

**CDBG PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Borough of Edinboro**  
**July 13, 2020**

**Welcome to the Public Hearing:**

Mayor Gast opened the public hearing at 6:04 PM. Council members present were Mary Ann Horne, Aaron Gast, Jim Kiley (via phone), Pat Davis, Fred Langill, and Alyssa Dobson. Absent was Mark Eisert. Also present were Manager Kevin Opple, Finance Director Jason Spangenberg, Solicitor Tim Wachter, and Joe Berdis of Erie County Planning. The meeting was turned over to Joe Berdis.

**Purpose of Hearing:**

This public hearing is the second and final public hearing regarding the Borough's FY 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. Notice of hearing appeared in the Erie Times News on Sunday, July 5, 2020 as well as posted on the Borough's website. No comments were received prior to this hearing. The primary purpose of this hearing is to identify the activities the Borough proposes to undertake with its FY 2020 CDBG allocation and to take comments.

**Background Information:**

The Borough is entitled to receive an annual allocation of CDBG funds from the PA DCED pursuant to PA Act 179 of 1984. Since 1985 the Borough has received approximately \$4.7 million in funding. Exhibit 1 was reviewed showing allocations from 1985 to 2020. The FY 2020 allocation of \$117,835 is an increase of \$3,025 from FY 2019. A portion of the allocation will be set aside for administration which will be provided by County Planning. The submission deadline for the application to DCED requesting the funding is October 28.

**Proposed Activities:**

Based upon comments from the first hearing and subsequent discussions with municipal officials, the Borough proposes to undertake the following activities with its FY 2020 allocation:

- \$10,605 or 9% of the allocation will be set aside for Program Administration to be provided by County Planning. Of note, DCED allows up to 18% for administration.
- \$10,000 to install four (4) curb-cut ramps for ADA accessibility. The sites will be determined by the Borough at a later date. Engineering costs will be paid by the Borough. Of note, if the proposed ramps will be replacing existing ramps that have fallen into disrepair or are no longer in compliance with current standards; rather than constructing ramps where none exist, then the Borough will have to make sure it follows DCED's Architectural Barriers Guidance of June 2016. The project meets the primary National Objective of the program in that it will benefit

disabled persons who are “presumed by HUD to be of low-to-moderate income”.

- \$97,230 to rehabilitate approximately four (4) single-family, LMI owner-occupied, housing units in order to make them safe, decent, sanitary, and energy efficient for compliance with HUD Housing Quality Standards and DCED’s Housing Rehabilitation Standards (see attached). The project meets the primary National Objective of the program in that each family requesting rehabilitation assistance will be subject to an income eligibility determination to ensure that the assistance will only be provided to those at or below 80% of median family income.

Manager Opple stated that a thorough review of the Borough’s curb-cut ramps was performed, and it revealed that 39 curbs could be revamped, which would cost about \$100k. He recommended that the 2020 CDBG funds be used for all of these curbs, and then housing rehabilitation could be undertaken with the 2021 funds. Borough Council stated their consent for Manager Opple’s recommendation.

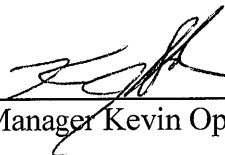
**Comments/Questions:**

Alyssa Dobson asked about the process used for selecting those who receive housing rehabilitation. Mr. Berdis stated that notice would be placed in the newspaper to inform citizens of the available funds, and people would submit applications to the County to be considered.

**Adjournment:**

The public hearing was adjourned at 6:16 PM.

ATTEST:

  
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Manager Kevin Opple

  
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Mayor Aaron Gast