



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2262, **Agenda Item #:** 54.

6/11/2020

Posting Language

Set a public hearing to receive public comment on the City's draft Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Federal Action Plan that relates to federal funding opportunities including funding for housing, homelessness assistance, community development, economic development and public services (Suggested date: July 30, 2020, at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX).

Lead Department

Neighborhood Housing and Community Development.

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

March 26, 2020 - Set a public hearing to receive public input on community needs concerning the City's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Action Plan.

April 23, 2020 - Conducted a public hearing to consider public input on community needs concerning the City's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Action Plan.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

The Community Development Commission is scheduled to conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the City's draft Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Action Plan on July 14, 2020.

Additional Backup Information:

In Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the City of Austin expects to receive continued federal funding through four U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) formula grants: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). In order to receive these HUD grants, the City must submit an annual Action Plan that provides an overview of the community needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities with regard to housing, homelessness assistance, community development, economic development and public services.

The requested action sets a public hearing as required by the City of Austin's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), a plan that establishes the procedures for citizen participation in the development of each annual Action Plan. The CPP is a community developed plan - required by HUD - that is designed to encourage participation of community members in the development of the annual Action Plan. As required by the CPP and Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 373, the steps for public participation normally include four total public hearings during the formation of the annual Action Plan. There is also normally a 30-day public comment period on the

draft annual Action Plan.

On March 31, 2020, HUD authorized certain waivers for citizen participation requirements that would allow jurisdictions to prepare for, respond and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Because of these waivers, the City is authorized to complete the Action Plan process even though the Community Development Commission's public hearing on April 14, 2020 was cancelled. A public hearing to gather public input on the community's needs and service gaps before the Austin City Council was conducted on April 23, 2020.

The draft Action Plan will be made available for public comment on or before June 30, 2020 via the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development website. If this hearing request is approved, staff anticipates that the City Council will take final action on the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Action Plan on July 30, 2020, prior to submission to HUD.