



Members of the Committee absent: Alderman Patricia Klee

Also in Attendance: Alderman Tom Lopez  
Alderwoman Elizabeth Lu  
Sarah Marchant, Community Development Division Director  
Carrie Schena, Urban Programs Manager

---

ROLL CALL

Chairwoman Kelly

Alderman Wilshire?

Alderman Wilshire

Alderman Klee.

Chairwoman Kelly

She may join us later.

Alderman Wilshire

OK, Alderman Caron?

Alderman Caron

Yes, I am here, I can hear you and I am alone.

Chairwoman Kelly

I am here, I am alone and I can hear everyone.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I am present, I am in this room alone and I can hear everyone.

Alderman Wilshire

Alderman Wilshire is here, alone and I can hear everyone. We have four members present.

Chairwoman Kelly

OK, great. Also in attendance I see Director Marchant and Alderman Lopez. Anyone else? OK. So the top of the Agenda today is a public hearing around amending the HUD Action Plan to accept the CARES Act funds. I am going to have Ms. Schena or Ms. Marchant, I'm not sure which one wants to talk about it; just give us a quick update before we open the public hearing.

Carrie Schena, Manager of the Urban Programs

Hi, Carrie Schena, Manager of the Urban Program, sorry, I lost connection for a second there, so hopefully this stays stable. So the CARES Act Funding, we call it CDBG CV, for Coronavirus and this is an allocation from HUD it was part of the original CARES Act. HUD was going to award these funds in three separate

rounds; this is the final round 3. That was based on certain priorities that they set, having to do with economic impact and different jurisdictions that were affected by Coronavirus more than others. So it was sort of unexpected allocation, we didn't know what they were going to base those priorities on. We previously received CARES Act funding and established what we call the COVID Impact Fund back in the late spring and we pooled with Economic Development who also had revolving loans funds at the time. So what we are proposing is to do the same thing this time around. Economic Development had also received another allocation of revolving loan funds. So between the two programs we, again, have over a \$1 million dollars that we can get out into the community.

This round we are focusing on businesses that have been impacted with a heavy focus on what we call disadvantaged businesses. So those are the minority owned, women owned businesses and also small microenterprise. So that's pretty much it in a nutshell, we hope after this goes through the whole process, it was approved by the Board of Aldermen in late February that we would release applications for about a two week period. Those applications will be available on-line on the City's website much like they were last time. And certainly if people have questions or businesses have questions about applying and eligibility, we would encourage them to reach out. We will have contact information for them to do that.

Chairwoman Kelly

Great. So I would ask Aldermen unless there's a clarifying question, I'd love to just do the Public Hearing and then we can ask any questions when we bring it up in our regular meeting. OK. So I am going to call for testimony in favor. Are there any members of the public that would like to speak, if would please state your name and address? (There were none.)

PUBLIC HEARING

**AMENDING HUD ACTION PLAN TO ACCEPT CARES ACT FUNDS**

(Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds in three rounds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. The City has been awarded \$482,813, under the third and final round, and is proposing to allocate the funds to the City's COVID-19 Impact Fund to assist in the stabilization of existing small businesses within the City that have had significant disruption due to the impact of COVID-19.)

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

The public hearing was declared closed at 7:07 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Kelly

OK. Just making sure nobody had a last minute hop on. So moving into our Regular Meeting of the Human Affairs Committee we open up with Public Comment. I don't see any members of the public here.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Carrie Schena, Urban Programs Manager  
Re: FY2022 Annual Action Plan Development

From: Carrie Schena, Urban Programs Manager  
Re: Citizens Advisory Commission Updates

From: Carrie Schena, Urban Programs Manager  
Re: R-21-112; Public Hearing-CDBG-CV funding

***There being no objection, the communications were accepted and placed on file.***

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

**R-21-112**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
Alderswoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly  
Alderman Thomas Lopez  
Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
Alderman Skip Cleaver  
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright  
Alderswoman Elizabeth Lu  
Alderman Jan Schmidt  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.  
Alderman Patricia Klee  
Alderman June M. Caron  
Alderman-at-Large Brandon Michael Laws  
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO AMENDING THE FY2020 HUD ANNUAL ACTION PLAN TO ACCEPT ROUND 3  
CDBG-CV FUNDING UNDER THE 2020 CARES ACT**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE BY ROLL CALL**

ON THE QUESTION

Chairwoman Kelly

Are there any members of the Committee that have questions or comment? This is open for discussion now?  
Alderman Wilshire.

