



108 E. Green St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 274-6565

ITHACA URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY (IURA)

AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING

8:30 A.M., Thursday, June 4, 2020

 VIRTUAL MEETING

I. Call to Order

II. Additions/Deletions from Agenda

III. Public Comments (written only)

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Written public comments may be submitted until 4:00 p.m., the day before the meeting to: cpyott@cityofithaca.org.

IV. Review of Meeting Minutes: May 28, 2020

V. HUD Entitlement Program

A. Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Funding

1. Review of Proposals Received (continued)
2. Recommend Allocation of CDBG-CV Funds to Selected Projects — Resolution
3. Review of Unmet Priority Needs

B. 2018 CDBG

1. Program Amendment to Reallocate Unused Funds from Neighbor-to-Neighbor Project — Possible Resolution

VI. Adjournment

NEXT MEETING: 8:30 A.M., Thursday, June 25, 2020



If you have a disability and require accommodation to fully participate, please contact the CITY OF ITHACA CLERK'S OFFICE at 274-6570 at least 72 business hours prior to the meeting.

DRAFT MINUTES

ITHACA URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY



8:30 A.M., Thursday, May 28, 2020

Members: Mayor Svante Myrick, Chair; Tracy Farrell, Vice-Chair; Karl Graham; Chris Proulx; Eric Rosario; Laura Lewis, Common Council Liaison

Excused: None.

Staff: Nels Bohn; Anisa Mendizabal; Charles Pyott

Guests: None.

I. Call to Order

Chair Myrick called the meeting to order at 8:34 A.M.

II. Agenda Additions/Deletions

None.

III. Public Comments Received

None.

IV. Review of Draft Meeting Minutes: April 30, 2020

Farrell moved, seconded by Rosario, to approve the April 30, 2020 meeting minutes, with no modifications.

Carried Unanimously: 5-0

VI. HUD Entitlement Program

A. Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Funding

1. Review of Proposals Received

Bohn explained that the IURA issued a Call for Funding Proposals (RFP) for the use of CDBG-CV funds on May 11, 2020, with a May 26, 2020 deadline. 17 funding applications were received. The RFP indicated there would be \$100,000 in available funding, although the actual remaining CDBG-CV balance is \$131,299.20. That figure does not include \$29,753.00 in CDBG funds originally awarded to 2018 Project #1, "Neighbor to Neighbor Home Rehabilitation," which the IURA can also allocate to a COVID-19-related use, which could bring the total to \$161,052.20 in CDBG/CDBG-CV funds available for the applications.

Mendizabal noted the IURA did not receive quite as many applications addressing homelessness and homeless-related needs as she anticipated, probably because service providers are currently overextended and spending time re-assessing their operational needs, especially organizations receiving reduced funding from Tompkins County. If the IURA decides it would like to see more applications addressing homelessness and homeless-related needs, it may choose to wait another month.

Myrick remarked he is definitely concerned about the prospect of many people becoming homeless.

Farrell suggested reserving the additional \$61,052.20 in available funds, over the \$100,000 mentioned in the RFP due to evolving circumstances.

Bohn recommended the IURA begin by reviewing the applications and then determine if it believes a certain portion of available funding should be reserved for a future unmet need, or simply allocate all available funding in a single round. No objections were raised.

#	Project Name	Sponsor	Requested Funding
1	Laundry & Internet Needs During COVID-19	Opportunities, Alternatives, & Resources (OAR) of Tompkins County	\$11,000
2	Ithaca CARES About Re-Opening Child Care	Child Development Council of Central NY, Inc.	\$10,000
3	Aid for Immigrants During COVID-19	Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties	\$10,879
4	Safe Re-Opening from COVID-19	State Theatre of Ithaca, Inc.	\$15,990
5	Virtual Career Coach	Women's Opportunity Center	\$23,470
6	Tuition Assistance Program	Downtown Ithaca Children's Center (DICC)	\$25,600
7	Housing Linkages Project	Human Services Coalition of Tompkins County	\$65,000
8	COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program	The Salvation Army of Ithaca	\$100,000
9	Operational & Planning Support for Kitchen Theatre Company	Kitchen Theatre Company, Inc.	\$75,000
10	Deep Cleaning Services to Protect SJCS Ithaca Shelter	St. John's Community Services Ithaca Shelter	\$20,000
11	COVID-19 Testing for Vulnerable Populations	The REACH Project, Inc.	\$20,000
12	Expanding Access to RIBs	The Center for Community Transportation	\$16,895
13	Security Deposits for Safer Housing	Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties	\$25,000
14	Mediation as Emergency Response: Students & Attorneys Provide Housing Aid to Community	Community Dispute Resolution Center	\$35,000
15	COVID-19 Cleaning Services for Area Non-Profits	Challenge Workforce Solutions	\$96,651
16	Fair Housing Enforcement Project	Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.	\$60,000
17	New Safety Measures for Ithaca ReUse Center Opening	Finger Lakes ReUse, Inc.	\$10,222
TOTAL:			\$620,707

