



July 27, 2017

Columbia City Council

Dear City Council:

On behalf of the City of Columbia Community Development Commission (CDC), I request your support of the CDC's FY2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program funding recommendations. Funding recommendations were unanimously approved by the CDC on June 21, 2017, and meeting minutes are attached for your review.

FY 2018 is the fourth year of the City's 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The CDC was a part of a robust public input and planning process in determining funding priorities. The City's Consolidated Planning process included feedback from eight community forums, seven public hearings and five citizen surveys. This input was utilized to develop goals for the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. These goals also helped guide the decision making process for FY 2018.

FY 2018 CDC funding recommendations are based upon a rating of each individual application, review of updated annual survey data, public input, as well as a review of goals in the City's 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The CDC public hearings involved thorough discussion between Commissioners, the public and agencies requesting funds.

This year's annual Community Development Needs Survey included responses from 365 individuals, which are the most responses ever received through this effort.

Please consider supporting the CDC's FY2018 CDBG and HOME funding recommendations as submitted. I will be attending the City Council budget hearing to present funding recommendations and answer any questions that you may have.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Michael Fletcher
Community Development Commission, Chairperson