Alderman Wilshire

What kind of businesses again are you looking to help with this? I know you said micro businesses, do you have some in mind that you could share with us or when those might be available for small businesses?

Ms. Schena

The applications we hope will become available at the end of February; we are shooting for February 25<sup>th</sup>, pending Board of Alderman approval. The types of businesses there are no specific in mind. When we opened this up last time it really ran the gamut for types of businesses from food service to nail salon to fitness.

It was quite a myriad of businesses who applied. I know Economic Development has been marketing this in the business community and we have been trying to get the word with our partners as well, you know, try to get it into social media and through these platforms so that people are aware of the assistance.

Alderman Wilshire

Ok. It's the same parameters as the first round?

Ms. Schena

Yes, we will be under CDBG, it would be a grant because that's what the funds allow. We would cap that at \$25,000.00 so that we can assist the maximum number. And Economic Development, again, they would have their terms but those would be loans and because of Coronavirus and the pandemic they've been able to loosen up some of their lending terms a little bit better than what had been a couple of years ago. And under the last round with just over a million dollars I think in total we assisted about 32 entities. So it would likely be, we hope, around that same number and hopefully have good impact in the community.

Alderman Wilshire

Great, thank you so much.

Chairwoman Kelly

Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

Are there restrictions on how someone can use this for, I am hearing it is a grant meaning you don't pay it back versus Economic Development's loans which you would pay back. So are there, can you use this for payroll protection or do you have to use this for infrastructure improvements or supplies or anything like that?

Ms. Schena

So the restrictions really would be that it's not for business expansion or infrastructure build out. So it is really to help mitigate the impact of loss revenue due to COVID. It is to help mitigate those additional costs that businesses have occurred to establish their business safely. So it can cover payroll, it can cover operational costs. We have the guidelines attached I think in the Agenda and it kind of goes through, I don't have it right in front of me so I apologize, but it does step through what those eligible costs would be. But again really the limitations would be expanding their business or trying to grow. It's really not for that, it is to keep you going during this crisis.

Alderman Lopez

Well as a follow up I know that some businesses have put a considerable amount of investment into being able to operate under COVID conditions. So two examples that come to mind are a business that might be looking to purchase picnic tables and umbrellas to use outdoor seating in order to maintain their capacity or a business that might be trying to do a sidewalk service window so they are not as reliant on indoor seating.

Sarah Marchant, Director of Community Services

Sure I'll take that one since Carrie (inaudible) so those are eligible expenses, very specifically any increased cost due to COVID. So certainly the outdoor seating, the window, but also if you need to establish an online entity right and maybe you didn't have great take out on line or ordering online.

These funds can be used to cover a system that would help support a business shifting over to an online as well, which I think is an important factor. But perishable inventory, things that were lost, wages, very important. And just basic things as mortgage, rent, utilities. So it is about operational costs and about helping businesses to be the most efficient they can during COVID.

Alderman Lopez

So wages could be covered if they were related to COVID or something like that.

Director Marchant

Yes, especially for a low (inaudible) job. That's important, yeah.

Alderman Lopez

Ok thank you, appreciate that.

Chairwoman Kelly

Any other thoughts or questions from the Committee? I have some things but I wanted to make sure everybody got time. So I just wanted to weigh in on this piece, I know that Director Marchant and Ms. Schena and I have been chatting quite a bit about this. I think that as Aldermen as this rolls out, hopefully you know we pass this and we have a conversation about it. It's important to look for and I have talked to a number of businesses who may have been missed by some of the Federal Funding if they didn't have a relationship for PPP or they just think maybe it was worth it for only \$15,000.00 or something like that.

That's really what these are designed for and like Sarah said they are micro, we are not looking for businesses that have 50 employees, that kind of thing. We are looking to help the sort of mom and pop shops here in Nashua who are just trying to get through until we have a resolution on all of this. OK if there is nothing else; June did you want to say something or were you just ...

Alderman Caron

No we've got our answers, Alderman Wilshire gave the question that I would have asked. So thank you.

Chairwoman Kelly

OK awesome. Alright, if there's nothing else I think we can call the roll please.