CDBG-CV Application #1: OAR (Opportunities, Alternatives & Resources) — Laundry & Internet Needs During COVID-19

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11472/CDBG-CV-Application-1-OAR---Laundry--Internet-Needs-During-COVID-19>

Graham remarked he liked the project: it serves a large number of people and targets two distinct populations-in-need. He would support funding it, given the modest funding request and the number of people it would support.

CDBG-CV Application #2: Child Development Council — Ithaca CARES About Re-Opening Child Care

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11473/CDBG-CV-Application-2-Child-Development-Council---Ithaca-CARES-About-Re-Opening-Child-Care->

Lewis observed it is a very reasonable funding request, for a project that would meet a critical need in the community. Farrell strongly agreed.

Graham agreed with Lewis. The economy cannot begin to recuperate as quickly as it should, until childcare becomes more widely available.

CDBG-CV Application #3: Catholic Charities — Aid for Immigrants During COVID-19

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11474/CDBG-CV-Application-3-Catholic-Charities---Aid-for-Immigrants-During-COVID-19->

Farrell asked if the application only targets the local Burmese-speaking population. Mendizabal replied she does not believe it does. The project would serve the entire local immigrant/refugee population. One thing she was surprised to see in the application was that only 48% of people served would be City residents, which she will ask the applicant about.

Graham wondered if the application is not simply a continuation of the 2019 Immigrant Services Program (ISP), which the IURA has already funded. Mendizabal replied, although ISP was fully funded in the 2019 Action Plan, she knows Catholic Charities is struggling to meet demand for the program's services, because of the COVID-19 situation. Many ISP beneficiaries work in the informal economy, so may not be eligible for most public benefits and end up needing additional assistance, particularly to correctly fill out forms.

Rosario asked if the Program Assistant position would not be fully funded, if the IURA does not fund the project. Mendizabal replied the Program Assistant position was originally full-time, but was scheduled to transition to a part-time position. This proposal would extend funding for the full-time position through 2020.

CDBG-CV Application #4: The State Theatre — Safe Re-Opening from COVID-19

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11475/CDBG-CV-Application-4-State-Theatre---Safe-Re-Opening-from-COVID-19>

Farrell recalled the theatre recently hosted a live-streaming event. Bohn replied that event was not genuinely live-streamed, but served as a model for proposed live streaming events. The theatre envisions reopening for live performances on stage, with a limited number of people in the audience and other members of the public paying to view the live-streamed performance (but paying less for tickets than people in the audience).

Farrell indicated she thinks it is a good idea. Many online classes and performances appear to be attracting more people than in-person events, so it has good potential.

Proulx wondered if the IURA should be concerned with the low 25% of Area Median Income (AMI) figure listed in the application. Bohn replied the theatre proposes retaining its production manager job, which would therefore meet the CDBG job-retention low/mod benefit test. HUD has also identified an “Urgent Need” National Objective test for any project that can demonstrably show it is directly responding to the COVID-19 crisis. This project may meet this alternative national objective test.

CDBG-CV Application #5: Women’s Opportunity Center — Virtual Career Coach

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11476/CDBG-CV-Application-5-Womens-Opportunity-Center---Virtual-Career-Coach->

No questions were raised.

CDBG-CV Application #6: Downtown Ithaca Children’s Center (DICC) — Tuition Assistance Program

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11477/CDBG-CV-Application-6-DICC---Tuition-Assistance-Program->

Lewis noted the application falls into the same category as #2 (Ithaca CARES About Re-Opening Child Care) that was discussed earlier, in that it serves many people in low-wage jobs who need affordable daycare to enable them to return to work. It seems a really good idea.

