

AGENDA

LEWISVILLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, February 20, 2024
6:30 p.m.

Lewisville City Hall, 2nd Floor, Community Development Conference Room
151 W. Church St., Lewisville, TX 75057

1. Call Meeting to Order, Announce a Quorum is Present
2. Approve Minutes of December 12, 2023
3. Visitor/Citizens Forum
Speakers must address their comments to the Chair rather than to individual Committee members or staff. Speakers should speak clearly and state their name and address prior to beginning their remarks. Speakers will be allowed 5 minutes for testimony. Speakers making personal, impertinent, profane or slanderous remarks may be removed from the meeting. Unauthorized remarks from the audience, stamping of feet, whistles, yells, clapping, and similar demonstrations will not be permitted. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee is restricted from discussing or taking action on items not listed on the agenda. Action can only be taken at a future meeting.
4. City Secretary, Thomas Harris, Presentation on Advisory Committee Functions
5. Finance & Budget Departments, Presentation on 2024 Bond Program
6. Minor Housing Rehab Program Update
7. Discuss Committee Reference Materials and Public Hearing Changes
8. Review Timeline & Social Service Category Scoring for PY 2024/2025 Social Service Grant Cycle
9. Adjournment

NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE AT THE PUBLIC MEETINGS

The City will provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services, including sign language interpreters and assisted listening devices, whenever necessary to ensure effective communication with members of the public who have hearing, sight or speech impairments, unless doing so would result in a fundamental alteration of its programs or an undue financial burden. A person who requires an accommodation or auxiliary aid or service to participate in a City program, service or activity, should contact the sponsoring Department, or the Human Resource Department at 972-219-3450 or by Fax at 972-219-5005 as far in advance as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.



LEWISVILLE

Deep Roots. Broad Wings. Bright Future.

**MINUTES
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CDBG AC)**

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

The Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee convened at 6:30 p.m. at Westside Baptist Church, 900 Bellaire Blvd., Chris Crawford presiding.

Committee Members

Present:

Chris Crawford, Chair
Kathi Stock, Vice Chair
Edora Butler
Robyn Johnston
Duff Taylor

Committee Members

Absent:

Lori Wilson
Timothy Fields

Staff Members

Present:

Rachel Hiles, Grants Specialist
Elena Shehan, Grants Coordinator

Item 1: Chris Crawford, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order in the presence of a quorum at 6:37 p.m.

Item 2: The committee reviewed the minutes of September 19, 2023, October 17, 2023, and November 14, 2023. Edora Butler moved to approve the minutes; Kathi Stock seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Item 3: Chris Crawford opened the public hearing and introduced committee members and City Staff. Rachel Hiles, Grants Specialist, provided an overview Lewisville's City Fund and CDBG history, past and present projects, and Consolidated Plan goals. The floor was opened for public comments.

A community member spoke to the committee about the rising rent prices and the strain it puts on seniors maintaining their housing. The committee and Elena Shehan, Grants Coordinator, gave an update on the City's focus on affordable housing and some of the recent action taken to achieve that goal.

CASA of Denton County presented to the committee about the privatization of the child welfare system in Texas, which took effect in Denton County on November 1, 2023. The private nonprofit Our Community Our Kids (OCOK) has taken over the care of children who have been removed from their homes, rather than the State controlling this process. CASA is experiencing a need for more volunteers, since this type of systematic change will mean that CASA volunteers will be the primary party with historical information about children currently in the system.

Three representatives from WeBUILT DFW introduced the committee to their organization, which is a newly formed nonprofit in the area. The organization focuses on adults with autism who struggle to find affordable living when entering adulthood. They emphasized the number of young adults with autism leaving school and struggling with a lack of support in adulthood. WeBUILT DFW explained their tie to the WeBUILT organization in Oregon and the support received from them as well as their intent to purchase a property to create housing for that cause but have struggled to find affordable options.

Item 4: Rachel Hiles reviewed the overall committee scores for each Backbone Support application. The committee discussed the applications and feedback on the applications. Chris Crawford led the group in discussion and determining funding awards for each applicant.

Edora Butler moved to approve the funding decisions for the Backbone Support applications; Duff Taylor seconded the motion. Funding decisions were approved unanimously.

Item 5: Robyn Johnston moved to adjourn the meeting; Kathi Stock seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Hiles
Grants Specialist

Chris Crawford
Committee Chair

Timeline of Social Service Application Process

Tues.	11/14/2023	Public Hearing - Community Input
Tues.	12/12/2023	Public Hearing - Community Input
Mon.	1/29/2024	Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Release
Mon.	2/12/2024	Request for Proposals (RFP) Release Date (Social Service Funds Only)
Fri.	3/8/2024	Social Service Proposals Due via ZoomGrants by 5:00 p.m. (CST) City Staff will notify Committee when applications are ready for review in ZoomGrants - Committee to enter initial scores
Tues.	3/19 OR 3/26	CDBG Advisory Committee meeting discussion of application questions prior to presentations
Sat.	4/6/2024	Social Service Applicant Presentations to CDBG Advisory Committee, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Committee to finalize scores and funding recommendations in ZoomGrants by Monday 4/15
Tues.	4/16	Complete Scoring and Ranking of Proposals and Development of Draft Budget
Tues.	5/21	CDBG Advisory Committee Recommendation to City Council

CDBG Advisory Committee Nonprofit Spotlight



2023 was an incredible year!

We've witnessed the triumph of the human spirit as shattered lives were rebuilt, dreams rekindled, and destinies reshaped, with:

- 4 teens adopted into their forever families
 - 4 enrolled and beginning thriving in college
 - 1 beginning their career
- all hopeful in breaking the cycle of homelessness and poverty.

Through our Dream Initiative Mental Health Program in Middle and High School, we were able to provide 1000 hours of points of service and food to those students who would have otherwise gone without as well as family resources. Journey to Dream is thankful for your partnership and support for these at-risk, victimized, and often forgotten populations of teenagers, but we are excited to continue to nurture a community of support, healing, and growth.



We love a story with a happy ending

We recently saw an 84 year old veteran experiencing homelessness & living in his car, unable to afford housing. We were able to sit down with him and make a plan to get him the help necessary to secure housing. We were able to assist him with:

- 1 week hotel stay through a local church
- Daily lunch & case manager assistance to search for housing
- Found an affordable apartment in Lewisville (the last unit available at the complex)
- Gas card to get to the complex to apply
- Payment for the rental insurance required to move in
- Case managers called the utility company to get connected
- Connected him with another case worker at the Veteran office in Denton for further assistance
- Veteran office connection was able to provide first month rent, furniture, and other necessities
- Continued daily lunches to save on grocery costs

He has been in his apartment for a few months now and is doing very well!



Inclement Weather Shelter

Operated the 24 hour weather shelter for 6 days straight during the Code Blue temperatures in January. Offered 16-20 people a warm place to stay, day and night.