Alderman Wilshire

The motion before us is to recommend final passage of Resolution 21-112.

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Caron,  
Alderman Wilshire, Alderwoman Kelly 4

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE – None

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Chairwoman Kelly

So under general discussion tonight I wanted to take some time to go through the applications that we have received for CDBG and I don't know if Sarah or Carrie want to kick us off with that. But we all received them through email. I just wanted to go through each one of them and see if there any questions from the Committee that we can send back out so that we are ready to allocate them next meeting.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Can I interrupt for one second? Can you tell me when they were sent out?

Director Marchant

They were sent out in January.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

In January and did it come from you?

Director Marchant

Carrie Schena.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

OK, alright thank you.

Director Marchant

No problem. OK, so yes a quick overview. We do this every year looking to allocate these funds and reallocate funds from last year that weren't able to be used. I think as in Ms. Schena's Memo there, you know, COVID impacted everybody a little bit differently and the decisions that were made last year for how those resources were appreciated but maybe not all able to be used as they were originally intended. I think this is an important program and I would be happy to answer any questions about the Rail Trail East, NHTOT match as needed. But the other thing I just wanted to say is this is a 7 member committee that is also reviewing the CAC Applications. They are reviewing 37 applications and I just think that's a pretty awesome volunteer committee to take such a time commitment to in depth go through all the financials and review these projects. They put a lot of work and effort in and I just wanted to make sure we thanked them for that.

Chairwoman Kelly

Ms. Schena did you want to say anything or can we – go ahead.

Ms. Schena

No, so not much to add typically just like for the public to give a quick overview that this is an annual process. The City receives these funds directly from HUD based on a formula we don't apply for them competitively so it is based on our population and poverty levels, housing statistics. We do not have the exact number yet.

The funds were included in the Federal Budget so hopefully HUD is working on those formulas right now. And by March I would hope that we would have a true number so that when it gets to allocating funding we don't have to wiggle things around much afterwards.

The process is we have a few months so I know you guys meet again in March and talk about. It takes the shape of a Resolution and goes back or I guess it goes to the Board of Aldermen as a full board first and then back again to you, this Committee, in April which we will have a public hearing at that time. So there is good opportunity for the public to be involved. The proposals were sent out this year was different because obviously everything is different now and we did them electronically. So those were shared through a Google link. That link is also posted on the City's Web Site under the Urban Programs Department. So if people want to look at the proposals and know those details, that's all available.

#### Chairwoman Kelly

And I didn't know if Director Marchant wants to – I know you mentioned the Rail Trail but there are two other projects that you are asking for for the City. I think they are very similar to last year, we had the Housing Rehab Program etc. as well. Do you want to just give us a quick voice over?

#### Director Marchant

Absolutely. Thank you. So the Rental Improvement Program and the Homeowner Occupied Improvement program are two pretty essential programs that we started the Housing – the Owner Occupied one has been around for several years but the Rental Program is relatively new. We piloted it two years ago I believe. Maybe this is its third round. But this has been a very successful program. We have historically some very old housing units in the downtown and one of the most important things that we just found out in the housing study and that we kind of knew is that keeping up that stock is incredibly important and as these housing units have been around for a very long time, they have had a longer stream of disinvestment. They are also very affordably priced and we'd like to keep them this way.

And so this program is excellent in that we restrict the affordability of those units, in exchange this program helps to upgrade major improvements needed; say a roof or an HVAC System or essential services like that. So those are important programs and I am sure Ms. Schena can speak to the actual improvements that we have done recently on those better than I can.

As far as the Rail Trail East, this is a project that has been underway for well over two years probably. The original matching funds were over a million dollars from DOT. And as we have gotten into final engineering with this project, we have found not only has COVID caused increased costs in basic construction and supplies. But in addition we have also found some more hazardous soils, materials as to be expected around an old railroad line I guess, just more than we expected. And so costs have increased in the time that we have been engineering this project and so we have put a request to NHDOT which we believe it is very close to being accepted and finalized but to do that it's an 80/20 match and we need the additional 20% match. So this is a request for that, it will directly serve the community that abuts East Hollis Street and this new Rail Trail Corridor which we hope to start construction on next spring.

