



RECEIVED FOR RECORD
SUSAN M. PAWLUK

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND SUMMARY OF ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM**

2017 MAR 23 PM 1:20

STRATFORD TOWN CLERK

On April 10, 2017, at 5:45 p.m., the Stratford Town Council will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615. The public hearing will afford citizens with the opportunity to comment on the Town's Proposed Annual Action Plan for Program Year 43 Community Development Block Grant Funding. The Proposed Plan, as listed below, was developed by the Community Development Subcommittee of the Economic and Community Development Commission based upon their citizen participation process, which included a Public Hearing held on February 15, 2017, and is designed to further the goals and objectives set forth in the Town's approved Consolidated Housing and Community Development Strategy and Plan (the "Con Plan") for 2015-2019.

The Town's Annual Action Plan for its 2017 Community Development Funds (Year 43) is as follows:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Description</u>
Public Services		
South End Community Center (SECC)	\$50,000	Location: 19 Bates Street – Funds for Operation of Center
Stratford Community Services	\$18,000	Location: 468 Birdseye Street – Funds for Youth and Family Counseling
Center for Family Justice, Inc.	\$3,850	Location: 753 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport – Funds for Advocacy, Case Management, and MDT Services
Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust, Inc.	\$3,727	Location: 570 State Street, Bridgeport – Funds for Homeownership Academy/Counseling Program
Literacy Volunteers of Southern Connecticut, Inc.	\$3,000	Location: 2203 Main Street – Funds for Strengthening English in Adults Program
Total Public Services:	\$78,577	
Housing		
Catholic Charities – Bethlehem House	\$35,000	Location: 379/389 Jackson Ave – Supplemental Funds for Bethlehem House I and II Rehabilitation
Emerge, Inc. – Emerge I	\$28,773	Funds for Rehabilitation of Emerge I
Stratford Housing Authority	\$20,000	Location: SHA Units – Funds for Continuation of Vacant Unit Repair Program
Stonybrook Gardens Cooperative, Inc.	\$20,000	Location: 55 Singer Court – Funds for Chimney and Roof Rehab of Duplex Units in LMI Areas of Stonybrook Co-op Complex
The Kennedy Center, Inc.	\$5,000	Location: 40 Connors Lane – Funds for ADA Compliant Ramp for Group Home
Total Housing:	\$108,773	
Public Improvements		
Sidewalk Improvements Project	\$115,000	Supplemental Funds for Continuation of Sidewalk Improvements in LMI Areas
Johnson Academy Splash Pad	\$100,000	Location: 719 Birdseye Street – Funds for Splash Pad
Sterling House Community Center	\$15,000	Location: 2283 Main Street – Funds for Outdoor Pool Renovation
Façade Improvements Program	\$10,000	Location: Funds for Façade Improvements in LMI Areas to Address Slums/Blight
Short Beach Park Commission	\$6,500	Location: 1 Dorne Drive (Short Beach) - Funds for Handicap Accessible Wheelchair Swing
Total Public Improvements:	\$246,500	
Planning and Administration		
Management/Oversight of Program	\$90,000	General Administration of Program and Activities
Total Planning and Administration:	\$90,000	
Program Total:	\$523,850	

The CD Year 43 Program will cover the period from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has not yet informed the Town of its entitlement amount for CD Year 43. As such, the Town of Stratford's Proposed Action Plan is based upon an estimated allocation used for planning purposes that was released in December 2016. Specifically, the Town anticipates receiving approximately \$523,850 as its entitlement for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017 from HUD.

