MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 8, 2019

TO: Community Development Committee

FROM: Nicole Crutchfield, Planning Director

RE: Community Development Committee Meeting on January 15

The next meeting of the Community Development Committee is Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 2:30 p.m., in the City Commission Room at the **<u>old</u>** Fargo City Hall. If you are not able to attend, please contact the office at 701.241.1474. Thank you.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Tuesday, January 15 – 2:30 p.m. City Commission Room AGENDA

- 1. Welcome & Introductions
- 2. Approve or Amend Agenda
- 3. Approve Minutes
- 4. Public Comment Citizens to be heard
- 5. Neighborhood and Code Enforcement
- 6. Staff Updates
 - a. Annual Community Assessment of 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) from U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
 - b. CDBG/HOME Updates
 - c. 2020 Census
- 7. Other business
- 8. Public Comment Continued if needed
- 9. Adjourn

Community Development Committee meetings are broadcast live on cable channel TV Fargo 56 and can be seen live by video stream on <u>www.FargoND.gov/streaming</u>. They are rebroadcast each Monday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday at 2:30 p.m. Meeting minutes are available at <u>www.FargoND.gov/communitydevelopmentcommittee</u>.

People with disabilities who plan to attend the meeting and need special accommodations should contact the Planning Department at 701.241.1474 or TDD at 701.241.8258. Please contact us at least 48 hours before the meeting to give our staff adequate time to make arrangements.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Regular Meeting:

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Community Development Committee of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the City Commission Room at City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 18, 2018.

The Community Development Committee Members present or absent were as follows:

Present: Commissioner John Strand, Jim Johnson, Linda Klebe, Michael Redlinger, Shara Fischer, Matthew Pike, Samantha McDonald, Ken Enockson, Thomas Hill (United Way), Sami Eidenschink (HBA FM)

Absent: Melissa Rademacher (DCP), Mayor Tim Mahoney

Item 1. Welcome

Chairperson Strand welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

Item 2. Approve or Amend Agenda

Member Johnson moved the Agenda of the December 18, 2018 Community Development Committee meeting be approved as presented. Second by Member Enockson. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of October 16, 2018

Member Johnson moved the minutes of the October 16, 2018 Community Development Committee meeting be approved. Second by Member Fischer. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 4. Public Comment – Citizens to be heard

No public comment was given.

Item 5. CDBG Updates

a. Approve Amendments Proposal

Planning Director Nicole Crutchfield gave a background of the proposal.

Member Redlinger present.

Ms. Crutchfield reviewed the timeline of the amendment process and presented an overview of the cancelled and added projects to the Community Development Block Grant 5-year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

b. Timeliness

Ms. Crutchfield noted that the City is on notice of not meeting the timeliness test and reviewed the details of what that means regarding future and current funds.

Ms. Crutchfield and Senior Planner Kristi Sylskar shared that the City currently working on cleaning up processes for monitoring and reporting of its Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs.

Discussion was held regarding past projects that have been funded.

Member Pike moved to approve the Amendments to the Community Development Block Grant 5-year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans as presented. Second by Member Klebe. On call of the roll Members Klebe, McDonald, Johnson, Eidenschink, Hill, Fischer, Pike, Redlinger, Enockson, and Strand voted aye. Absent and not voting: Members Mahoney and Rademacher. The motion was declared carried.

Item 6. CD Committee Schedule for 2019

Ms. Crutchfield presented the 2019 Community Development meeting schedule.

Discussion was held regarding the best time and day to meet for optimal attendance. The schedule was received as presented.

Item 7. Homeless Overflow Update

Ms. Crutchfield provided an update on the sheltering program noting the shelters currently are handling those staying at their sites. She noted that if they were to go into overflow status that the shelters would go into a deficit, but could handle the capacity. It was pointed out that the Moorhead shelters and Fargo shelters work as a coordinated unit.

Discussion was held regarding transportation between the shelters and that the Gladys Ray shelter is the only publically owned shelter.

Item 8. Neighborhood and Code Enforcements (continued to January)

Item 9. Social Service Grant Allocation Report

Additional information was provided to the Board.

Chair Strand noted that Members Klebe, Johnson, and McDonald served on the Subcommittee for Social Service Application Review, and that Member Klebe served as the Chairperson.

