



MINUTES

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
10:00 AM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Stephens called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

In accordance with Rule 12F of the County Council Rules, Council President Jones appointed Councilmembers Conwell, Miller and Sweeney as Members Pro Tem of the Community Development Committee.

Ms. Stephens asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Georgakopoulos to call the roll. Committee member Stephens and Committee members Pro Tem Conwell, Miller and Sweeney were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee members Simon, Gallagher and Jones arrived after the roll call was taken. Committee member Kelly was absent.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals addressed the Committee regarding Resolution Nos. R2024-0084 and Resolution R2024-0085: Resolutions making awards to various municipalities and agencies in connection with the Community Development Block Grant and Community Development Supplemental Grant Programs:

- a) The Honorable Mayor Van Kirk, City of Brooklyn**
- b) Ms. Jennifer Kuzma**
- c) Mr. Patrick Grogan-Myers**

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 22, 2024 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Ms. Simon, and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2024 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2023-0368: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$500,000, to the Northwest Neighborhoods CDC d.b.a. W80 Senior Limited Partnership for the Karam Senior Living Development Project from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Cynthia Mason, Policy Advisor for County Council, introduced a proposed substitute to Resolution No. R2023-0368. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Mason pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

A motion was then made by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Mr. Sweeney and approved by unanimous vote to accept the proposed substitute.

Ms. Sara Parks Jackson, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development; Ms. Bridget Kent Marquez, Executive Director of Northwest Neighborhoods CDC and Developer of Karam Senior Living; Mr. Arne Goldman, Architect and Director of Business Development for Marous Brothers Construction and Project Contractor; Mr. John Lang, Chief Operating Officer for the Cleveland Public Library; Mr. Tony Bango, Housing Development Office Manager/ Department of Community Development, Ms. Alyssa Hernandez, Director of Community Development and Councilwoman Jenny Spencer from the City of Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0368. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions Ms. Parks Jackson, Ms. Kent Marquez, Mr. Goldman, Mr. Lang, Mr. Bango, Ms. Hernandez and Councilwoman Spencer pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Sweeney with a second by Ms. Simon, Resolution No. R2023-0368 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading, as substituted.

- b) R2024-0075: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the Collective Arts Network for the CAN Journal and newsletter project from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Michael Gill, Executive Director of Collective Arts Network, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0075. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Gill pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Sweeney with a second by Ms. Simon, Resolution No. R2024-0075 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- c) R2024-0076: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$20,000, to Shelter the People Cleveland for the Building Capacity for Change project from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Stephanie Thomas, Executive Director for Shelter the People Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0076. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Thomas, which she answered accordingly.

There was no legislative action taken on R2024-0076.

- d) R2024-0078: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$5,000, to Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. for the Drainkeepers Project from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Anita Laster Mays, Local Chapter President and Ms. Jacqueline Muhammad, Member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0078. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Laster Mays and Ms. Muhammad pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Jones, Resolution No. R2024-0078 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Mr. Jones requested to have his name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.

e) R2024-0083: A Resolution authorizing a Grant Agreement with State of Ohio, Department of Development in the amount not-to-exceed \$8,057,000.00 to serve as fiscal agent for various lead renovation, abatement and mitigation services in connection with the FY2023 Lead Safe Ohio Program for the period 12/1/2023 – 4/30/2026; and recommending awards to various political subdivisions and providers in the total amount not-to-exceed \$8,057,000.00 for various projects or programs in connection with the FY2023 Lead Safe Ohio Program for the period 3/1/2024 – 12/31/2025; authorizing the County Executive to execute the agreements, contracts and all other documents consistent with said awards and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:

- 1) CHN Housing Partners in the amount not-to-exceed \$2,000,000.00 for various home loans, grants and incentives to homeowners for home repair.
- 2) City of Cleveland Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$492,908.00 for repairs of various childcare facilities.
- 3) Cuyahoga County Board of Health, fiscal agent, in the amount not-to-exceed \$4,089,092.00 for operational support of the Lead Safe Program.
- 4) Mount Sinai Health Foundation, fiscal agent, in the amount not-to-exceed \$1,375,000.00 for operational support for The Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition.

