



***Housing/Community Development/Social  
Services Committee - Board of Representatives***

Elaine Mitchell, Chair

Philip Giordano, Vice Chair

## **Meeting REPORT**

**Date:** Tuesday, May 19, 2009  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Democratic Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Government Center,  
Stamford, CT

The Housing-Community Development-Social Services Committee met as indicated above. Present were Committee Members Reps. Chair Mitchell, Aposporos, Figueroa, Cerasoli and McNeil. Reps. Giordano and Wallace were excused. Also present: Tim Beeble, Director of Community Development; and Karen Cammarato, Grants Director.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>VOTE Yes-No-Abstain</b>
1. <a href="#">HCD27.47</a>	RESOLUTION & public hearing; approving the 2009 Neighborhood Assistance Act.	<b>Committee Approved 5-0-0</b>

The Public Hearing opened at 6:35 p.m.

The committee listened to the following agencies brief presentations about their programs (see [list](#)):

1. Horizons Students Enrichment
2. St. Luke's Life Works
3. Senior Center
4. Family Centers
5. Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut, Inc
6. Boys & Girls Club of Stamford

The Public Hearing closed at 7:05 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, HCD27.047 was approved by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. <a href="#">HCD27.46b</a>	APPROVAL & Public Hearing; of Year 35 budget for the Community Development Block Grant, including Budget Workshop.	<b>Committee Approved 4-1-0</b>
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Tim Beeble explained Congress did not pass the 2009 Budget for HUD until March.

Without knowing the amount of the CDBG allocation, the HCD/SS Committee proceeded with their budgeting process in February by estimating that the CDBG entitlement grant would be \$1,100,000. In early May, HUD notified Stamford that it would receive \$1,160,102. Having already made budget recommendations based upon \$1,100,000, the HCD Committee had to adjust their budget recommendations for the additional \$60,102. Of this amount 15%, or \$9,014, could go to Public Services and 20%, or \$12,020, could go for Administration. The balance of \$39,068 could go to housing, economic development or public improvements.

The committee recommended that the money would fund either the Senior Services of Stamford or the Domestic Violence Crisis Center.

A motion to fund the Domestic Violence Crisis Center with the \$9,014 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-1-0. (Reps. Mitchell, Aposporos, Cerasoli and McNeil in favor; Rep. Figueroa opposed)

A motion to approve HCD27.46b was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-0-1 (Reps. Mitchell, Aposporos, Cerasoli and McNeil in favor; Rep. Figueroa abstained)

3. [HCD27.48](#) **RESOLUTION**; authorizing the Mayor to file an Amended Annual Action Plan for the use of \$303,818 in CDBG funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. **Committee Approved 5-0-0**

Mr. Beeble explained that last week HUD issued guidance that reduced the allowable percentage funding for ARRA Administration to 10%. Attached is a spreadsheet with the ARRA included funds and the programs to which the HCD/SS Committee allocated the money to.

Mr Beeble explained, in February, Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which included a supplemental allocation of CDBG funding. HUD staff estimated that Stamford would receive approximately \$300,000. The HCD proceeded in February to make budget recommendations on the ARRA funding from the current requests that had been submitted to the City in January for CDBG funding and were subject of a public hearing.

In March HUD notified the City that it would receive \$303,817 in ARRA CDBG funds. On March 24<sup>th</sup>, the HCD Committee held a public hearing on the CDBG Year 35 and ARRA budget recommendations. The City could only assume that HUD would permit 15% of the funds to be used for Public Services and 20% of the funds could go for Administration.

In early May, HUD notified the City that it would limit administration of ARRA to 10% of the grant, but 15% could go for public services. As a result, the HCD Committee had to reduce the amount budgeted for administration from \$60,763 to \$30,381 and then allocate \$30,382 to other shovel-ready projects that could be completed in 2 years.

A motion to approve HCD27.48 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Mitchell, Aposporos, Cerasoli, Figueroa and McNeil in favor)

4. [HCD27.46a](#) RESOLUTION; authorizing the Mayor to Submit the Year 35 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Program of the City of Stamford in the amount of \$1,160,102.00; and the HOME Investment Partnership Program funding in the amount of \$676,796.00. **Committee Approved 5-0-0**

Mr. Beeble explained that the Year 35 Annual Action Plan, must go to the Board of Finance for review at their next meeting in mid June. The Board of Reps should act on the Year 35 Annual Action Plan at their July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

A motion to approve HCD27.46a was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Mitchell, Aposporos, Cerasoli, Figueroa and McNeil in favor)

5. [HCD27.049](#) APPROVAL; of modification of the scope of work for the Childcare Learning Center Year 30 Allocation for construction of a playground (move of site from Coleman Towers to Yerwood Center). **Committee Approved 5-0-0**

[Attached](#) is the letter from the Childcare Learning centers director explaining the move with specifications and the cost. Also, attached is a letter from the Executive Director of the Yerwood center welcoming the construction of the new playground.

A motion to approve HCD27.49 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Mitchell, Aposporos, Cerasoli, Figueroa and McNeil in favor)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mitchell, Chair