Member Klebe provided an overview of the application review and scoring system process.

Member Johnson provided insight on the review guidelines and goals.

Ms. Crutchfield reviewed the spreadsheet distributed to the Board noting the subcommittee recommended items highlighted in green and the City work plan items in yellow. She noted the need for continued conversation to update the guidelines, review process, and scoring system for the subcommittee.

Discussion was held regarding the City work plan items, primarily the Special Assessment Assistance program. Ms. Crutchfield and Senior Planner Kristi Sylskar reviewed the history and process of the program.

Further discussion was held regarding the role of the Social Service funds and their intent and general fund expenditures. The Board shared their intent to use the funds to have the most impact possible, and would like to see the City work plan items come from other areas.

The Board discussed the separation of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) items and Social Service funds applications as a process change from previous years.

Ms. Crutchfield highlighted the Homeless Transportation Assistance program, and stated the intent is to have the Gladys Ray Shelter run this program.

The Board voiced questions as to the proposed increase in the amounts for the two commissions listed as City work plan items.

Discussion ensued to move forward addressing only the Subcommittee's recommendations of the items in green, and tabling action on the City work plan items in yellow on the spreadsheet.

Member Johnson proposed adding a third category to the spreadsheet of organizations needing start-up and sustainability assistance. The Board discussed the importance of training and building new organizations, but also focusing on what this Committee's goals are.

Member Johnson moved to recommend to the Mayor and City Commission the approval of an allocation of \$170,000 in 2019 Social Service funds as indicated by the green items on the spreadsheet. Second by Member Hill. On call of the roll Members Hill, Enockson, Johnson, McDonald, Eidenschink, Klebe, Pike, Redlinger, Fischer, and Strand voted aye. Absent and not voting: Members Mahoney, and Rademacher. The motion was declared carried.

Item 10. Other Business

Member Hill addressed the Board inquiring about the 2020 Census and the impact of community response. Ms. Crutchfield shared that the work has begun in the Planning Department and the Community Development Committee will be updated throughout the process.

Ms. Crutchfield noted the future intent is to have a joint Planning Commission and Community Development Brown Bag lunch meeting to provide better cross communication.

Commissioner Strand reviewed primary goal items for the Community Development Committee including the Social Service grant process, Community Land Trust wrap-up, Neighborhood Strategic Planning, and the Fargo High Rise.

Item 11. Public Comment – Continued if needed

No public comment was given.

Item 12. Adjourn

The time at adjournment was 3:50 p.m.



Planning & Development 225 4th Street North Fargo, ND 58102 Office: 701.241.1474 | Fax: 701.241.1526 Email: planning@FargoND.gov www.FargoND.gov

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 9, 2019

- TO: Community Development Committee
- FROM: Tia Braseth, Community Development Coordinator 7.8,
- RE: Annual Community Assessment of 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) from U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development

This memo provides an overview of Fargo's Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for 2017. HUD requires the City to complete a CAPER for Fargo's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) & HOME programs. The City's 2017 report covers the time period of May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018. As part of HUD's review, HUD provides a periodic assessment of the accomplishments and performance in the City of Fargo's administration of federal funds. In addition, HUD ensures the City of Fargo is meeting key program and departmental objectives. Activities are examined for consistency with the priorities and objectives outlined in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

HUD has determined the City of Fargo's progress has been satisfactory and the City has been administering its programs in compliance with the requirements of applicable laws and regulations. In addition, the City has carried out its program substantially as described in its Consolidated Plan and has the continuing capacity to carry out its approved program in a timely manner. The evaluation from HUD further states the City of Fargo appears to be making strides in providing affordable housing and addressing its community development needs through its 2017 program year activities.

Recommended Action: Receive and file the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Annual Community Assessment for the City of Fargo's 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.



Community Planning and Development

Region VIII, Denver 1670 Broadway Street Denver, Colorado 80202-4801 Phone: 303-672-5414 Fax: 303-672-5028 Wcb: www.hud.gov



November 6, 2018

Nicole Crutchfield, Planning Director Planning and Development Department City of Fargo 200 3rd Street North Fargo, North Dakota 58102

Dear Ms. Crutchfield:

The Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) is striving to strengthen its working relationship with our State and local government partners to help achieve greater results in meeting the housing and community development needs of our low- and moderate-income customers. One of our important responsibilities in this ongoing process is the periodic assessment of your accomplishments and performance in the administration of funds provided by CPD and in meeting key program and Departmental objectives, as mandated by the statutes governing these programs.

