



Department Source: Community Development - CDBG/Home

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: June 21, 2021

Re: Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture Round 3 CDBG-CV Funding Agreement

Executive Summary

Attached for City Council consideration is a resolution authorizing a Round 3 CDBG-CV funding agreement between the City of Columbia and the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture (CCUA) to provide food production and distribution of healthy foods to low-income residents in the City. Council approved \$20,000 of \$54,615 in Round 3 CDBG-CV funds in February as part of an amendment to the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan. After further discussion of the use of City Reserves to fund several Public Assistance services on April 19, 2021, and consideration of Council Bill B164-21 at the May 17, 2021 City Council meeting, Council increased CCUA's allocation of CDBG-CV to \$54,000, which is nearly the amount of the original request.

Discussion

The Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture (CCUA) works to improve community health by connecting people to agriculture. After the City received an allocation of \$737,588 in Round 3 special Community Development Block Grant funds, known as CDBG-CV, CCUA was among several organizations submitting proposals in response to a Request for Proposals issued by the Housing Programs Office. CCUA requested \$54,615.00 in CDBG-CV funds to increase food production in the community. The Center will use the \$54,000 to hire additional part-time staff to assist in the production and provision of additional food.

After reviewing all applications and conducting a public hearing on December 16, 2021, the Housing and Community Development Commission (HCDC) recommended \$20,000 in CDBG-CV funding for this activity. There was a grand total of more than \$1.7 million sought by all organizations and proposed services, with \$797,588 available to award (the total included \$737,588 in Round 3 CDBG-CV and \$60,000 in reprogrammed funds).

On April 19, 2021, City Council directed the use of \$1.3 million (subsequently amended to \$1.5 million) in City reserve funds to be allocated to Public Assistance, with the result that all organizations that submitted proposals for Round 3 CDBG-CV funding would receive their original requested amounts. Therefore a reallocation of CDBG-CV funds has made it possible to almost fully fund CCUA's food production service.



Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: An additional \$54,000 is provided by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Round 3 CDBG-CV funds

Long-Term Impact: n/a

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Social Equity, Secondary Impact: Economy, Tertiary Impact: Infrastructure

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Secondary Impact: Infrastructure, Tertiary Impact: Economic Development

Legislative History

Date	Action
February 1, 2021	Public hearing Amendment #4 FY 2019 Annual Action Plan; approval of resolution adopting Plan (Authorized initial allocations of Round 3 CDBG-CV funding)
April 19, 2021	Report on Potential Uses of Reserve Funds
May 17, 2021	Bill Authorizing Appropriating Funds for Round 3 CDBG-CV Public Assistance Programs, etc.

Suggested Council Action

Approval of the proposed resolution.