount from the Mayor's Office and that's in the realm of between \$500,000 and \$600,000 as usual and the total amount of request received is \$1.3 million.

Chairman Lopez

Sounds like a lot but it goes really quickly. Typically how many programs apply for the CAC versus CDBG? Can you just give a...

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes. So it's usually within the realm about ten for CDBG and much larger number applied for CAC. For that, you're looking around forty.

Chairman Lopez

Can I infer from my own experience that that's largely because the CAC doesn't have quite as many restrictions on it as the CDBG money?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

I would assume that's a large part of it. Also, possibly some of these agencies would not be eligible for CDBG funding. A lot of them are applying for operational expenses - actually almost all of them are applying for operating funds versus kind of bricks and mortar work. We have a cap on CDBG at only 15% of the grant can be expended on those kind of operating expenses for non-profits.

Chairman Lopez

So on the one side for the non-profits, they can't find a lot of places that will support operating expenses but, on our side, we're not necessarily going to let all the applications in - only 15% of them. A shortened number anyway so it creates pretty fierce competition.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes. Certainly under public services which is kind of those operating expenses and just for clarity especially for new Aldermen, that is by HUD statute. That's not something we as a city impose.

Chairman Lopez

Yeah and that was kind of what I was referring to with the restrictions is HUD is Housing and Urban Development. It's a federally run program. The Community Development Block Grant is the CDBG aspect of it and it doesn't even do just what we're doing here. There's a number of other applications of it too that take place. So does anyone want to make a motion? I would probably make a motion to table but that's non-debatable. So I don't want to...

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN TIMMONS TO TABLE

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Lopez

Any particular timeframe?

Alderman Timmons

I would stay within the next Human Affairs Committee meeting. We should Table it until then.

Chairman Lopez

Alright. So the motion would be to table this until the next Human Affairs meeting. That would give time for CAC to discuss it for United Way to come on in if they want to and present on what they're working on and that's generally to have more information.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE - None

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Chairman Lopez

As a general discussion item, this is the part where Committee members can express things that can be discussed and gone back and forth. I have noticed that consistently it has used as remarks by the Aldermen.

General discussion - we discuss things. You introduce an idea and we have a conversation about it, we reach a resolution.

Aldermanic comments - if you just want to review something, comment something, or make an announcement. We're not really supposed to be arguing with each at that point. It's just comment, comment, comment. So with that context, this is our first organizing meeting of the year so it might be a good idea for people to talk about things that they might want to see me stick on the agenda or groups you may want to invite. Anybody have any ideas or topics for discussion?

Alderman Sennott

Manager Long has his hand up.

Chairman Lopez

Manager Long come on up here. I was sort of imaging members of the Committee but.

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

Apologies. I do have some business to present to the Committee. So CDBG grant applications for FY'2025, those were all received by mid-December. I want to ask when you would like to have the applicants come in to present before you? I believe traditionally your February meeting is when that happens.

Chairman Lopez

My opinion would be as soon as possible because usually we're under some kind of crazy deadline to make decisions about the fate and future of all of this. Do we know what the HUD amount for CDBG is going to be? Last year it was like a delay.

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

Unfortunately, we do not. We are thinking that we're not going to receive the grant allocation until fairly late in the process. This year unfortunately due to kind of how budget making is going at the federal level and all the continuing resolutions so HUD has not released those numbers to us yet. We're working on based on estimates, the numbers we're using is based on the current year awards minus 15 percent. The thought there being that when we receive our actual numbers hopefully they will be higher than that and we'll be in the position of being able to give more money rather than taking money away.

Chairman Lopez

So as a practical application of that when people hear that the government is approaching a shutdown, and it's a negotiated budget, or that type of thing, this is the direct result of that is actual funding doesn't quite make it down to the federal...

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

That's correct. HUD isn't able to do their formula calculations until there's a budget.

Chairman Lopez

And yet everyone at HUD is still busy at work in setting all these conditions that we better have our plan and all that stuff ready even if we don't know actually exactly how much money we're going to get.

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

HUD did just release a waiver because they ask that we do not submit our action plan until there's real numbers. We're not required to submit until either our usual deadline which is May 15th or if that is less than 60 days after they release the award, we can submit our plan up to 60 days after we receive our actual grant allocation for FY25.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. So we have a much bigger wiggle room here but typically we said earlier I think you said 20 organizations usually apply for CDBG or is that CAC?

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

It's about ten for CDBG and about 40 for CAC.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. It's up to the Committee but as far as the organizations that apply if you'd imagine that there's 10 and you give 3 organizations ten minutes each, that's 30 minutes a meeting. So we can have long meetings which I love or we can just start in February, then do one in March, and then do one in April.

Alderwoman Timmons

Yes but we want to have this all done by when? I mean if we have 3 at each meeting, that's 3 months.

