



## Housing & Community Development Committee

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201 - Council Chambers

**COMMITTEE MEMBER  
PRESENT:**

Hugo Rodriguez, Committee Member, Loren Berlin, Committee Member, Joanne Zolomij, Committee Member, Bobby Burns, Councilmember, Eleanor Revelle, Councilmember, Juan Geracaris, Councilmember, Chloe Thurston, Commission Member, and Kathy Feingold

**COMMITTEE MEMBER  
ABSENT:**

Devon Reid, Councilmember

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

[B. Swilley, T. Paden, W. Carter, L.E. Bailey, L. Knoble, E. Wesson, R. Hudson, B. Ester, K. Jefferson, P. Aikens, M. Dotson, W. Bailey, C.B. Sutton, and K. Nelson](#) provided comment in opposition to the City requirement to vacate the 2014, 2018 & 2024 Wesley Avenue properties. [D. Canon, T. Connolly and Cm. Kelly](#) provided comments in support of the in-person commenters via Zoom.

CM Burns and Staff provided an update on the Wesley Avenue properties as well as assistance made available. Discussion took place between staff and committee members regarding the situation and the City's actions. CM Geracaris requested an update relating to the history of this property for the next committee meeting. Rodriguez and Thurston asked for clarification on the committee's role. Chair Revelle clarified this item was not on the agenda for the Committee. Rodriguez voiced that it was irresponsible to have the committee, mostly made up of volunteers, address such issues. The full discussion can be viewed [online](#).

**3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

A. Approval of meeting minutes from the December 12, 2023 meeting.

Moved by Zolomij

Seconded by Feingold

**Ayes:** Rodriguez, Berlin, Zolomij, Burns, Revelle, Thurston, and Feingold  
**Abstained:** Geracaris

**Motion Passed 7-0 on a recorded vote**

**4. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Approval to Allocate \$20,000 of Affordable Housing Funds to help fund the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to Address the Needs of Homeless and Unstably Housed People

Staff presented the request for funding for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) by the Alliance to End Homelessness in Northern Cook County to maintain records for the North Suburban continuum of care (CoC). Jennifer Hill from the Alliance was present to provide information and answer questions from Committee Members. She stated the system is a HUD-mandated requirement and helps the City of Evanston provide reports that HUD requires and to make strategic decisions in community driven homelessness initiatives.

Motion to recommend to the City Council the allocation of \$20,000 of Affordable Housing Funds to the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County for the Homelessness Management Information System.

Moved by Thurston  
Seconded by Councilmember Geracaris

**Ayes:** Rodriguez, Zolomij, Revelle, Geracaris, Thurston, and Feingold  
**Abstained:** Berlin and Burns

**Motion Passed 6-0 on a recorded vote**

- B. One Stop Shop/ Green Homes Retrofit Program Update

Bob Dean from the Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT) and Jordan Nash from Elevate were present to give an update on the One Stop Shop program. Dean stated the Green Homes program, designed to address the City's climate and sustainability goals has had slow progress due to changes in leadership at EDC. Dean stated CNT is working on expanding their partnership with Elevate to get the program back on track. The completion timeline has changed from December 2024 to December 2025.

Motion to review the update and place it on file.

Moved by Zolomij  
Seconded by Feingold

**Ayes:** Rodriguez, Zolomij, Revelle, Geracaris, Thurston, and Feingold  
**Abstained:** Berlin and Burns

**Motion Passed 6-0 on a recorded vote**

C. Funding Guidelines and Applicants for FY 2023-24 CDBG Public Facilities Improvement Projects

Staff introduced the funding requests for CDBG Public Facilities Improvement Projects. Two applicants were present to present their projects: Lydia Home and PEER Services. S. Fulgenzi and C. Griffith from Lydia's Home gave an overview of the deferred maintenance of their elevators. A. Brown and B. Richards from PEER Services presented their funding request to replace an outdated security system.

Motion to approve funding guidelines and applicants for FY 2023-2024 CDBG Public Facilities Improvement projects.

Moved by Councilmember Geracaris  
Seconded by Zolomij

**Ayes:** Rodriguez, Berlin, Zolomij, Revelle, Geracaris, Thurston, and Feingold  
**Abstained:** Burns

**Motion Passed 7-0 on a recorded vote**

5. **STAFF UPDATES**

- Staff is waiting on Grant Allocations from HUD
- HOME-ARP Application opened 2/16, any applications submitted will come to HCDC during the 3/19 meeting.
- Staff is working on Envision2045, IHO Updates, HUD Consolidated Plan, and the CAPER during 2024, meeting agendas are expected to be full during the next HCDC meetings.

Committee Member Rodriguez shared his strong disappointment that staff did not reschedule the 1/29/24 special meeting so he could be present in person for the discussion, and shared his position on the Residential Landlord Tenant Ordinance updates. ([available to view online here](#))

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Revelle called for adjournment at 09:13 p.m.