#### Chairwoman Kelly

Great. Before we move on, I appreciate that Sarah. I just wanted to, I meant to do this at the top of this. But just remind us of the top priorities that came out of the planning we did last year. So I have and correct me if I'm wrong; Affordable Housing, Economic Development, expanding public services and creating livable communities as well as homelessness are our top 5 from the big planning project that we did last year.

Director Marchant

Yes that it is correct. I would say the economic development piece is really focused around transportation too, so I don't want to miss that because we heard from so many of our partners that transportation is incredibly important.

Chairwoman Kelly

Thank you for that note. Did I miss anything?

Director Marchant

No.

Chairwoman Kelly

OK great. Alderman Lopez I saw your hand up.

Alderman Lopez

Yeah I just I wanted to highlight the need for the Rail Trail East Project. It's not exactly like an amenity or a let's use this to kind of attract young people kind of feature. It's essential for public safety in a lot of areas. There's been a lot of new housing going up down in the East Hollis Street area. A lot of people don't have access to cars. I have seen and hear a lot of concerns and complaints about people having difficulty transiting from that area to the downtown area. Although there has been a lot of construction done recently on one side and some of the sidewalks have been very much improved, those also are the sidewalks that are used by like Emergency Room ambulances. There's a parking lot with traffic. Having safer pedestrian transportation and a byway where people who are on foot or on bike perhaps on Segway can travel safely is important and this is a particularly helpful loop for people because it closes a section of walkable pathways that includes the Riverwalk and would basically allow pedestrians to stay in a closed loop that circles all of downtown so that they are not essentially underfoot or crossing roads when people are trying to drive through them.

The second comment I just wanted to double check with Director Marchant in terms of how I am understanding the TLC Grant I guess for older buildings, small apartments that would be for low income housing. How many units do you need to be considered eligible for this? Is this for single occupancy or maybe like 4 units and above.

Chairwoman Kelly

Director Marchant?

Director Marchant

So there's – thank you. So there's two different programs. If you are the owner of the home it doesn't have to be single family it can be up to four units and you can qualify under the owner occupied housing program. The same program is available to the rental housing program. And so to be rental housing, you know actually I am going to pass that one to Ms. Schena because I am more familiar with what is actually the owner occupied one.

Ms. Schena

Thank you, Carrie Schena. So the Rental Improvement Program under our housing is for up to eight units. Again, we are still trying to target sort of that mom and pop ownership. We are not looking for these massive rental properties that tap our limited resources.

And again, it is for those critical code repairs that Sarah mentioned; unsafe electrical, plumbing, heating issues – things like that. The funds being limited, we do have to prioritize to the most critical needs. They have to be renting to low income occupants. We report that back to HUD in our systems so that's very important. And they agree to keep it rented to low income occupants for several years following. They also have to contribute a 10% match to the total cost of the project and we cap them as well for the loans. The program was originally designed when we did the pilot, to not only cap the financial assistance but to say that only one owner could obtain a loan per year, because again, we really want to spread that out. We don't want to allocate it all in one place.

Alderman Lopez

Do those types of repairs, you mentioned electrical and critical repairs, what about handicap accessibility or roof repair kind of stuff?

Ms. Schena

If I may, yes absolutely. Accessibility is a huge component, we do it a lot under the owner occupied program for sort of obvious reasons as people are aging in place or maybe have had an accident or some incident that occurred. But we would absolutely be able to do that under the Rental Program if there was a tenant that had a need for that and basically just actually did most of one before the snow came and finishing up in the spring but that's a very common thing that we do.

Chairwoman Kelly

Are you all set Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

I was just going to respond.

Chairwoman Kelly

Sure.

Alderman Lopez

As an Alderman a lot of the concerns that I get are specifically about apartments where they can't maintain occupancy when there are roof issues and it starts to leak and there is concern about that. But then I've also seen a large number of people displaced from apartments that may have lived in for years, following a mobility impairment that they can no longer get easily in, even a few steps. The landlord won't invest in a ramp or that kind of stuff.

Chairwoman Kelly

Are you all set?

Alderman Lopez

Yep.

Chairman Kelly

Great. OK so that gets us through the City of Nashua projects, thank you for that. Are there any questions from the Committee around those projects? I think we are fairly familiar with them from last year? Everybody is very quiet tonight. Ok so the other projects we have before us, I have Opportunity Networks, I actually see someone with that name on the Zoom; I don't know if that's someone that would like to speak to this?