In accordance with HUD guidance, the Town of Stratford may not submit its Action Plan until actual funding allocation amounts have been incorporated into the Plan. The Proposed Action Plan reflects an estimated funding level, not actual

allocation amounts. As such, the Plan includes the following contingency provisions to allow for adjustments to be made to match its actual allocation amounts once known:

1. **Public Services Provision:** In the event that the Town of Stratford realizes a decrease relative to the estimated allocation amount, budgets for public service projects shall be reduced only by an amount necessary to ensure compliance with federal regulations. Such decrease shall first be applied to the Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust Program; second, such decrease shall be applied by equal percentage to the Center for Family Justice Program and the Literacy Volunteers of Southern Connecticut Program. In the event that an increase relative to the estimated allocation amount is realized, such increase shall be applied by equal percentage to the Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust Program, the Center for Family Justice Program, and the Literacy Volunteers of Southern Connecticut Program.
2. **Housing and Public Improvements Provision:** In the event that the Town of Stratford realizes a decrease relative to the estimated allocation amount, such decrease shall first be applied to the Façade Improvements Program; second, to the Sterling House Community Center Project; third, to the Sidewalk Improvements Program. In the event that an increase relative to the estimated amount in realized, such increase shall be applied by equal percentage to all proposed activities' budgets.
3. **Planning and Administration Provision:** In the event that the Town of Stratford realizes a decrease relative to the estimated allocation amount, such decrease shall be applied to the Planning and Administration/ Management and Oversight of the Program only in the event that the cap is exceeded; and only by an amount necessary to ensure compliance with federal regulations. Planning and Administration funding will not receive an increase in the event of a greater allocation from HUD.

The Proposed Plan presents a program that anticipates providing benefits to low- and moderate-income persons of 100% of the allocated expenditures for the 2017 Program Year. Notwithstanding the Town's estimate, the Town must provide funds at least 70% of which will benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons in accordance with HUD regulations for the term of this plan.

Notice is also hereby given of the following proposed substantial revisions to Town of Stratford Annual Action Plan(s):

Proposed Changes to 2013 Action Plan

Eliminate/Reduce Funding: CD Projects #3907 and #3913. Projects' funding eliminated/reduced due to funding reallocation. Funding of \$18,900 from #3907 and \$2,284.27 from #3913 reallocated in part to CD Project #3915 and in part to new CD Project #3916.

Increase Funding: CD Projects #3915 and #3916. Increase funding for Project #3915, Senior Wellness Park, by \$10,184.27. Funding increased from \$9,246.14 to \$19,430.41. Create new Project #3916, Clover Park Improvements, in the amount of \$11,000.

Proposed Changes to 2015 Action Plan

Reduce Funding: CD Project #4115. Project funding reduced by \$30,000 due to reallocation. Funding of \$30,000 reallocated by equal percentage to CD Projects #4106, #4107, and #4116 (new project).

Increase Funding: CD Projects #4106, #4107, and #4116. Increase funding for Project #4106, Emerge, Inc., by \$10,000. Funding increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Increase funding for Project #4107, Access Independence, by \$10,000. Funding increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Create new Project #4116, Senior Wellness Park, in the amount of \$10,000.

Availability of Plan for Review

In accordance with the Town's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), this information is available for review at Town Hall in the following locations: Office of the Town Clerk, 2725 Main Street; the Office of Economic/Community Development, Room 118, 2725 Main Street; and at the Stratford Public Library, 2203 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615. The Plan will also be made available on the Town's website at www.townofstratford.com/communitydevelopment.

Comment Period

Resident questions and comments are welcomed and encouraged on the proposed 2017 Action Plan and the substantial amendment(s) noted above. A copy of the Proposed Plan and affected Action Plans are available for review between 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday – Friday, as noted above. Careful consideration will be given to all comments received during the public review and comment period in accordance with the Town's CPP. The Town will append a summary of all comments received, and the responses thereto, in its submission to HUD. Questions or comments should be submitted in writing and addressed to Christopher D. Bandecchi, Community Development Administrator, Office of Community Development, Room 118, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT, 06615. **All comments must be received by close of business on April 24, 2017.**

The Town of Stratford is an equal opportunity employer. Any individual with a disability who needs special assistance to participate in the meeting should contact the ADA Coordinator, Susan Pawluk, at (203) 385-4020 or (203) 385-4022 (TDD) five (5) days before the meeting, if possible.

Christopher D. Bandecchi, Community Development Administrator