Farrell observed the requested funding only appears to be for salaries to fill a funding gap. Mendizabal responded there is some complexity associated with the application. One of the issues is that, even with a reduced anticipated class size, DICC would still be required to have a minimum complement of teachers per classroom. DICC is also suffering from the decrease in County funding. DICC’s funding from families receiving Department of Social Services (DSS) assistance has been suspended; and a grant it was awarded will not be disbursed until the Fall.

Bohn added that, contrary to the project’s title, the application should not primarily be viewed as tuition assistance but would essentially serve as a subsidy for DICC to continue operating and serve low-to-moderate income (LMI) families.

Proulx observed the application refers to a revenue loss of \$90,000 in one section, but \$225,000 in another, so he is not sure what DICC's actual financial gap is. Mendizabal replied the IURA certainly needs clarification on that point, so she will contact DICC.

CDBG-CV Application #7: Human Services Coalition — Housing Linkages Project

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11478/CDBG-CV-Application-7-Human-Services-Coalition---Housing-Linkages-Project->

No questions were raised.

CDBG-CV Application #8: The Salvation Army — COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11479/CDBG-CV-Application-8-Salvation-Army---COVID-19-Emergency-Assistance-Program->

Farrell observed the project appears to be an extension of all the services the Salvation Army already currently provides.

Mendizabal noted the applicant did not request any technical assistance from the IURA, so unfortunately she has no further information about the proposal.

CDBG-CV Application #9: Kitchen Theatre Company — Operational & Planning Support for Kitchen Theatre Company

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11480/CDBG-CV-Application-9-Kitchen-Theatre-Company---Operational--Planning-Support-for-Kitchen-Theatre-Company->

Farrell noted the proposed funding would essentially go towards staff retention. Myrick agreed.

CDBG-CV Application #10: St. John's Community Services (SJCS) Ithaca Shelter — Deep Cleaning Services to Protect SJCS Ithaca Shelter

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11481/CDBG-CV-Application-10-St-Johns-Community-Services-Ithaca-Shelter---Deep-Cleaning-Services-to-Protect-SJCS-Ithaca-Shelter->

Farrell wondered how many people live in the shelter at any one time. Mendizabal replied she is not certain of the exact number, but she could contact the applicant. She does know HUD has been decreasing the allowable density of people in congregate shelters. When she spoke to the applicant, there was mention of adding physical infrastructure (e.g., Plexiglas panels) for social-distancing measures, but that was not included in the application.

Proulx noted he thinks physical social-distancing infrastructure would be important. Viral transmission from surfaces does not appear to be as common as originally believed, while maintaining social-distancing capacity remains critical.

Graham noted the application lists 50% as the proportion of City residents being served. He wondered if that is more of a guess on the part of the applicant. Mendizabal replied she will contact the applicant about that. She does not know how that figure was calculated.

Proulx asked if the applicant is affected by the County's funding reduction. Bohn replied, although the applicant does receive County funding, it has a direct contract with DSS to offer services, so he does not believe it is subject to the mandatory reduction.

CDBG-CV Application #11: The REACH Project — COVID-19 Testing for Vulnerable Populations

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11482/CDBG-CV-Application-11-The-REACH-Project--COVID-19-Testing-for-Vulnerable-Populations->

Farrell asked if the County is currently testing homeless populations. Mendizabal replied it is hard to identify all the populations the County has been testing, but she knows the application was submitted because no testing is specifically being conducted for homeless populations. Since Cayuga Medical Center (CMC) is conducting mobile testing, she reached out to them to find out if they could serve the homeless. She never received a response. The County is certainly responsible for testing, but to-date homeless people have not been tested.

Farrell noted it certainly seems a mobile-testing service should be able serve homeless shelters. She would prefer all testing be conducted through the County. Mendizabal agreed.

Myrick indicated he would attempt to find out what the situation is. He suspects the County is uncertain about what to do with homeless people who test positive. Mendizabal noted presumably they would be placed in hotels.

Rosario observed the alternative, of not knowing about positive test results, does not seem better.

Mendizabal noted another option for addressing the problem would be to have the County contract directly with the REACH Project.

CDBG-CV Application #12: Center for Community Transportation — Expanding Access to RIBs

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11483/CDBG-CV-Application-12-Center-for-Community-Transportation---Expanding-Access-to-RIBs->

No questions were raised.

CDBG-CV Application #13: Catholic Charities — Security Deposits for Safer Housing

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11484/CDBG-CV-Application-13-Catholic-Charities---Security-Deposits-for-Safer-Housing->

Farrell noted the amount of security deposit assistance per household could potentially be a lot more than the standard \$750 cap for this project, which could expand the number of low-income households that can secure housing. It would also permit people who have previously received security deposit assistance to apply again, if they have been impacted by COVID-19.