Stephanie Ouellette Hi my name is Steph, how are you tonight? I am from Opportunity Networks.

Chairwoman Kelly

Great could you state your name and address please?

Ms. Ouellette Sure my full name is Stephanie Ouellette and my address is actually in Manchester, New Hampshire, it's 1425 Bodwell Road, Manchester, New Hampshire.

Chairwoman Kelly

OK great. And did you want to speak quickly to your application?

Ms. Ouellette I can absolutely. Thank you for the opportunity. So we put in an application to sort of piggy back off of the two projects that we are having done. We just finished a bathroom renovation and we have another one that is going to start in April. And what we found is that the plumbing in our office is at least 40 something years old and it really does not meet our needs. We have a 12 gallon water heater which you run out of hot water washing your hands. We found that some of the drain pipes are not big enough to meet the demands and needs that we have. If people are not familiar with Opportunity Networks, we work with adults with disabilities and we work on life skills.

And so we have several individuals we serve who would like to learn how to laundry. And so we are looking to put in a washer and a dryer, not only to help with hygiene because as one can imagine we do actually do a lot of laundry for the people that we serve and we need to do that regularly. But we'd also like to teach some of our clients how to efficiently do laundry and help build those life skills so that they are able to move out into an independent or semi-independent living situation. Our main focus is just trying to get some new water heaters in there with the plumbing to a place that meets the demands and needs that we are putting on it and hopefully the washer and dryer. Anybody have any questions?

Chairwoman Kelly

Thank you so much for that overview. I see Alderman Wilshire with her hand up.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you. Do you own the building that you are operating in?

Ms. Ouellette We do not; we are a long-term tenant. We have been there for I think it's 16 years and we have another 6 or 7 years on this lease. We do intend to stay there for many more years to come it just suits the needs of our individuals. So we are a very long-term tenant, we do have permission from the building owner, he did sign off on this.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you very much appreciate it.

Ms. Ouellette You're welcome.

Chairwoman Kelly

Other Committee members have questions? OK thank you for being here to speak I appreciate that. Just so the Committee knows here if you add up sort of what has been asked and if we assume level funding we will have to look at probably about half. So we will have to keep that in mind as we are going through. So we did Opportunity Networks. We have Nashua Center here. I don't think there's anyone here for Nashua Center, but I could be wrong. So this application if we looked over it, they are looking for \$75,000.00 for HVAC replacement. I'll open it up to the Committee to see if there's any questions we might want to send back to them to keep our process moving along here. Anyone from the Committee? Alderman Lopez has a question.

Alderman Caron

Madam Chair?

Chairwoman Kelly

OH Alderman Caron?

Alderman Caron

You just said Nashua Center, for the HVAC they want \$75,000.00? I have \$70,000.00 down here.

Chairwoman Kelly

Hmmm, I am looking at the application that is in the drive and it says \$75,000.00 but maybe, oh she's raising her hand.

Ms. Schena

Yes, they initially did apply for \$75,000.00 and we followed up with them to see if they could include a quote, we typically ask the applicants to do that just so we know we are in the right ballpark. And upon receiving a quote, they said they would reduce that down to \$70,000.00. So I think the spreadsheet has \$70 and the application itself says \$75.

Alderman Caron

OK thank for that correction. Thank you.

Chairman Kelly

Thanks June, I appreciate that. Other questions from the Committee? OK Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

I was actually going to ask Alderman Caron if she happened to know about the HVAC Repairs whether this is improving air conditioning system, improving filters?

Chairwoman Kelly

Alderman Caron do you have any information on that.

Alderman Caron

No, I don't. No I was just concerned when you said \$75 and I thought maybe my paper was wrong.

Chairwoman Kelly

Yeah so we cleared that up, thank you though, that's good to know a little bit less. Alderman Lopez, just looking at that quote that they have here, it looks like there's some demolition and installation for five units. I am making sure I am reading the right thing here. That's what I see.

Alderman Lopez

Five units, OK. I would be speculating, I was just trying to figure out what they were looking for. The Senior Center does have an important role as the opposite of a warming station a cooling station in the summer, but they also have housing attached so I am wondering if the individual units are somehow associated with that. I am just curious, thanks.

Chairwoman Kelly

Alderman Wilshire?