This review examines information provided by the City of Fargo for its 2017 program year. In conducting this assessment, we examined your activities for consistency with the priorities and objectives outlined in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. We used the information contained in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), the Line of Credit Control System (LOCCS) and the Integrated Disbursement Information System (IDIS), as well as any monitoring reviews conducted during the course of the program year.

Our assessment report that is enclosed covers the following areas:

- Meeting the statutory purposes of the programs
- Consistency with strategies and goals in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan
- Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
- Timeliness
- Match for HOME
- Caps on Obligations CDBG and HOME
- IDIS and eCon Planning Suite

Based upon our analysis and examination of the data available to us, we have determined that Fargo's overall progress has been satisfactory during the most recent program year. The City of Fargo appears to be administering its programs in a manner consistent with the applicable regulatory requirements. During the period of May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018, Fargo has carried out its program as described in its Consolidated Plan and has the continuing capacity to carry out its approved program in a timely manner. These conclusions on your overall program

performance are based solely upon the information available to this office and do not constitute a comprehensive evaluation or approval of specific activities.

You have the opportunity to provide us with your review and comment on the draft Annual Community Assessment. Please provide any review and comment within 30 days of the date of this letter. We may revise the Assessment after considering your views. If we do not receive any response by the end of the 30-day period, the draft Annual Community Assessment will become final without further notice.

The final Annual Community Assessment must be made readily available to the public. You can assist us in this regard by sharing the final Annual Community Assessment with the media, with a mailing list of interested persons, with members of your advisory committee, or with those who attended hearings or meetings. You must also provide a copy of the final Annual Community Assessment to your independent public auditor. HUD will make the final Annual Community Assessment available to the public upon request and may provide copies to interested citizens and groups.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Elizabeth Clark, Community Planning and Development Representative, at 303-672-5067 or via email at clizabeth.clark@hud.gov.

Sincerely,

Aaron B. Gagné Regional Director

Enclosure

ANNUAL COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

JURISDICTION – Fargo, North Dakota PROGRAM YEAR START – May 1 PERIOD COVERED BY ASSESSMENT – May 1, 2017 - April 30, 2018

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is required to conduct an annual review of performance by grant recipients according to the provisions of the Housing and Community Development Act and the National Affordable Housing Act. We must determine if each recipient is in compliance with the applicable statutes and has the continuing capacity to implement and administer the programs for which assistance is received. This assessment reports on the results of our review of the 2017 program year Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), covering the third year of Fargo's five-year Consolidated Plan.

Part I. Summary of Consolidated Plan/Action Plan Review and Assessment

Fargo is meeting the primary objective of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). The Consolidated Plan provided for the five goals of affordable housing, neighborhoods, poverty reduction, homelessness, and planning/admin/fair housing. Projects funded in 2017 are consistent with strategies and goals in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

As demonstrated in the below table, Fargo has met most of their proposed project goals. In addition, a few brick and mortar projects that were not completed during last year's program year, are now completed or underway in Program Year (PY) 2017. This includes the 2016 Golden Ridge Community Center project that was completed and the senior rental housing CHDO project that is underway. The senior rental housing project was delayed while the City applied for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC). The senior rental housing project was finally awarded LIHTC in PY2017 and construction on those units is expected to be complete in the Fall of 2019. 2016 and 2017 CHDO funds are committed to the activity. The table also demonstrates some issues with data entry in the CAPER, which is further discussed in the eCon Planning Suite section below.