CDBG-CV Application #14: Community Dispute Resolution Center (CDRC)— Mediation as Emergency Response – Students & Attorneys Provide Housing Aid

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11488/CDBG-CV-Application-14-Community-Dispute-Resolution-Center---Mediation-as-Emergency-Response---Students--Attorneys-Provide-Housing-Aid>

Proulx wondered if the project is designed to address an already documented problem, or an anticipated problem. Lewis noted she believes the concern is that once the eviction moratorium is lifted, late fees, evictions, and related legal actions will increase significantly. Mendizabal noted LAW New York (Fair Housing Enforcement Project) also anticipates a wave of that kind of activity. CDRC has already been fielding calls about the subject, although it would be helpful to know exactly how many calls it has received. There should be some method to better document the projected need.

CDBG-CV Application #15: Challenge Workforce Solutions — COVID-19 Cleaning Services for Area Non-Profits

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11485/CDBG-CV-Application-15-Challenge-Workforce-Solutions---COVID-19-Cleaning-Services-for-Area-Non-Profits->

Mendizabal noted she was initially concerned with the large funding request, but the project appears scalable.

Bohn remarked the application is similar to #10 (Deep Cleaning Services to Protect SJCS Ithaca Shelter) in some respects. He knows there is a considerable amount of interest in the community for this kind of service, which could also help to bolster public confidence in downtown retailers and other public locations.

Proulx asked about the relationship between this application and #10 (Deep Cleaning Services to Protect SJCS Ithaca Shelter). Mendizabal replied it is confusing. It seems the two organizations did not communicate with each other, since the Challenge Workforce Solutions application even lists St. John's Community Services (SJCS) as a potential partner/client. She sees no reason why this project could not encompass the SJCS project.

Myrick remarked the project certainly appears to be a needed investment that could benefit many people and organizations.

Mendizabal added she knows the Downtown Ithaca Alliance (DIA) and local businesses have similar concerns, so there may be some potential for collaboration of some kind. Others noted the possibility for a fee to be charged as facilities will likely have to meet an enhanced cleaning regimen to comply with health guidelines. Fees could reduce the amount of funding required for the project.

CDBG-CV Application #16: LAW New York — Fair Housing Enforcement Project

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11486/CDBG-CV-Application-16-LAW-New-York---Fair-Housing-Enforcement-Project->

No questions were raised.

CDBG-CV Application #17: Finger Lakes ReUse — New Safety Measures for Ithaca ReUse Center Opening

<http://www.cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/11487/CDBG-CV-Application-17-Finger-Lakes-ReUse--New-Safety-Measures-for-Ithaca-ReUse-Center-Opening->

No questions were raised.

Myrick asked for recommendations on how to proceed. He is personally leaning towards funding projects that directly assist people currently in need, like the security deposit assistance application and Child Development Council application.

Mendizabal remarked she will discuss the applications with the Funders' Group (including the Community Foundation of Tompkins County and the Park Foundation) to determine if it is interested in funding any of the smaller projects. Farrell remarked that is an excellent idea.

Farrell wondered what the IURA consensus is about the Human Services Coalition's Housing Linkages Project application. It requests a considerable amount of funding, but she cannot gauge how effective connecting landlords with Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) holders would actually be. Mendizabal responded the project is less focused on directly connecting individual tenants with landlords, than it is on assessing landlords' needs and business concerns, while underscoring the stable revenue stream that HCVs represent, given the current economic uncertainty.

Graham wondered what the actual impact on landlords has been from the COVID-19 crisis. He knows many students, for example, remained responsible for their lease terms, so perhaps the impact on landlords has not been as serious as one may assume. Mendizabal agreed that may be the case, but she does know there has been considerable discussion among landlords concerned with financial instability.

Proulx suggested the IURA begin by funding projects that address current, identifiable problems, rather than potential or anticipated problems. Some of the applications are vague in terms of clearly identifying what the problem is. The IURA may want to wait until it has more information, before allocating the majority of its available funding. Farrell, Graham, and Lewis agreed.

Lewis noted many questions remain unanswered about how the re-opening process will actually unfold. But one thing that is certain is that families will need to know childcare services are available, before they can return to work (especially since no summer camps or similar programs will be available). Farrell agreed.