Alderman Wilshire

It's not the Senior Center Alderman Lopez it is the Nashua Center for the multiply handicapped.

Alderman Lopez

Ok so it is a different program altogether?

Alderman Wilshire

Yeah.

Alderman Lopez

Sorry Alderman Caron, I guess you wouldn't have inside knowledge.

Alderman Caron

You had me a little confused.

Chairwoman Kelly

I was a little confused too but I was just passing on the question, it's like, wait a minute, that's not the Senior Center. OK. Any other questions on this one? Alright I am going to go back. We have the PLUS Center again, it looks like they are also looking to do a bathroom, I think last year we funded them for a bathroom and they are looking to do an additional one. Does anyone have questions, I'm looking at ... so the amount of request it must've changed from the application. It was \$69,800.00 and it's another ADA bathroom upgrade with central air installation as well. I have to say I really like these online applications they are nice and easy to move through. No questions from the Committee on this one? Pretty straightforward? OK. OK. I am going to go to PAL application next. So the PAL, yeah, Alderman Wilshire do you want to?

Alderman Wilshire

No go ahead, I didn't mean to interrupt you.

Chairwoman Kelly

I was going to give a quick like it looks like they are looking for about \$11,370.00 for Fire & Safety enhancements of the Safe Haven Youth. Alderman Wilshire?

Alderman Wilshire

Well I was going to say it just had the big renovation done. I don't have the applications in front of me, sorry about that, I just have the list. I could probably find them in my email but no I was just curious because I know they just had all this work done over there and maybe Carrie, maybe you could tell me what this work is because I don't have the applications. Sorry.

Chairwoman Kelly

So the application which I have in front of and maybe Carrie knows more, but it says that the recent building on Hope which is what you are talking about renovation brought many safety upgrades to the building; however there are a few additional enhancements requires. So I guess they just didn't cover it all. And if Ms. Schena knows more I would love to let her weigh in.

Ms. Schena

No I don't actually know more necessarily although last year the PAL had come before the City and received \$20,000.00 which was going to be for some fire improvement related work and some other modifications but then they receive that large grant. So you will see in the Memo they are actually up at the top of the list for being reprogrammed and then this is a new request this year for slightly less but it is definitely all fire related. So I think it has to do with the fire escape; just being familiar with the building I think that's off the back of the building. And again it sounds like it wasn't covered. So I think it might have been a case where last year they didn't know they were going to get that other grant and then they got it and then it didn't end up covering what they actually ultimately needed on the fire stuff. So they were back this year. But we can confirm that if you want.

Alderman Wilshire

No that's fine, thank you, appreciate it.

Chairwoman Kelly

So if I could clarify Ms. Schena, are you saying they asked for \$20,000.00 and didn't actually, you are reprogramming it because they didn't actually use it. So in essence, they are coming back for much less than they originally came for?

Ms. Schena

That does appear to be the case. I haven't had a direct conversation with them and so when this new application came in this year, I was looking through it and I found out, well we just have this money last year. So I don't know if it is exactly the same work and if we would be in a position where we could say well we had already awarded it to you and can you just modify.

And I think that's a question maybe worth asking if the Committee wants to go that way. But yeah we are taking \$20,000.00 from last year that they ended up declining once they got that other big grant and then now putting them back on the docket for I think it's \$11,000.00 this year.

Chairwoman Kelly

Yeah I mean I definitely think it would warrant a conversation just to know a little bit more about where that project went. I think we were all really interested for our Board of Aldermen, you know, sort of where they are now. So I can, I'm sure you'll reach out and also I would love to have them at the next meeting. Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

Just for random input, I had a conversation with Shaun Nelson last year about the CDBG request and it was mostly associated with the expenses around installing fire doors and sprinklers. And they had the building on HOPE thing and their current submission this year looks like it has quotes for a fire door and then repainting their fire escape in the back.

Chairwoman Kelly

Great, thank you Alderman Lopez. OK anything else on this? It sounds like this one we have a couple of follow up questions.

Alderman Lopez

I think you're muted.

Chairwoman Kelly

How many times, this is in the same year and still we have this happen all the time. OK. I was saying I am going to jump to the Children's Home Project and we will leave the Soup Kitchen until the end. So Lori, do you know anything about this project?