Projects	2017 Proposed Accomplishments	2017 Actual Accomplishments	5-Year Proposed Accomplishments	5-Year Percent Complete
Housing Rehabilitation	12 units	14 units	75 units	57%
CHDO Project	1 rental unit constructed	0 rental units constructed	10 rental units constructed	30%
Fraser	7 rental units rehabilitated	6 rental units rehabilitated	0 rental units rehabilitated	0%
Downtown Slum/Blight	2 façade treatments	1 façade treatments	10 façade treatments	110%
Special Assessments	100 persons assisted	78 persons assisted	500 persons assisted	869%

Housing	30 persons assisted	38 persons assisted	140 persons	360%
Education			assisted	
Trust	10 persons assisted	1195 persons		
Engagement		assisted		
Metro	20 persons assisted	421 persons	0 persons assisted	0%
Transportation		assisted	-	
Snow Removal	10 persons assisted	9 persons assisted		
Job Training &	8 persons assisted	21 persons assisted		
Microloans				
Fargo Homeless	750 persons	678 persons	0	0%
Initiatives	assisted	assisted		
YWCA Cass Clay	1445 persons	1400 persons	0	0%
	assisted	assisted		

Part II. Summary of Grantee Performance

Community Block Grant Program

CDBG has the following primary objective: the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income (LMI). Consistent with this primary objective, not less than 70 percent of the aggregate of the Federal assistance shall be used for the support of activities that benefit persons of low- and moderate-income (LMI). According to the reviewer's calculations using the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) PR03 report, the City expended 71.8% percent of the CDBG funds on the LMI population in the 2017 program year.

The regulations require that sixty days prior to the end of the grantee's current program year, the amount of entitlement grant funds available but undisbursed by the U.S. Treasury be not more than 1.5 times the entitlement grant amount for the current program year. The City had 1.48 grant years of funds remaining in the Line of Credit at the most recent timeliness test on March 2, 2018. We congratulate the City on being timely and urge you to continue to meet this important measure of performance. A four-month compliance notice for the City's 2019 timeliness test was issued on October 29, 2018. The letter noted a ratio of 2.05 for the City's deadline on March 2, 2019.

The City is limited to a 20 percent cap on obligation of grant funds and current year's program income for administrative and fair housing expenses. Based on HUD's calculation from the PR-03 CDBG Activity Summary Report and PR09 Program Income Detail Report, Fargo obligated \$127,402 in administration and fair housing, or 19.8 percent, which is within the allowable limit. Additionally, no more than 20 percent of any origin year grant can be expended for planning and administration. Per the PR26 Activity Summary Report, Fargo has not exceeded this cap for 2015, 2016, or 2017. Please note the origin year grant expenditure test is tracked annually until all grant funds are expended for the program year. Public service obligations are likewise limited to 15 percent of grant funds and prior year program income. Fargo obligated

\$101,695 or 10 percent of the funding to public service activities which is within the allowed amount.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

The HOME program requires that not less than 15 percent of such funds are reserved for investment only in housing to be developed, sponsored, or owned by community housing development organizations (CHDO). According to the HOME Compliance Status Report, Fargo's HOME program has met this requirement for its most recently completed test date of July 31, 2018. Fargo has reserved \$100,000, or 28 percent of HOME funds for use by CHDOs, which greatly exceeds the required amount. The next test date is scheduled for July 31, 2019.

Administrative funds are limited to 10 percent of the grant and prior year program income. IDIS will only allow a maximum of 10 percent to be obligated; with \$33,658, or seven percent, obligated for administration per IDIS, Fargo has not exceeded the 10 percent cap. The HOME Match Report and Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) Report were submitted as part of the CAPER. Match commitments reported were within the most recently completed Federal fiscal year immediately preceding the end of the program year, October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. The match reported plus the excess match carried over from the previous year, exceeds the 2016 program year requirement of \$91,316.

The CAPER also indicates that monitorings were conducted in July and August on nine of the ten HOME-assisted projects. On-site inspections of affordable rental housing found all properties to be in compliance with local housing codes and other applicable regulations. Please ensure the final monitoring is completed in compliance with 24 CFR 92.504(d).

Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) and eCon Planning Suite

Goal outcome indicator and accomplishment data inconsistencies continue to be an issue with Fargo's Annual Action Plans (AAP) and CAPERs. Fargo attached a supplementary table and narrative to the CR-05 screen that assisted the reviewer in analyzing accomplishments. However, the supplementary table does not match the data provided in the CR-05 table, which further highlights some of the other data entry issues. For example, the CR-05 table has '0' as an expected goal for many of its strategic plan goal indicators (the bottom table). Per prior Annual Action Plans and the supplementary table, five-year goals exist for those indicators. In addition, the supplementary table reports 29 homeowner housing units rehabilitated so far during the Con Plan time period. However, Table 2 on the CR-05 screen reports 43 units rehabilitated. The grantee was given additional time to revise the CR-05 table, but inconsistencies and errors still exist. Accurate reporting in IDIS is a requirement of 24 CFR Part 91, 92 & 570. Future Annual Community Assessments will reflect this compliance requirement.

