

Budget & Appropriations

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final



Committee Chair: Jewel Williams Johnson

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

1:30 PM

Committee Room

Joint with HP

CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

Legislator Colin Smith will be participating remotely from 1132 Main St. Suite 1, Peekskill, NY 10566.

With a quorum present, Chair Williams Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:25 PM.

Others in Attendance: GUESTS: Erich Chatham, Len Gruenfeld, Kim Holland, Gaitre Rambharose; BOL: David Imamura, Catherine Parker, Gayana Gomez, Marcello Figueroa, Warren Watson, Greg Casciato, Lisa Hochman, James Silverberg

Present: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Remote: Legislator Holstein and Legislator Smith

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2024-141](#) ACT-HUD Application for Grant Funds

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for grant funds from the Community Development Block Grant Program, HOME Investment Partnerships Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants Program, submit the Five Year 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan and Fiscal Year 2024 Action Plan, and to accept said grant funds.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND HOUSING & PLANNING

Joint with HP.

Guests: Planning Department

Program Director of Community Development Len Gruenfeld

Program Administrator Gaitre Rambharose

Program Administrator Kim Holland

Erich Chatham-Civitas LLC

This item is requesting the County's authorization to submit an application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for grant funds in the approximate amount of \$5,809,844.33. For this continued discussion, the Legislators requested to have the consultant in attendance for inquiries that arose in the previous meeting.

A breakdown of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applicants was provided, including the years and amounts for which they were receiving funding for. CDBG does not have a required funding match from HUD, HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) has a 25% match from development activities and ESG has a dollar-for-dollar match from HUD. There were two surveys conducted, one for organizations (identifying what they think the community's needs are) and one for residents (identifying what are the community's needs). Participation was obtained either via a survey (available in English or Spanish), attending a public input session or providing feedback directly to the consultant, translation services were also available for further outreach. The County's Planning Department had an opportunity to vet the surveys as well as the Public Information Office. The ten goals to address affordable housing are: to improve and expand infrastructure; to improve access to public facilities; provide supportive public services; new housing development; rental housing opportunities; CHDO housing development; housing rehabilitation; homeless prevention and rapid rehousing and street outreach; emergency shelter and HMIS; and effective program management. The Planning Department continuously looks for surplus properties throughout the County in order to expand the housing stock and address affordable housing needs, since they cannot use CDBG funds for new housing.

On motion of Legislator Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Williams, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Away: Legislator Tubiolo

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Pierce, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the Committee adjourned at 3:15 PM. by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Away: Legislator Tubiolo