Alderman Wilshire

I will not be discussing this. I can tell you what it is, there's a rubber roof, there's slate roof on the main part of the house on Concord Street. And then there's a rubber roof that goes over the, what used to be a car port or whatever where the horse and buggy used to drive through. But the rubber roof is gone, it's pretty much gone. So it's to replace just the rubber part not the slate part of the roof.

Chairwoman Kelly

So it looks like the amount of the request is \$35,000.00 for that rubber roof replacement. Does that Committee have questions? I hear someone off mute but I'm not sure if that's intentional. OK. We are going to move on; it's pretty straightforward. OK so the Marguerite's Place application is for \$59,400.00 they are looking to replace a boiler. Seems also pretty straightforward and don't see anyone from the Committee for discussion. I think what we will do too is we will ask those basic questions we did last time, which is if you didn't get all what would you do. I think those are good kind of base line, just wanted to run through them and make sure there weren't any larger questions from us. OK Girls, Inc., I believe is looking to replace the roof in the gymnasium. So \$29,685.00 to replace their roof of the gymnasium over there. Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

I guess Ms. Schena or Director Marchant might be able to remind me but didn't they do this like a couple of years ago, or was that maybe the cafeteria?

Chairwoman Kelly

Ms. Schena?

Ms. Schena

So I can take that, Director Marchant had dropped off earlier. So I've been here I think about 13 years now and at the start of this, Girls Inc. had come in looking for some assistance with their roof. And at the time I believe it was the main roof and it ended up being very complicated to do and very expensive. And so they did not end up going through with it with the CDBG Funds because it wasn't nearly enough to touch it. I believe some of that was addressed in their renovation that they recently did; they did a massive overhaul there at that facility as well. And so this sounds like if it's over the gymnasium that was a piece that wasn't necessarily renovated. And so this would be separate, so we haven't done it twice to answer the question.

Alderman Lopez

Just checking; I don't think it would be the first place to discover that a roof is a lot more complicated than they thought it was.

Chairwoman Kelly

Yeah and the application actually mentions that is leaking into the gymnasium right now so it's a pretty important thing for them to be able to fix for when the girls are back. OK. I only see one other and then we have the Children's Home piece that I would like, I can bring it forward, I am on the Board so I will be doing what Lori did. OK so we have one from Gateways which actually I don't believe has come before us before. And actually I think I saw Ruth on here earlier; did she drop off? Maybe we lost her, she was on earlier. Maybe we can get her back for next time if there's some questions but there's \$21,270.00 to do some it looks like covering the housing needs. Yeah I'm trying to figure out what it is, oh there's a fence, that's what it was the fence. Thank you, we talked about this earlier too.

So they are looking at a fence. And it looks like they are over on Atherton Ave. So maybe Ms. I can't read it, Morsette, will be able to join us for another meeting in case there are any questions there. I would like to know about their overall programs since this is the first time they've come before us. Alderman Wilshire?

Alderman Wilshire

They have come before us in the past, I don't know how recent, it's probably been several years but they are a huge organization working with people with developmental disabilities. They have tons of people that work for them and through them. It's quite an awesome program they have over there. They haven't been for a while, but I know they have applied in the past. So yeah, good group. Sandy Pelletier I think is still the Director there. Do you know Carrie if Sandy Pelletier is still the Executive Director.

Ms. Schena

Not off hand and I should if I looked at the application.

Chairwoman Kelly

I have it in front of me she is still the Director. I just happened to have that in front of me so yeah.

Ms. Schena

So I did actually speak with this group before they applied just to run through eligibility and the work that's needed. They have multiple residential sites, there are homes where it is group living so the individuals who need those supportive services have somebody in the home to help with those daily tasks. They have sites outside of Nashua and we talked through it and I advised that these would be for just Nashua facilities so that's what the two before you are.

Chairwoman Kelly

Thank you so much. OK. Any other questions or thoughts around that application? OK so the last one is for the Soup Kitchen.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

If you want me to speak to it, I'm OK.

Chairwoman Kelly

Sure.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Sure. They are on the price list for \$425,000.00 and it appears as though the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester is offering a 40 year lease to the Soup Kitchen for 35 Spring Street at \$1.00 per year. And anything else you want to add? So they are looking to help fund that at \$425,000.00 is that correct?

Alderman Caron

Madam Chair?