While the 2018 Annual Action Plan was submitted in a timely manner and approved, Fargo did not commit the entirety of its expected resources. \$353,617 in unexpended prior year CDBG funding is yet to be allocated. This office has been in communication with the City's Planning Director on a proposed timeline to allocate the uncommitted funds by October of 2018. As of the date of this report, no amendments have been submitted allocating the available funding. As stated earlier in this report, the City is at risk of being untimely, which is a violation of 24 CFR Part 570. Allocating these funds is a critical step Fargo maintain compliance with the CDBG program rules.

Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity / Public Participation

A copy of Fargo's CAPER was provided to the Region VIII Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. FHEO staff conduct an independent review of a grantee's performance to assess its compliance and future risk of violating fair housing and equal opportunity statutes. A copy of that review will be provided directly to Fargo. We encourage you to contact Deborah Manigault, Equal Opportunity Specialist, at <u>Deborah G.Manigault@hud.gov</u> for further information on that review and technical assistance.

Part III. HUD Evaluation and Conclusions

A. OVERALL EVALUATION

Overall, the City of Fargo appears to be making strides in providing affordable housing and addressing its community development needs through its 2017 program year activities.

B. CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS

Community Planning and Development, Region VIII, has reviewed available facts and data pertaining to the performance of the City of Fargo for its Consolidated Plan and the formula Community Planning and Development Programs specified in that Plan [Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership Act] during the period of May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018. Based on the overall review record and the information summarized above, CPD makes the following findings:

- 1. During the period specified above, Fargo has carried out its program substantially as described in its Consolidated Plan as approved.
- 2. The Consolidated Plan, as implemented, complies substantially with the requirements of applicable laws and regulations.
- 3. Fargo has the continuing capacity to carry out its approved program in a timely manner.

CDBG/HOME Public Input Meeting City of Fargo 2019 Community Development Action Plan January 8, 2019 – 2:00 p.m. City Commission Room (old), Fargo City Hall

Planning Director Nicole Crutchfield and City Commissioner and Community Development Committee Chair John Strand introduced the community development public input meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance. Ms. Crutchfield provided a brief overview of the changes to the application process regarding Social Service funding and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)/HOME funding, noting there was a split of the application timelines and a subcommittee that was created to review the applications.

Community Development Planning Coordinator Tia Braseth reviewed the public input process including the three national objectives that CDBG funding must address as well as the 15% cap on public service projects as regulated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Terrie Helleloid, The Arbors at McCormick Park, stated Community Homes was bought and is now under new management, and they are currently going through refurbishing all of the buildings.

Abdiwali Sharif, Somali Community Development of North Dakota, inquired about affordable housing and how homeownership for low-income families can be increased in Fargo. In response, Ms. Crutchfield talked about the continuum of housing and potential housing programs and tools, such as community land trusts, that may be able to address some of these concerns.

Ms. Braseth added the City has an ongoing partnership with Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit housing organization that helps low-income families obtain homes through acquisition of "development ready" land parcels to be used for low-income housing. She noted, in addition, there are homebuyer education classes that are offered, once people complete those courses, potential homebuyers obtain a certificate that allows them to become eligible for North Dakota Housing Finance Agency loans.

Ms. Crutchfield said the City is also working on acquisition of vacant lots and blighted properties, turning properties around for redevelopment for affordable housing.

Abdiwali Sharif, Somali Community Development of North Dakota, stated there are several low-income families who have been in housing assistance for over 10 years, and inquired about helping these people rent homes to increase homeownership in Fargo. In response, Ms. Braseth stated the City can research what other communities have done for potential programs where landlords work with property owners and see what funding may be available for that.



