



Watertown City Council
Monday, February 8, 2021
7:00 p.m.

WORK SESSION AGENDA

The City Council meeting is now open to the public. All attendees must enter through the Sterling Street entrance and sign in. Each attendee must wear a mask while moving around but may remove it when seated with 6-foot spacing.

Discussion Items:

1. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and 2021 Annual Action Plan
 - Michael A. Lumbis, Planning and Community Development Director
 - Jennifer Voss, Senior Planner

February 3, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Michael A. Lumbis, Planning and Community Development Director

Subject: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and 2021 Annual Action Plan

As the City Council is aware, Staff is beginning the process of developing the City's 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and 2021 Annual Action Plan for the CDBG Program. Every five years, the City is required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to complete a Consolidated Plan. A Consolidated Plan is a plan that describes community needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities to be undertaken with CDBG funds over the five years. The Consolidated Plan must include several main components including a housing and homeless needs assessment, identifying community needs, a strategic plan and a one-year action plan.

The strategic plan will include goals to address the needs identified in the community and those goals will be supported by specific projects that are identified each year to implement the stated goals.

Listed below are the goals from our current Consolidated Plan which can serve as a starting point for developing the new plan. Those goals are as follows:

- Neighborhood Stabilization and Revitalization
- Affordable Housing Rehabilitation
- Homeownership Assistance
- Fair Housing Education
- Homeless Assistance
- Public Services Support
- Economic Development
- Planning and Administration

HUD requires considerable community involvement in the development of our Consolidated Plan and our Annual Action Plans. The City Council work session will start the process. The work session will be followed up with outreach to constituency groups and organizations that are identified in our Citizen Participation Plan and a formal public hearing to obtain input from citizens, involved agencies and interested persons.

Staff is also exploring the idea of hosting a public informational meeting to obtain input from the public. This will likely be done in some sort of virtual format due to restrictions on public gatherings.

In addition to the above outreach efforts, the City's recently completed Strategic Goals and Objectives and Comprehensive Plan can serve to inform the Consolidated Plan as those plans were developed with extensive public outreach.