Ms. Mason, Mr. Joseph Nanni, Chief of Staff for County Council and Mr. Nathaniel Hall, Assistant Law Director, introduced a proposed substitute to Resolution No. R2024-0083. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Mason, Mr. Nanni and Mr. Hall pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

There was no legislative action taken on the proposed substitute to R2024-0083.

Ms. Parks Jackson addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0083. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions Ms. Parks Jackson pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Ms. Simon, Resolution No. R2024-0083 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

- f) R2024-0084: A Resolution making awards to various municipalities, in the total amount of \$2,223,000.00 for various projects or programs in connection with the ~~FY2024~~ **FY2023** Community Development Block Grant Program for the period 3/12/2024 - 12/31/2024; authorizing the County Executive to execute the agreements and all other documents consistent with said awards and this Resolution, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:
- 1) City of Bedford in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for vehicle replacement for Bedford Police Department.
 - 2) City of Berea in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Baker Street Improvement Project.
 - 3) City of Brooklyn in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Southwood Drive Watermain Project.
 - 4) City of Fairview Park in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Fairview Park/Metroparks Connectivity Lighting Project.
 - 5) City of Maple Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Maple Heights Senior Center Emergency Generator Project.
 - 6) City of Middleburg Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for resurfacing of Grant Boulevard from Webster Road to Glenridge Avenue.
 - 7) Village of Newburgh Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for resurfacing of Bridgeview Avenue.
 - 8) Village of North Randall in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Housing Rehabilitation and Restoration Program.

- 9) City of North Royalton in the amount not-to-exceed \$38,000.00 for Memorial Park ADA Parking Lot Improvements.
- 10) Village of Oakwood in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for First Place Pavement Improvement Project.
- 11) City of Parma Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for resurfacing of Denison Boulevard.
- 12) City of Richmond Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Richmond Heights Community Center Fire Suppression Initiative.
- 13) City of Shaker Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Lee Road Storefront and Exterior Improvement Program.
- 14) City of South Euclid in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Playground of Possibilities Restoration Project at Bexley Park.
- 15) City of Warrensville Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00 for Granada Boulevard Reconstruction: Street and Road Repair Project – Phase 5.
- 16) Village of Woodmere in the amount not-to-exceed \$85,000.00 for Exterior Home Maintenance Grant Program.

Ms. Parks Jackson and Ms. Kellie Glenn, Administrator of the Department of Housing and Community Development, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0084. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Parks Jackson and Ms. Glenn pertaining to the item, they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Jones, Resolution No. R2024-0084 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for passage under second reading suspension of the rules, as amended.

Mr. Jones and Ms. Simon requested to have their names added co-sponsors to the legislation.

- g) R2024-0085: A Resolution making awards to various municipalities and agencies in the total amount of \$1,688,828.00 for various projects or programs in connection with the FY2024 Community Development Supplemental Grant Program for the period 3/12/2024 – 2/28/2025; authorizing the County Executive to execute the agreements and contracts and all other documents consistent with said awards and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:
- 1) City of Bay Village in the amount not-to-exceed \$35,850.00 for Reese Park Court Conversion.
 - 2) City of Berea in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Baker Street Improvement Project.
 - 3) City of Brecksville in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Brecksville Public Outdoor Pickleball Court Project.
 - 4) City of Brooklyn in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Exterior Home Repair Program.
 - 5) Village of Brooklyn Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Dorset Mini Park Improvements.
 - 6) City of Brook Park in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for improving community access of the Kennedy Park Playground.
 - 7) Cleveland Cultural Gardens in the amount not-to-exceed \$20,000.00 for One World Day.
 - 8) Village of Cuyahoga Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Village Hall Playground.
 - 9) Cuyahoga Land Bank in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Circle East District Greenway.
 - 10) Delta Alpha Lambda Foundation in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Food Pantry Site Room Remodel and Annex Expansion Project.