Erin Prochnow, YWCA Cass Clay, stated the YWCA has received both CDBG and Social Service funding in past years, and has met the goals outlined in the City of Fargo's plans. She stressed there are many facing homelessness in the community, and there is a constant need to serve those populations. In addition, she talked about the importance of the Social Service funding contributing to the sustainability of the YWCA, including evening staffing availability. She added, as a result of the YWCA not receiving Social Service funding for 2019, their organization will have one less staff person. In response, Ms. Crutchfield explained the ongoing need to grow advocacy for funding at the local, county, state, and federal levels.

Dan Madler, Beyond Shelter Incorporated, stated Beyond Shelter has been concentrating on resources and efforts to serve homeless individuals/households and seniors. He noted there is a huge need for affordable housing on the rental side, especially with senior populations. He talked about Beyond Shelter's Bluestem Homes housing, which is a rentto-own model. He stated this housing is rental for the first 15 years, with a portion of people's rent being set aside for downpayment assistance, etc. After the first 15 years, the tenant has the opportunity to buy the rental unit. Mr. Madler noted Beyond Shelter's main concentration is on the affordable rental side and talked about the utilization of federal funding in past projects. He inquired about the CDBG and HOME dollar amounts for 2019. In response, Ms. Braseth noted the City of Fargo does not receive the federal funding dollar amounts until late spring/early summer.

Gadi Edward, Tu'Deako Group, spoke about the need for summer programs and school programs for youth.

Erin Prochnow, YWCA, inquired about areas that need to be addressed in the chart on the CDBG/HOME application memo that was sent out to organizations on December 21, 2018. In response, Ms. Braseth stated an e-mail will be sent out that shows the outstanding needs that remain to be addressed in the City of Fargo's 5-Year Consolidated Plan.

Babs Coler, Churches United for the Homeless, stated their organization recently acquired the Dorothy Day House of Hospitality. She talked about an increase in mental health issues, drug and alcohol issues, and the need for more resources to help these populations. She stated Churches United is providing shelter to these populations this winter due to the prioritization of all the shelters working together. She stressed the importance of people and the challenges that are associated with raising funds for these populations and services.

DeAnne Sperling, North Dakota State College of Science – Fargo, spoke about the SkillsND Program, which provides job skills training for underemployed, unemployed, and new American populations. She added the program works with people at any education level, with a majority of program participants not having a General Education Diploma. She talked about the importance of their organization's program, helping these populations move out of poverty and into owning their own homes. She shared a story about a student that participated in the SkillsND Program and the positive change the program made for this person's life, providing the opportunity for further education to



secure a job and support their family. She stated the SkillsND Program is the only program in the community helping workers who are poorly educated or encountering other barriers, and is critical in the sustainability of program participants and their families.

Ms. Crutchfield noted, with new staff and changing federal regulations, the process and implementation of the City's federally-funded projects with subrecipients will continue to evolve.

Renee Atkinson, The Arbors at McCormick Park, inquired about key projects the City of Fargo is looking to fund and the details needed for the CDBG/HOME grant application. In response, Ms. Braseth stated applicants can meet with City staff to talk about potential, "shovel ready" projects that address one of the goals from the City's 5-Year Consolidated Plan to see if the projects are eligible for federal funding.

Ms. Braseth stated the City of Fargo is in year 5 of its current 5-year Consolidated Plan, and stated the development of the new 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan will entail extensive outreach to organizations and community members, including surveys and several public outreach meetings. She stated there will be several future opportunities for discussion on community needs and future community development goals.

Erin Prochnow, YWCA, inquired if the federal funding that was reallocated to a project with the Gladys Ray Emergency Homeless Shelter Facility addresses the unfulfilled Consolidated Plan goal of adding 4 beds in a homeless shelter, and what types of projects could be done under the public services category of federal funding. In response, Ms. Braseth gave examples of public service activities including homebuyer and tenant education, food programs, daycare programs, bus passes, etc. She added, as part of the 2018 Annual Action Plan, there is \$150,000 reallocated to the Gladys Ray Shelter for facility improvements. She said, depending on the facility's space, 4 beds may be added to address this unfulfilled goal. If there is not room at the facility, the City will look at other, potential projects to address this unmet need.

In conclusion, Ms. Crutchfield thanked everyone for the work they continue to do to address the needs in the community.