Rosario remarked he agrees with Myrick that housing-related projects should be prioritized over others. He likes the proposal to collaborate more closely with the Funders' Group, as Mendizabal suggested. The IURA could determine which projects the Funders' Group would be willing to fund and then make its funding decisions at that time. Collaborating more closely with the County would also make sense.

Farrell asked which housing-related application rises to the top for Rosario. Rosario replied, the security deposit assistance application, and after that, the childcare ones. He would rather have more information about the other applications, before making any other decisions.

Farrell observed the Salvation Army project also appears to provide the direct form of assistance the IURA is looking for. Proulx agreed.

Graham noted Project #1 (Laundry & Internet Needs During COVID-19) is also an immediate need. Rosario and Lewis both agreed.

Graham noted he has questions about #10 (Deep Cleaning Services to Protect SJCS Ithaca Shelter) and its relationship to #15 (COVID-19 Cleaning Services for Area Non-Profits). If cleaning services are in fact mandated by the State, then the IURA should consider prioritizing cleaning services projects.

Proulx indicated he needs to leave the meeting, but he would suggest leaving at least a little funding available, reserved for a future use. He definitely supports collaborating with the Funders' Group.

(Proulx departed at 9:57 a.m.)

Farrell suggested adding Project #10 (Deep Cleaning Services to Protect SJCS Ithaca Shelter) to the list of prospective IURA projects. No objections were raised.

Graham noted there was also discussion earlier about contacting the County about Project #11 (COVID-19 Testing for Vulnerable Populations).

Myrick suggested tentatively scheduling a Special IURA Board Meeting to review what Mendizabal finds out from the Funders' Group. Mendizabal responded if she is not able to gather enough information shortly before then, the Special Meeting could be canceled/rescheduled. Farrell agreed with that approach.

Bohn asked if #11 (COVID-19 Testing for Vulnerable Populations) should be placed on the list. Myrick replied, yes (although perhaps towards the bottom, since the consensus is the County should fund it). Farrell agreed.

(continued on next page)

**2020 HUD Entitlement Program CDBG-CV (City of Ithaca, NY)
 Prospective Projects for 2nd Allocation of CDBG-CV Funds**

#	Project	Sponsor	Funding Request	TARGETED CDBG-CV FUNDING: \$100,000	Brief Project Summary
1	Laundry & Internet Needs During COVID-19	Opportunities, Alternatives and Resources (OAR) of Tompkins County	\$ 11,000	\$ -	(1) Funding towards laundry and detergent for "Soap & Suds Laundry Program for the Homeless and Housing Insecure" during COVID-19 pandemic. (2) Funding towards internet for 40 students in "College Initiative Upstate Student" remote-learning program during COVID-19 pandemic.
2	Ithaca CARES about Re-Opening Child Care	Child Development Council of Central NY, Inc.	\$ 10,000	\$ -	Funding for childcare programs in the City of Ithaca that are re-opening after 5/15/20 towards supplies related to operational changes to ensure health and safety of children in their care.
3	Aid for Immigrants During COVID-19	Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties	\$ 10,879	\$ -	Funding towards salary/benefits to extend current Immigrant Services Program (ISP) program assistant position serving immigrant and refugee families/individuals of all ages, including the disabled, who need help accessing services to endure adverse economic impacts of COVID-19.
6	Tuition Assistance Program	Downtown Ithaca Children's Center (DICC)	\$ 25,600	\$ -	Funding for staff wages/salaries to ensure ability to re-open.
8	COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program	The Salvation Army of Ithaca	\$ 100,000	\$ -	Funding for financial assistance (e.g., rent/mortgage assistance; medical prescriptions/outstanding medical bills; transportation expenses; energy/utility payments) to households in need.
10	Deep Cleaning Services to Protect SJCS Ithaca Shelter	St. John's Community Services Ithaca Shelter	\$ 20,000	\$ -	Funding for hiring Challenge Workforce Solutions to provide twice-weekly professional deep cleaning/sanitization of the Friendship Center, Pantry, and Shelter.
11	COVID-19 Testing for Vulnerable Populations	The REACH Project, Inc.	\$ 20,000	\$ -	Funding for Registered Nurse and Community Health Worker, over 6 months, to provide regular, rapid, and timely COVID-19 testing for LMI people, people experiencing homelessness, and their front-line service providers.
13	Security Deposits for Safer Housing	Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties	\$ 25,000	\$ -	Funding towards security deposits for individuals/families, people currently homeless, and others who are losing current housing due to adverse economic impacts from COVID-19.
TOTALS:			\$ 222,479	\$ 100,000	

B. 2018 CDBG

1. Program Amendment to Reallocate Unused CDBG Funds from Neighbor-to-Neighbor Project

Bohn suggested the IURA postpone a decision on the proposed resolution, until it determines how it would like to allocate the CDBG-CV funds. No objections were raised.