Chairwoman Kelly

Alderman Caron and then Ms. Schena, I saw your hand.

Alderman Caron

Oh OK, that's what I was going to ask, can we get a synopsis of what that \$425,000.00 is for?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

It's transitional housing if I remember correct, at 35 Spring Street right across from the post office correct.

Alderman Caron

Right, I know what that is but what is the money being used for?

Chairwoman Kelly

Ms. Schena?

Ms. Schena

Sure, so again I've had multiple conversations with the Soup Kitchen. Currently the City has \$75,000.00 allocated of CDBG from I think two cycles ago toward this project and it was to renovate the building and convert it, so my understanding is it is four separate floors. The first floor actually was recently done under some other COVID grants that came out again unexpectedly like everything. So they have been able to address the first floor. The other floors as I understand will have some administration space, emergency sheltering and then the fourth floor is where that transitional housing is going to be. They also have other funds coming in through New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority so we have been working closely on that because it's other Federal Funds. So we have had to tie together and do noticing and environmental reviews and things like that because of the money we already have tied into it.

So the way I understand is at this time there is still a significant financial gap for the project as a whole. But the fourth floor specifically which is the transitional housing is, I believe it's around \$1.6 million so they are trying to look for sources to close that gap. And this \$425 I think the way it is written, Alderman Caron, is just really for general construction costs. So we would have to go through and really pinpoint what those costs would be. They have gotten quotes and like everything costs have been skyrocketing and they are just trying to close that gap.

Chairwoman Kelly

I can add to that obviously I won't be voting on this. Alderman Caron, you want to go?

Alderman Caron

Oh yes, I wanted to say thank you for that update but you know looking at these numbers and the estimated amount that's going to be available. I mean just giving them \$425,000.00 is going to just about wipe us out, to help some of the other agencies. So I think we as a Committee really have a lot to think about. There's three requests that are in and it's over \$600,000.00 out of what we are looking for total availability. So maybe having some of these questions answered for our next meeting or having some of these people there to answer some of the questions that Committee members might have, might not be a bad idea, you know.

Chairwoman Kelly

Are there any specific questions, I know it seems to be identified that it is just general construction, but are there any specific questions somebody might need to get back to the Soup Kitchen. Obviously I think having them here is important. Go ahead.

Alderman Caron

I think they should have a basic list of what they think they can get done with that kind of money and even estimated costs, I think that would be important for the Committee to have.

Chairwoman Kelly

OK so basically a list of what it would cover.

Alderman Caron

Sure, yes. Thank you.

Chairwoman Kelly

So I just wanted to add, did I lose everybody, oh no, OK. I just wanted to add a couple of facts to what Ms. Schena overviewed. So one of the things and it is in the application but they are really trying to get this new shelter, increase the amount of beds we have for single women and families which is an issue that we've had in Nashua in terms of having enough space for specifically those populations. So this really does increase those beds and they actually, as Ms. Schena pointed out, were able to open a little bit early to help with some of the needs that have been increased by COVID. So the whole bottom floor is currently open. OK are there any other questions for the Committee on this one? It sounds like there's lot, we will have someone come next meeting.

I think that is all of the applications that we have received. So we did kind of go through all of them. Is there any additional general discussion here around these, or anything else you want to discuss? Alright, everyone is quiet tonight. Then we will move on to Public Comment. I don't see any members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

Chairwoman Kelly

Alderman Lu?

Alderwoman Lu

Sure thanks. I think I heard that Ms. Schena said that this is available online and I just wondered where that's found or is that for the Committee only, can you hear me?

Chairwoman Kelly

We can hear you. I was looking to see if Ms. Schena had the answer?

Ms. Schena

Yes the link to, so all the applications are stored we are using Google, a shared drive under Google Drive and I believe Donna Graham recently sent an email to the Full Board, maybe not, it might have just been Human Affairs that contain the link directly. But it is also posted on the Urban Programs webpage on the City of Nashua site.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you.

Chairwoman Kelly

I will forward it to you all so you can have it.

Alderwoman Lu

Alright, thank you.

Chairwoman Kelly

Is there anyone else? Alright, I need a motion please?

POSSIBLE NON-PUBLIC SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE TO ADJOURN BY ROLL CALL**

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Caron,  
Alderman Wilshire, Alderwoman Kelly 4

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire  
Committee Clerk