



# FY 2017 – 2018 Community Improvement Grant Appeals Recommendations

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City Council Meeting

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# Background

- Annually, the Community Advisory Board (CAB) provides small grants to community and neighborhood groups through the Community Improvement Grant (CIG) Program.
- The Office of Community Engagement has managed the program for last 2 years.
- CAB awards grants to applicants whose projects best meet the funding criteria.

# History FY 2007 – 2017

- Prior to FY 2007-08, Council allocated about \$5,000 for community improvement grants per CAB area per year (\$35,000 total each year for the program).
- Average number awarded per grant cycle – 17
- Average dollar amount awarded - \$1,560

# FY 2017-18 CIG Program

- CAB received 48 grant applications, totaling \$180,237 in requested funds.
- 20 applications were submitted by Eric Fraser on behalf of the Greater Cherry Street Neighborhood Association (GCSNA), totaling \$82,625 in requested funds.
- CAB chose 9 projects for funding, totaling \$31,483 using evaluation criteria outlined in the grant application.

# Greater Cherry Street Neighborhood Association Appeals

On December 20, 2017, CAB received 17 application appeals:

- #1701 Sidewalk Condition Survey (\$4,000)
- #1702 Sidewalk Info Pack (1,000)
- #1703 Verge Remediation (\$5,000)
- ~~#1704 1715 Sidewalk Repairs (\$60,000)~~
- #1718 Community Dog Walker Info Pack (\$1,000)
- #1720 GCSNA Communications (\$5,000)

# Basis for Appeals

- The CAB “appeared not to have the time, patience, willingness or professional training to consider” the applications.
- Not given adequate presentation time for optional presentation.
- Not satisfied with CAB’s final reasoning for why applications were not approved for funding – not enough money to fund every project.

# Reasons Affecting Funding Decision

- For projects 1701 – 1703: Per Council Policy 13-32.020 Maintenance and Repair of Sidewalks, sidewalk repairs are the responsibility of the property owner.
- For projects 1718 and 1720: CAB had limited funding and chose other projects to fund.

# Fiscal Impact

- The appeal requests \$16,000 to fund GCSNA projects
- With current grants awarded and pending completion, CIG funds are full depleted for FY 2017-18 projects.
- Office of Community Engagement does not have \$16,000 to fund these projects.
- If appeal granted, funding would have to be identified from the General Fund or Reserve



# RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Office of Community Engagement and the Community Advisory Board that the Council deny all FY 2017-18 Community Improvement Grant application appeals submitted on behalf of the Greater Cherry Street Neighborhood Association.

# Questions?