VI. Old/New/Other Business

A. IURA Financials: April 2020

Bohn walked through the monthly financial report, remarking all projects are progressing reasonably well. IURA staff is working with the Domestic Violence Shelter on the final voucher for that project.

Bohn reported all but one of the loan repayments are current, except the Finger Lakes School of Massage (FLSM), which the IURA is trying to collect on through a Personal Financial Guarantee.

Bohn reported all lease payments are current.

B. Committee Chairperson Reports

None.

C. IURA Chairperson Report

Myrick remarked he continues to work, in a variety of forums, to pressure Federal policymakers to enact funding legislation for hard-hit municipalities and states.

D. Common Council Liaison Reports

None.

E. Staff Report

None.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

— END —

Minutes prepared by C. Pyott, edited by N. Bohn.

2020 HUD Entitlement Program CDBG-CV (City of Ithaca, NY)

Prospective Projects for 2nd Allocation of CDBG-CV Funds

(Results from 5/28/20 IURA Meeting Review of 17 Funding Applications Received)

Last Updated: 5/30/20

#	Project	Sponsor	Funding Request	TARGETED CDBG-CV FUNDING: \$100,000	Brief Project Summary
1	Laundry & Internet Needs During COVID-19	Opportunities, Alternatives and Resources (OAR) of Tompkins County	\$ 11,000	\$ -	(1) Funding towards laundry and detergent for "Soap & Suds Laundry Program for the Homeless and Housing Insecure" during COVID-19 pandemic. (2) Funding towards internet for 40 students in "College Initiative Upstate Student" remote-learning program during during COVID-19 pandemic.
2	Ithaca CARES about Re-Opening Child Care	Child Development Council of Central NY, Inc.	\$ 10,000	\$ -	Funding for childcare programs in the City of Ithaca that are re-opening after 5/15/20 towards supplies related to operational changes to ensure health and safety of children in their care.
3	Aid for Immigrants During COVID-19	Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties	\$ 10,879	\$ -	Funding towards salary/benefits to extend current Immigrant Services Program (ISP) program assistant position serving immigrant and refugee families/individuals of all ages, including the disabled, who need help accessing services to endure adverse economic impacts of COVID-19.
6	Tuition Assistance Program	Downtown Ithaca Children's Center (DICC)	\$ 25,600	\$ -	Funding for staff wages/salaries to ensure ability to re-open.
8	COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program	The Salvation Army of Ithaca	\$ 100,000	\$ -	Funding for financial assistance (e.g., rent/mortgage assistance; medical prescriptions/outstanding medical bills; transportation expenses; energy/utility payments) to households in need.
10	Deep Cleaning Services to Protect SJCS Ithaca Shelter	St. John's Community Services Ithaca Shelter	\$ 20,000	\$ -	Funding for hiring Challenge Workforce Solutions to provide twice-weekly professional deep cleaning/sanitization of the Friendship Center, Pantry, and Shelter.
11	COVID-19 Testing for Vulnerable Populations	The REACH Project, Inc.	\$ 20,000	\$ -	Funding for Registered Nurse and Community Health Worker, over 6 months, to provide regular, rapid, and timely COVID-19 testing for LMI people, people experiencing homelessness, and their front-line service providers.
13	Security Deposits for Safer Housing	Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties	\$ 25,000	\$ -	Funding towards security deposits for individuals/families, people currently homeless, and others who are losing current housing due to adverse economic impacts from COVID-19.
TOTALS:			\$ 222,479	\$ 100,000	

Maximum Funding Available	
CDBG-CV:	\$131,299
Unallocated 2018 CDBG:	\$29,753
Total:	\$161,052

2020 CDBG-CV: SECOND ALLOCATION

WHEREAS, in an April 2, 2020 letter, the City of Ithaca (City) received formal notification of the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) initial supplemental funding allocation of Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) funds from *The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security* (CARES Act), which funding is hereafter referred to as CDBG-CV, and

