



**Note:** Due to time constraints, this recommendation was provisionally authorized by the CDC (March 8, 2022) for submission to COA Budget recommendation portal prior to text being finalized. The CDC will vote to memorialize this finalized version at **April 12, 2022** meeting for procedural prudence. As such, highlighted items will be updated accordingly on the finalized recommendation

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FY22/23 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION 20220331-03

**Date:** March 31, 2021

**Subject:** Increase Budgeted Resources for COA Community Development Commission to foster Strategic Planning

**Motioned By:** Vice Chair Karen Paup

**Seconded By:** Commissioner Cheryl Thompson

### Recommendation

The Community Development Commission recommends that the City Manager ensure availability of budgeted funds in the amount of \$6,000 (six thousand dollars) to be expended at the discretion of the Community Development Commission (CDC), within appropriately allocable cost centers, and with applicable staff oversight, for the purposes of strategic planning, team building and board “retreat” or similar activities.

### Rationale

1. It is widely accepted that “retreats” and planning sessions outside of the traditional working environment are useful tools in developing chemistry (i.e., Building trust, mitigating conflict, encouraging communication, and increasing collaboration) among group/team members whose collective work is to solve difficult challenges, especially in an environment where participants or members frequently rotate in or out of service due to appointment procedures.
2. The CDC participated in similar activities “pre-pandemic,” presumably validating a shared belief by department and City management in subpoint 1 above.
3. The onset of the pandemic resulted in the very reasonable halting and curtailing of a broad range of activities, including strategic planning and related retreat/s to both mitigate viral spread and help ensure that limited resources may be focused on the most mission critical activities during a period of unprecedented unknowns.
4. During the pandemic, Neighborhood Housing & Community Development (NHCD) and Planning & Zoning (PAZ) were merged to form the Housing and Planning Department (HPD). The CDC was formerly operationally administrated by NHCD and is now, in turn, operationally administrated by HPD. Per staff implication, this has ostensibly resulted in:
  - o 10 Boards and Commissions under the umbrella of HPD
  - o Diluted or cannibalized resources across the array of boards and commissions within HPD ([Item 3C, Dec 14, 2021 CDC Meeting](#))

Through some combination of factors in subpoints 2, 3, and 4 above, the ability to operationalize CDC strategic planning retreats and related activities is now clearly hampered, with no appearance of movement toward reinforcing the diminished capacity. The CDC would like to reintroduce this capacity to ensure it operates as effectively as possible in [its mission](#).

**Date of Approval:** March 08, 2022

**Vote:** A motion to provisionally approve the recommendation was approved on Vice Chair Paup's motion, Commissioner Thompson's second, on a 9-0-0 vote.

**Absent:** Joe Deshotel, Bertha Delgado, Miriam Garcia, Michael Tolliver, Kendra Garrett

**Against:** None

**Attest:** *CDC Chair, Amit Motwani*



Date: 03/31/2022