- 11) City of Euclid in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Russell Avenue Park Improvements.
- 12) Euclid Development Corporation in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Neighborhood Opportunity Grant.
- 13) City of Fairview Park in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Morton Park Connector Path Project.
- 14) City of Garfield Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Garfield Heights Civic Center Sidewalk Improvement Project.
- 15) Village of Highland Hills in the amount not-to-exceed \$36,850.00 for Government Complex Accessibility Improvements.
- 16) City of Lakewood in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Madison Park – Bird Town Neighborhood Connector Project.
- 17) City of Maple Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for 2024 Exterior Home Repair Program.
- 18) City of Middleburg Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for resurfacing of Grant Boulevard from Glenridge Avenue to dead end.
- 19) Village of Newburgh Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Playground Improvements.
- 20) City of North Olmsted in the amount not-to-exceed \$46,153.00 for North Olmsted Community Park Restroom Restoration Project.
- 21) Village of North Randall in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Housing Rehabilitation and Preservation Supplemental Grant.
- 22) City of North Royalton in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Green City Landscaping and Wayfinding Improvements.

- 23) Village of Oakwood in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for First Place Pavement Improvement Project.
- 24) City of Parma in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Ukranian Village and Polish Village Streetscape Improvement – Phase VI.
- 25) City of Parma Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$49,975.00 for Cassidy Theatre/Community Center Lobby Restoration Project – Phase II.
- 26) Refugee Response in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Ohio City Farm – New Farm Market Concrete Foundation.
- 27) City of Richmond Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Richmond Heights Greenwood Farm Gazebo Project.
- 28) City of South Euclid in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Playground of Possibilities Restoration at Bexley Park.
- 29) Village of Walton Hills in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for ITA Pavement Reconstruction – Phase III.
- 30) City of Warrensville Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 Granada Boulevard Reconstruction (Street and Road Repair Project – Phase 5).
- 31) Village of Bratenahl in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 for Gateway & Streetscape Improvement Project.
- 32) City of Shaker Heights in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000 for the Lee Road Storefront and Exterior Improvement Program.
- 33) City of Bedford in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000 for the Bedford Historic District Small Business Program.

34) Olmsted Township in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000 for the Olmsted Township Greenway Trail Project.

35) City of Olmsted Falls in the amount not-to-exceed \$50,000 for the Purchase of a police vehicle for community relations and administrative purposes.

Ms. Parks Jackson, Ms. Glenn and Ms. Daray Broadus, Development Housing Specialist for the Department of Housing and Community Development, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0085. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Parks Jackson, Ms. Glenn and Ms. Broadus pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Ms. Conwell, Resolution No. R2024-0085 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

Mr. Miller, Ms. Conwell, Ms. Simon, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Jones and Ms. Stephens requested to have their names added co-sponsors to the legislation.

- h) R2024-0091: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$25,000, to Wallstreet Nottingham Ltd. for the purpose of offering classes to small businesses from the District 7 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Eugene Miller, Chair for Wallstreet Nottingham Ltd., addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0091. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Miller pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Ms. Conwell, Resolution No. R2024-0091 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- i) R2024-0092: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$500,000, to the City of University Heights for the purpose of reimbursing costs for garage repair at the University Square shopping center from the District 10 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

The Honorable Michael Dylan Brennan, Mayor and Safety Director of the City of University Heights, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0092. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of The Honorable Mayor Brennan pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Jones with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2024-0092 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Ms. Simon, Mr. Jones, Ms. Conwell, Ms. Stephens and Mr. Miller requested to have their names added co-sponsors to the legislation.

6. PRESENTATION

- a) **Housing and eviction prevention efforts, data points and trends in 2023
– The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland**

Ms. Melanie Shakarian, Director of Development and Communications; Ms. Colleen Cotter, Executive Director and Mr. Matthew Vincel, Managing Attorney for The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, made a presentation to the committee, including an overview of the organization and its' mission, housing and eviction prevention efforts and data points and trends in 2023.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Shakarian, Ms. Cotter and Mr. Vincel pertaining to the presentation, which they answered accordingly.

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Stephens adjourned the meeting at 12:37 p.m., without objection.