WHEREAS, the CDBG-CV allocation to the City provides \$321,299.20 to invest in CDBG-eligible activities to support community development efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and

WHEREAS, the City contracts with the Ithaca Urban Renewal Agency (IURA) to administer, implement and monitor the City’s HUD Entitlement Program in compliance with all applicable regulations, and

WHEREAS, the IURA is following a two-pronged approach to determine recommended uses of CDBG-CV funding:

- Directed activities to address priority needs where a capable sponsor is pre-identified, and
- Activities selected through an open competitive process, and

WHEREAS, the IURA has preliminarily identified the following priority community needs:

1. Renter households whose ability to pay rent has been reduced by COVID-19 impacts
2. COVID-related relief, prevention, or recovery of persons experiencing homelessness
3. Small businesses adversely impacted by public health mandates and guidelines
4. Anchor non-profits entities with at least 51% earned income adversely impacted by public health mandates and guidelines, and

WHEREAS, the first allocation of CDBG-CV funds was directed to assist renter households by providing \$190,000 for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, leaving \$131,299.20 remaining to be allocated, and

WHEREAS, the IURA issued a public Call for Funding Proposals for CDBG-CV funds with a May 26, 2020 deadline, and

WHEREAS, at its May 28, 2020 and June 4, 2020 meetings, the IURA reviewed 17 proposals requesting a total of \$620,707; now, therefore, be it

(see following page)

RESOLVED, that the IURA hereby recommends the City of Ithaca Common Council approve a second allocation of CDBG-CV funds to the following activities, subject to a Public Hearing and a Public Comment period:

Note: Modify the list below of 8 prospective projects to match funding target:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
\$11,000	Laundry & Internet Needs During COVID-19	OAR
\$10,000	Ithaca CARES – Re-Opening Child Care	Child Development Council
\$10,879	Aid for Immigrants During COVID-19	Catholic Charities
\$25,600	DICC Child Care Center Re-Opening Assistance (AKA Tuition Assistance Program)	DICC
\$100,000	COVID-19 Emergency Asst. Program	Salvation Army of Ithaca
\$20,000	Deep Cleaning – SJCS Ithaca Emergency Shelter	St. John’s Community Services
\$20,000	COVID-19 Testing for Vulnerable Populations	The REACH Project, Inc.
<u>\$25,000</u>	Security Deposits for Safer Housing	Catholic Charities
\$XXX,XXX	Total	

And be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Urban Renewal Plan shall be amended to include CDBG-CV funded activities.

Ithaca Urban Renewal Agency (IURA)
Proposed Resolution
June 4, 2020

**2018 Action Plan — Program Amendment #5:
Reallocate \$29,753.00 from Project #1, “Neighbor to Neighbor Home Rehabilitation” (CDBG)**

WHEREAS, 2018 HUD Entitlement Program Project #1, “Neighbor to Neighbor Home Rehabilitation” was awarded \$40,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to provide at least 4 homeowners with substantial repairs and rehabilitation activities to their homes, and

WHEREAS, subsequent to its initial award, Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) experienced various leadership, organizational, and staffing changes over much of the 2018-19 timeframe, resulting in a significant delay in project implementation, and

WHEREAS, as a result of the delay, N2N formally requested and was granted a 120-day extension to the original December 31, 2019 contractual project deadline, to April 30, 2020, and

WHEREAS, N2N identified and completed one homeowner rehabilitation roof replacement project at 216 Cleveland Ave., for which it was reimbursed \$10,247.00 by the IURA, and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2020, the IURA Community Development Planner informed N2N in writing that its contract extension had expired on April 30, 2020, and that the remaining \$29,753.00 in CDBG funds originally awarded to the project would be retained by the IURA for reallocation to another use/project, and

WHEREAS, the HUD Citizen Participation Plan requires a Public Hearing and Common Council approval for Action Plan Amendments of \$25,000.00 or more, and

RESOLVED, that the IURA hereby recommends Common Council approval of Amendment #5 to the 2018 Action Plan to re-allocate \$29,753.00 from Project #1, “Neighbor to Neighbor Home Rehabilitation,” to the 2019 Economic Development Loan Fund (EDLF), in anticipation the funds would be used for CDBG-eligible projects that prevent, prepare for, and/or respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, thereby supplementing the \$321,299.20 in available 2020 Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus funding (“CDBG-CV”), awarded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through *The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security Act* (CARES Act).