

**CDBG PUBLIC HEARING  
Borough of Edinboro  
September 9, 2019**

**Call to Order:**

Mayor Aaron Gast opened the public hearing at 6:15 PM. Council members present were Aaron Gast, Pat Davis, Nathan Latimer, Jim Kiley, Alyssa Dobson, and Fred Langill. Mary Ann Horne was absent. Other officials present were Manager Kevin Opple, Finance Director Jason Spangenberg, and Joe Berdis from Erie County. Citizens present were Mike DeRiggi, Curtis Hals, Mark Eisert, Alex Topor, Sam Comfort, and Amber Chisholm.

**Purpose of Hearing:**

This public hearing is to indicate how the Borough proposes to use its FY 2019 CDBG funds and allow for public comment, review the Three-Year Plan Summary which identifies the proposed 2019 funded project (Short Term Plan) and potential projects for FY's 2020 and 2021 (Long Term Plan), and discuss the future schedule of events.

**Background Information:**

The Borough is entitled to apply for and receive an annual allocation of CDBG funds from the PA DCED pursuant to the provisions of PA Act 179, of 1984 and since 1985 has received approximately \$4.6 million in CDBG monies. The monies are to be used to undertake housing and/or community development projects which meet an identified need of the community and which "primarily" benefits low-to-moderate income persons. For FY 2019 the Borough is entitled to \$114,810. This is \$2,882 more than last year's allocation, which represents an increase of 2.57%.

**Proposed Projects for FY 2019 Funding:**

Based on input from the first public hearing held on July 8, 2019 and subsequent discussions with borough officials, it is proposed that the FY 2019 funds be used for the following:

- \$12,000 - Program administration to be provided by County Planning. This represents 10.45% of the allocation. DCED allows up to 18% for administration.
- \$102,810 - Robert Thompson Park Improvement Project: Improvements to Thompson Park including:
  - Patching, resurfacing, and lining of 3 full courts and 3 half courts (see cost estimate - \$56,000)
  - Installation of LED lighting for the courts (see cost estimate - \$54,000)

The project is an "eligible" activity under the CDBG program and meets the National

Objective in that the improvements are to a park which primarily benefits residents of Block Group 4 which according to the most current ASC data has a LMI population of 62.41%, exceeding the 51% threshold. Kevin Oppe stated that the Borough could cover any difference in cost from the actual project costs in excess of this CDBG funding.

Curtis Hals asked if it is common for one project to take up the full year's funding allocation. Joe Berdis replied that it is common, and projects often take more than one year of funding, such as the Darrow Road and Monroe Street paving projects completed by the Borough recently.

**Three Year Plan Summary:**

The short-term plan (FY 2019) is to undertake improvements to Robert Thompson Park.

The long-term plan (FY 2020 and FY 2021) is to mill and pave the section of Waterford Street between PA-99 and the corner of Ontario Street, the main east-west road in Census Block Group #4; and renovate the sidewalk along Erie Street from the intersection of 6N and PA-99 (Erie St.) to Mike Onda Beach. Mr. Berdis stated that there is no guarantee that these two projects would be eligible for CDBG funding.

Council briefly discussed those who would benefit from the improvements to Robert Thompson Park. Mr. Berdis clarified that the primary beneficiaries are the concern for CDBG funding, not secondary or tertiary beneficiaries.

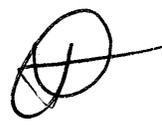
**Tentative Schedule of Events:**

Borough Council will consider passing a resolution approving the application for funding at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 14. A draft copy of the portion of the application will be available for review from October 7 through October 11. The County, on behalf of the Borough, will submit the application to DCED by November 22, 2019.

**Adjournment:**

Nathan Latimer moved for adjournment, and the public hearing was adjourned at 6:37 PM.

ATTEST:

  
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Manager Kevin Oppe  
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Mayor Aaron Gast