



**CITY OF CAMAS**  
Memorandum

**TO: Mayor and City Council**

**FROM: James Hodges, Project Manager**

**DATE: 10/14/2015**

**SUBJECT: 2016 CDBG Application**

Staff is proposing to submit a CDBG application for the 2016 funding round. The proposed project will make improvements to a section of NE Franklin Street between NE 19<sup>th</sup> and NE 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenues. This area of Franklin Street is in very poor condition, and has been the subject of numerous complaints over the years. Our 2015 CDBG Project – currently under design – involves the section of Franklin Street immediately south, from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>.

This is similar to a number of past “Neighborhood Improvement Projects” that have successfully upgraded several older neighborhoods in Camas. Some examples include multiple projects in Oak Park, Tidland Heights, SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, One-Stop Neighborhood, E. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Crown Park, and several others. These types of projects typically include upgrades to the existing under-lying utilities (water & sewer), ADA ramp improvements, followed by reconstruction of the existing roadway surface.



*Figure 1*  
*Franklin St. looking South*



*Figure 2  
Franklin St. looking North*

The construction cost is estimated at \$465,000. Of the total, staff proposes to request CDBG Funding in the range of \$250,000, which will fund all of the Street Improvements and a small portion of the underground utilities. Engineering and Construction Management will be done by Camas staff as an “In-Kind Contribution” estimated at \$45,000, which brings the total project to an estimated \$510,000. The remaining expense, about \$215,000, will be funded by the Camas Water/Sewer Utility Fund. The cost of the individual system components (including sales tax) are listed below:

• Street Improvements	\$ 215,000.00
• Sewer System Improvements	\$ 200,000.00
• Water Improvements	\$ 30,000.00
• <u>State Sales Tax</u>	<u>\$ 20,000.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 465,000.00

This section of Franklin Street, and the surrounding neighborhoods, has only become eligible for CDBG Funding in the last two years. With this in mind, we hope to propose several projects in this area over the next several years.

Staff’s goal is to provide information about the proposed application, and to confirm your desire to move forward with the CDBG Grant Application in the amount of \$250,000.

A public Hearing at a future Council Meeting is required to provide a formal opportunity for public input on the proposal. We expect this to occur at the Council Meeting scheduled for November 16, 2015.

Public Works Staff will be available to respond to any questions.

## **CDBG Background**

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is a funding opportunity originating from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CDBG Funds are available through the Clark County Urban County Policy Board (UCPB) which is a group consisting of a representative from each local municipal jurisdiction, usually the Mayor or City Administrator. Funds are available through a competitive grant application process for a limited pool of available funds. The amount of available funds varies annually, but will be about \$550,000 county-wide for 2016. Grants may be no less than \$50,000, and up to a maximum of \$300,000 per application.

Eligibility is based on economic need as determined by information collected by the U.S. Census Bureau. Using data from the most recent U.S. Census, HUD compares income data on larger Census Tracts which are made up of several Block Groups. HUD updates eligibility information periodically when new economic information is made available through the U.S. Census Bureau.

Since 1985, Camas has secured 34 separate CDBG Grants totaling more than \$5.7 million.