Chairman Lopez

Yup, 3 months. We would interview most of the applications by April. The deadline described was May but there's also a potential waiver for that.

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

Yes. Currently I am working based on the May 15th assumption that that is when we'll be submitting our final action plan which includes the allocations for everyone we'll be funding. Based on that timeline, I would ask that perhaps you instead do presentations in February and March and vote on your recommendations in March because we'd need to have a second public hearing once there's actual allocations made in a public comments period.

Chairman Lopez

So we're having long meetings anyway. So I will restrain myself kind of from bringing in all of the other things that I typically like to do. I try to interview different organizations that are working on things like sober housing, emergency housing. The Substandard Living Conditions Committee that we used to have was folded into this one and then in general, I also try to give time for anybody who has a program or project that's regularly grant funded. That's very often like Public Health to come and present on those different things so as Aldermen when they come up, we know what we're talking about. So I will leave that alone for a while and maybe starting doing that one once CDBG is more or less wrapped up unless an organization explicitly comes and says we want to present on something because there's a time-sensitive thing and we want to make sure you guys know what's going on.

So barring that, it sounds like the prudent course of action would be for us to invite organizations to start presenting on February and March as you suggested Urban Manger Long. Do you want to make...

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes please.

Chairman Lopez

...a list of them the ones that are going to apply and reach out to them or do you want to just invite them all and whoever says they can come comes?

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

If it's acceptable to the Committee, I can divide up slots evenly between your February and March meetings and then you know have the agency select which meeting works best for them.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. Alright so as long as we have that agreement. I just got my plans for the next 6 months too. Any specific topics Alderman Kelly?

Alderwoman Kelly

I was going to be a naysayer and say like when we have them all kind of close together because I think that people who go in February are going to be not less memorable but you know you're going to have much more time between when you talk to them and when we start to make the decisions. But perhaps the way about it could be we have these broken up and then we have like a Q&A where we have additional questions. All the organizations can come back and we can ask questions.

Chairman Lopez

It's also worth pointing out this is an invitation not a mandate. So if they don't want to show up for two meetings, then they can say alright nah I'm not going to do the February/March thing. I'll just show up at the Q&A and if you have a question, that's when I'll answer it. For that meeting, we'd probably would say alright that would just be the Committee asking if someone can speak to something not now you can come up and make your presentation that you didn't want to come to earlier. Do you think we could communicate that effectively?

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

I don't see why not.

Chairman Lopez

Maybe more politely than I just phrased it.

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

Yes. They'll be presentations opportunities and also more general Q&A that's not presentation focused. Certainly.

Alderwoman Kelly

And that gives us a chance right before we make our decisions to kind of have a touch base. I think a lot of times when we look at these, we evaluate well what would you do if you could get half of it, right, if it's a bathroom or something. Those are kind of the questions that come up. We have asked them historically by email but if we could do a Q&A, people can come back. It allows us to get a little bit more of the full picture.

Chairman Lopez

The presentations also allow the organizations to define who's actually applying. I remember a couple of years ago we were accused of defunding the Girl Scouts. No. They applied one year and they didn't apply the next year. So looking at the budget, the person concluded we must not have given them funding. So I don't even think they've applied since then. But as an example if we have a meeting in February and a meeting in March that we can point to and say these are the applicants, these are what they're doing, it makes it clear to the public who's actually up for application and all that. The applications were received in December but does that mean the

application period is closed?

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

Yes, Sir. The application period is closed.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. If somebody tried to reapply would we have to redo some kind of process because I don't think we've had a public hearing yet?

Julian Long, Urban Program Manager

I've been telling people they can apply next year.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. All right. Didn't we have a last-minute application last year? I think Stepping Stones came in.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

They applied within the window but then after the application deadline passed, they submitted an amendment to their application.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. Snuck in the amendment. So I guess you're responsible for any kind of wiggle room if there's a crisis or a last-minute emergency that happens but given the fact that we don't even know for sure exactly how much money is coming, and when it's coming, and all that, we do need to be nimble and try to have organizations that have been preparing for this, organizing their annual plans, and all that kind of stuff, and then presenting on them, and then have somebody coming in at the end it would have to be a VERY good reason. Does that make sense?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes, Sir.

Chairman Lopez

Okay. So we'll go with our general plan I guess and hopefully HUD will be quick.

Just to reassure our newer Aldermen, Urban Manager Long is not usually wrong about his estimates of when and how much so I don't think we're off by millions and millions of dollars last year with the estimate. So we are working with a reasonable, educated guess as to much we'll have available.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes. Traditionally the amount doesn't vary by huge margins year-to-year.

Chairman Lopez

Any questions for our newer members?

Alderman Timmons

I have one other question. It's not a CDBG, it's the CAC. Is the application process closed?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Yes, Ma'am. Applications were due by January 12th.

Chairman Lopez

Any other topics of discussion? Okay.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN - None

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Alderman Tim Sennott
Committee Clerk