

## Mammoth Lakes Town Council Agenda Action Sheet

**Title:** Public hearing to consider authorizing additional scope of work for the CDBG CV1 and CV2/3 Grants to provide funding towards the new public park and playground at The Parcel.

**Council Meeting Date:** 3/16/2022

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**Recommended Motion:** Conduct the public hearing, receive public comment and input, and approve the attached resolutions authorizing additional scope of work for the CDBG CV1 and CV2/3 Grants to provide funding towards the new public park and playground at The Parcel.

**Summary:** In 2021, the Town was awarded a total of \$317,184 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act through two separate CDBG grants (\$68,375 in CDBG-CV1 funds awarded May 7, 2021; \$248,809 in CDBG-CV2/3 funds awarded September 10, 2021). The purpose of the CDBG CARES Act grants was to provide additional CDBG funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, and the Town's approved grant activities consisted of funding a short-term subsistence payment program for those impacted by COVID-19. Eligible subsistence payments included rental, mortgage, and/or utility payment assistance; however, assistance was limited to households earning 80% or below of the area median income (AMI). Shortly after the CDBG-CV1 application was submitted, the State notified the Town that rental assistance was no longer an eligible use of the CARES Act funds due to the implementation of the Statewide rental assistance program ("Housing is Key") and the need to avoid duplication of benefits. The community demand for rental assistance was high; however, it was unknown what the demand for mortgage and utility payment assistance would be. The Town and Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc (MLH), operating as the Town's grant subrecipient, transitioned to offering only mortgage and utility payment assistance in late-2021; however, there has been no interest from the community in either mortgage or utility payment assistance. Of the \$68,375 from the CDBG-CV1 grant, \$27,964 was expended on the subsistence payment activity (*rental assistance and direct administrative expenses*) and the remaining \$40,410 remains available. The entire \$248,809 from the CDBG-CV2/3 grant is available.

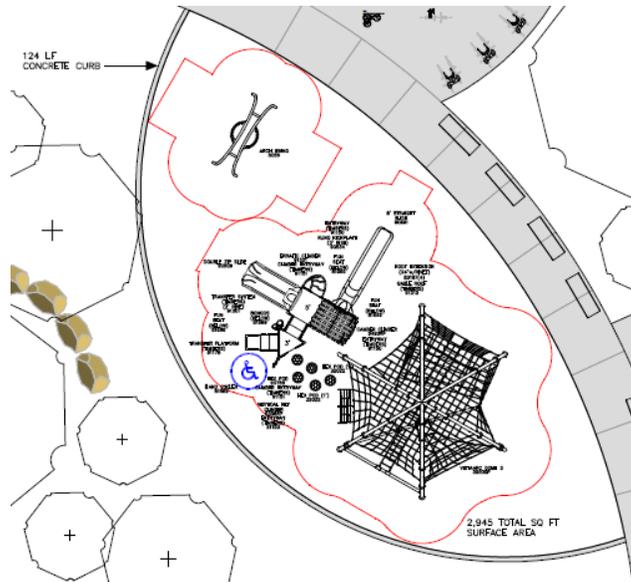
Due to this lack of interest, the Town is proposing an amendment to the contracts with the State (20-CDBG-CV1-00028 and 20-CDBG-CV-2-3-00093) and is proposing to add the following scope of work to the contracts:

- **Revised CDBG-CV1 Scope of Work** - Provide the remaining CDBG-CV1 allocation of \$40,410 towards the acquisition of an age-appropriate playground structure, associated accessible surfacing, and other park amenities for the new public park at the Parcel (*the Town's 25-acre affordable workforce housing site that is entitled to have up to 450 units for rent by Mammoth Lakes residents in the coming years*)
- **Revised CDBG-CV2/3 Scope of Work** - Provide up to \$248,809 towards the acquisition of an age-appropriate playground structure, associated accessible surfacing, and other park amenities for the new public park at the Parcel (*the Town's 25-acre affordable workforce housing site that is entitled to have up to 450 units for rent by Mammoth Lakes residents in the coming years*)

Through conversations with the State, the above-described activity has been identified as an eligible use of the CARES Act funds since it will provide an outdoor 'covid-friendly' activity

within a neighborhood that meets the CDBG Low- to Moderate-Income Area (LMA) category for the Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) national objective.<sup>1</sup> In order to proceed with the amendment, a public hearing is required and new resolutions are required for each grant.<sup>2</sup>

The Town plans to utilize the federal funds to purchase the 5-12 year old playground structures, interlocking tile surfacing, and other project related items using a bid procurement process that satisfies the grant requirements. A material surcharge, tax, and freight would also need to be included in the overall project cost. The CDBG funding will only go towards the acquisition of the public park and playground features. See exhibit below highlighting the public playground structures and surfacing scope of work.



If the amendment is approved, the Town would finalize the bid procurement process for the public playground portion of the park at the Parcel and proceed with the purchasing of the product.

For the installation of the playground structures, surfacing, and amenities, the Town would follow its bid process as defined by ordinance in the Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code utilizing general fund monies. The estimated completion date for this scope of work would be fall 2023.

It should be noted that in addition to the playground structures and surfacing, the complete park at the Parcel project includes perimeter fencing, concrete walkways, benches, picnic tables, a BBQ, small pavilion, bike racks and a drinking fountain with carrier and pet fountain..

<sup>1</sup> To qualify under the LMA category of the LMI National Objective, a jurisdiction is required to provide evidence that the activity would provide a public benefit to a census defined area (census tracts and block groups) where at least 51% of the households in the area earn 80% or below of the HUD Adjusted Median Family Income (HAMFI). The American Community Survey data indicates that within the census defined areas that include the Parcel and the surrounding Sierra Valley Sites, 65.22% and 56.06% of the households earn 80% or below of the HAMFI.

<sup>2</sup> The State requires that jurisdictions adhere precisely to their resolution template and specify how much Program Income will be used for an activity; however, the Town currently does not have any CDBG program income, but we are still required to have that language in the resolution.