



July 29, 2016

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 FY2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program and Homeless Day Center funding recommendations. Funding recommendations were unanimously approved by the CDC on June 15, 2016, and meeting minutes are attached for your review.

FY 2017 is the third 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 2017.

FY 2017 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 included a competitive funding process for City surplus funds set aside for the development of a homeless day center facility. There was unanimous agreement by CDC members to recommend funding for the Turning Point Program, operated by the Wilkes Blvd. United Methodist Church, for the support of a homeless day center facility.

Please consider supporting the CDC's FY2017 CDBG, HOME and Homeless Day Center 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, Vice Chairperson

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