



TOWN COUNCIL STUDY SESSION AGENDA
September 23, 2024
5:00 PM

I. Study Session Items

1. Colorado BEAD Funding - Gary Amella (Comcast) - 10 minutes
2. Douglas County EDC - Ellie Reynolds - 30 minutes
3. State Demography Office Presentation - Nancy Gedeon/Fussa/Matthews - 45 minutes
4. CDBG Update - Fussa - 15 minutes
5. Public Art Commission Proposal - Glassburn - 30 minutes

II. Staff Updates

III. Town Council Updates/Items



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: John Fussa, Community Development Director
Bryce Matthews, Assistant Director - Planning
DATE: September 23, 2024
SUBJECT: State Demography Office Presentation

ISSUE:

The State Demography Office will provide a presentation to the Town Council about population changes and trends.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

N/A

BACKGROUND:

The Parker 2035 Master Plan expresses the community's vision for the future and is the Town's major policy document to guide future growth and development. The Town has experienced significant growth and change since the Master Plan was adopted by the Town Council in 2012. As a result, the Master Plan is in need of an update which will be aided by an understanding of recent population changes and trends. Nancy Gedeon of the State Demography Office will provide an update to the Town Council and staff on this topic.

RECOMMENDATION:

For informational purposes only.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

For informational purposes only

ATTACHMENT:

None



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: John Fussa, Community Development Director
Bryce Matthews, Assistant Director - Planning
DATE: September 23, 2024
SUBJECT: CDBG Update

ISSUE:

The Town has received notification from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Region VIII, advising staff that Parker has sufficient population to be considered a *Metropolitan City* under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) regulations. This means that the Town is eligible to participate in the CDBG program and receive a direct allocation of funds from HUD.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

HUD estimates a CDBG allocation of \$201,700 for federal fiscal year 2024.

BACKGROUND:

According to HUD, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program "provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities and counties to develop viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment..." The Town last participated in the CDBG program in 2016 through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Douglas County, which was designated an Urban County by HUD and administered the CDBG program on behalf of County residents and participating municipalities. The County and the Town opted out of participation in the CDBG Program in 2016.

Currently, the Town has an estimated population of greater than 67,000 which qualifies for *Metropolitan City* status under HUD regulations. As a result, the Town is eligible to participate in the CDBG program and receive a direct allocation of funds from HUD. This has been the case for several years; however, the Town Council has directed staff to opt-out of CDBG participation, including in 2023-2024.

There are pros and cons to participating in the CDBG program as summarized below:

Pros

- Federal funding is returned to the Town for use at the local level.
- Funding may be used for eligible activities including administration, affordable housing, economic development, infrastructure, property acquisition, social services, etc.
- Funding may be used to support local organizations, including those involved in food programs, housing, social services and senior citizen support.

- Federal regulations allow the local government to determine how funds are used and the programs/projects to be implemented.

Cons

- Funding is limited and subject to annual Congressional appropriations.
- CDBG programs require staff resources to implement, creating an administrative burden.
- Funding may be used for administrative costs including staff and consultants, but this use of funds is capped.
- There may be concern about certain federal regulations including those related to Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing provisions.

Currently, the Town of Castle Rock is the only municipality in Douglas County that has accepted *Metropolitan City* status and participates in the CDBG program. The County does not participate in the CDBG program at present.

RECOMMENDATION:

For discussion and Town Council direction to staff

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

Staff requests direction about whether the Town should continue to opt-out of the CDBG program or consider participation in it.

ATTACHMENT:

1. FY2025 Parker Entitlement Status Notification

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



Community Planning and Development

Region VIII, Denver
1670 Broadway Street
Denver, Colorado 80202-4801

Phone: 303-672-5414
Fax: 303-672-5028
Web: www.hud.gov

September 12, 2024

Michelle Kivela, Town Manager
Town of Parker
20120 E Mainstreet
Parker, CO 80138

Dear Ms. Kivela:

The Town of Parker has the sufficient population to meet the definition of a Metropolitan City under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This means that Parker is entitled to an annual formula allocation of CDBG funds in Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 and in each subsequent year. We estimate that the Town's FY 2024 CDBG allocation would have been approximately \$201,700. A difference in the amount appropriated by Congress for FY 2025 and other changes that affect the formula distribution of funds will cause the final amount to differ from this estimate.

The Town of Parker must provide a written confirmation to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development's Region VIII Office of Community Planning and Development (HUD) of its intent to accept or defer its entitlement status, on or before **September 20, 2024**.

Douglas County was previously an Urban County in the CDBG program. As such, there may be ongoing projects or financial commitments in Parker funded through Douglas County. The CDBG regulations at 24 CFR §570.510 provide the process for a smooth transition of unobligated grant funds and projects from Douglas County to the Town of Parker. Parker must execute a legally binding agreement with Douglas County resolving any outstanding commitments.

Should Parker elect to receive these CDBG funds, the Town must follow a citizen participation plan and prepare a Consolidated Plan (Plan) that includes a housing and homeless needs assessment, housing market analysis, strategic plan, action plan and certifications. The Plan must be submitted to this office between November 15, 2024, and August 16, 2025.

Please be advised that CDBG Program rules (24 CFR § 570.200(h)) permit a new CDBG formula grant recipient to receive reimbursement of costs necessary to develop its Consolidated Plan and undertake other administrative actions necessary to receive its first grant. Such costs may be reimbursed from Parker's initial grant, provided that Congress appropriates funds for FY 2025, that the Town completes an acceptable and timely Consolidated Plan, and that the costs meet other applicable requirements.

Parker may also choose to “permanently” defer its entitlement status. This means that the Town does not intend to accept its status in the foreseeable future. If Parker elects to make this choice, it must notify this office in writing of this intent. HUD will not send any further notifications to the grantee regarding its potential entitlement status. Parker may elect in the future to accept its entitlement status, as its decision to “permanently” defer its entitlement status is reversible; however, it will be the responsibility of the Town to notify HUD if it changes its mind in the future.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Christopher Davis, Program Manager via email at Christopher.M.Davis@HUD.gov. We look forward to building an effective partnership with the Town of Parker.

Sincerely,

Noemi Ghirghi

Noemi Ghirghi
Regional Director



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Carrie Glassburn, Cultural Director
DATE: September 23, 2024
SUBJECT: Public Art Commission Proposal

ISSUE:

As the adoption of the Public Art Master Plan approaches, the responsibilities of the Public Art Committee will grow substantially, along with the scope, budget, and visibility of the projects under their oversight. Given these changes, the Cultural Department recommends elevating the committee to a commission that reports directly to the Town Council.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

There will be no additional impact on the budget, as all expenses for public art projects have previously been approved as part of the annual budgeting process.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Art Committee is currently one of six committees operating under the Parker Cultural and Scientific Commission (PCSC). Traditionally, these committees have managed smaller events and projects with guidance from the PCSC and Cultural Department staff.

However, with the completion of the Public Art Master Plan, which outlines a unified long-term vision for public art in the Parker community, the role of the Public Art Committee is set to expand significantly. Achieving the plan's ambitious goals will require dedicated funding, time, and resources far beyond what other committees need. Additionally, the projects this committee will oversee will be more prominent and permanent compared to the other committees.

Given these increased responsibilities, the Cultural Department recommends that the Town Council consider elevating the Public Art Committee to a commission.

RECOMMENDATION:

None.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

This presentation is for informational purposes only.

ATTACHMENT:

None