

Urban County Policy Board Meeting Minutes

Recording at: <https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/urban-county-policy-board>

February 12, 2024

URBAN COUNTY POLICY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor Glen Yung

Mayor Troy McCoy

Jim Hodges

Mayor Ron Onslow

David Scott

Councilor Marina Viray

Clark County

City of Battle Ground

City of Camas

City of Ridgefield

City of Washougal

Town of Yacolt

GUESTS

Elton Frice, Tony Vezina (4D Recovery); Chuck Green, Kristen Lashua (City of Ridgefield); Mark Herceg (City of Battle Ground); Miryan Valdivia-Romero, Paris Nelson, Paul Burgess (Fourth Plain Forward); Nicole Leon, Yaremy Clara (Hispanic Chamber); Beth Landry, Emma Frieberg (YWCA); Janet Kenefsky (Greater Vancouver Chamber); Katie Martin, Sunny Wonder (Council for the Homeless); Leanna Fabian (Evergreen Habitat); Angela Mitchell; Lara Damon-MacRae (Livelihood NW); Stephanie Basalyga, Jataune Hall (MESO); Josh Ollinger, Victor Caesar (VHA); Stephanie Clark (Vancouver Farmer's Market); Steve Rusk (The Salvation Army); Gina VanDyken, Christopher Hughes, Kinh Reynolds (Lifeline Connections); Thalia McDaid-O'Neill (Share); Scott Conger (Janus); Tasha Slater (City of Vancouver); Mikylah Bausch;

STAFF

Michael Torres, Rebecca Royce, Janet Snook

I. Introductions

II. January 8, 2024, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion made by Mayor Ron Onslow and seconded by Mayor Troy McCoy.

III. Application presentations

Applicants were provided an opportunity to present information about their application and UCPB members were provided time to ask questions of the applicants. Presentation materials are available on the UCPB website under the February 2024 meeting information.

4D Recovery Community Center acquisition

Request: \$204,545 CDBG

Presenter: Elton Frice, Tony Vezina

Acquire and rehabilitate center in greater Vancouver for addiction recovery efforts for young adults.

Battle Ground N Parkway Ave Sidewalks

Request: \$300,000 CDBG

Presenter: Mark Herceg

Add asphalt sidewalk path along N Parkway Ave between N 25th and N Onsdorff so students and residents would not have to walk in the street. Asphalt has fewer requirements for drainage and expense over alternative materials.

Council for the Homeless HSC Building acquisition

Request: \$300,000 CDBG

Presenter: Katie Martin

Acquire a building to centralize services of the Housing Solutions Center and CFTH administrative staff. Property is located near Fourth Plain and Andresen.

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Ridgefield Sargent St improvements

Request: \$204,000 CDBG

Presenter: Chuck Green

Multiple improvements along Sargent Street and a portion of S Main including water lines, sidewalks, fire hydrant, and stormwater.

Evergreen Habitat Affordable homeownership program

Request: \$300,000 CDBG

Presenter: Leanna Fabian

Assist 10 homebuyers with subsidies to create affordable mortgages through land-trust model and ensure properties remain permanently affordable.

Fourth Plain Forward BIPOC business assistance

Request \$299,371 CDBG

Presenter: Miryam Valdivia-Romero

Business development for BIPOC small businesses. Includes education and coaching over seven months to help establish business, and a six-month IDA (individual development account) match. Services are bilingual. Also assist individuals pass GED.

Greater Vancouver Chamber business technical assistance

Request: \$78,000 CDBG

Presenter: Janet Kenefsky

Pathways to Opportunity and Development (POD) offers professional and individualized guidance for business development through no cost business assistance and navigation. Includes education and coaching. Participants do not have to be Chamber members.

Hispanic Chamber Latino/a business assistance

Request: \$130,000 CDBG

Presenter: Nicole Leon

Business development for Latino/a-centric small businesses. Includes education and coaching. Services are bilingual and bicultural. Also includes IDA match tailored to microenterprises.

Livelihood NW Business support services

Request \$116,000 CDBG

Presenter: Lara Damon

Business advising and technical assistance for underserved entrepreneurs. Continuum of support from poverty alleviation to wealth achievement. Provide bookkeeping support. Services are provided virtually.

Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon business assistance

Request: \$101,100 CDBG

Presenter: Jataune Hall, Cobi Lewis

Small business services and cultural support for businesses outside the City of Vancouver.

Proud Ground homeownership assistance

Request: \$300,000 CDBG or HOME

Presenter: Katie Ulrich

Community land-trust model for first-time homeownership, creating permanent affordability of the home. Includes down payment assistance and education for the purchaser.

Farmers Market of Vancouver Small business development

Request: 75,000 CDBG

Presenter: Stephanie Clark

Provide essential technical assistance to support the sustainability and success of local entrepreneurs in the farmers market and greater community. Microenterprises are also referred to other existing resources.

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Vancouver Housing Authority Weaver Creek Commons

Request: \$300,000 HOME

Presenter: Joshua Ollinger

Construct four-story, elevator-operated, 100-unit affordable housing community on four acres at 306 SE Clark Ave, Battle Ground. Includes community space. Includes daily onsite staff.

Construction anticipated to begin March 2025.

Tenant-based rental assistance

Staff provided an overview of rapid re-housing, the program model used for Clark County's TBRA programs. All providers must use this model. Agency's may focus on different populations to be served. HOME funds are provided for rental assistance. Applicants are eligible to receive up to 30% of their HOME request for case management and support services through the CDBG program.

Agency	Population Served	HOME Request (rent assistance)	CDBG Request (case management)
Janus Youth	Youth 18-25	\$150,000	\$45,000
Lifeline Connections	People with behavioral health disorders	\$83,940	\$25,182
The Salvation Army	Individuals and families	\$105,000	\$28,350
Share	Individuals and families	\$275,000	\$82,500 (incorrectly noted in presentation schedule)
YWCA	Domestic Violence Survivors	\$210,000	\$63,000

IV. Other

- Five-year strategic planning will begin this year and will include opportunity to look at priority areas and funding distribution.
- Scores due March 4 in Neighborly. Previous performance data included in application-scoring emails.
- Next meeting, March 11, 9:30am, hybrid, to determine award recommendations.
- Public Comment: none. Suggestion to allow public comment earlier in the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.