



CITY OF CAMAS
Memorandum

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: James Carothers, Engineering Manager

DATE: 11/1/2016

SUBJECT: 2017 CDBG Application

Staff is proposing to submit a CDBG application for the 2017 funding round. The proposed project will make improvements to a section of NE Dallas Street between NE 17th and NE 21st Avenues. This area of Dallas Street is in very poor condition.

This proposed project 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 6th Avenue, the One-Stop Neighborhood, East First Avenue, Crown Park, the recently improved Franklin Street projects and several others. These types of projects typically include upgrades to the existing under-lying utilities (water & sewer), ADA ramp and sidewalk improvements, followed by reconstruction of the existing roadway surface.



Figure 1
Dallas St. looking North



Figure 2
Dallas St. looking South



Figure 3
Dallas St. looking North

The construction cost is estimated at \$675,000. Of the total, staff proposes to request CDBG Funding in the range of \$300,000, which will fund all of the Street Improvements. The remaining expense, about \$375,000, is currently anticipated to be funded by the Camas Water/Sewer Utility Fund; however, staff is also reviewing other potential funding options. The cost of the individual system components (including sales tax) are listed below:

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 \$720,000.

This section of Dallas Street, and the surrounding neighborhoods, has only become eligible for CDBG Funding in the last three years. Staff intends to propose more projects in this area over the next several years.

Staff’s goal is to provide information about the proposed application, and to confirm Council’s desire to move forward with the CDBG Grant Application in the amount of \$300,000.

A public Hearing at a future Council Meeting is required to provide a formal opportunity for public input on the proposal. To be eligible for funding, this hearing should occur at the Council Meeting scheduled for November 21, 2016.

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. 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 35 separate CDBG Grants totaling approximately \$6 million.