

## Consolidated Plan Advisory Board Meeting – 4/3/2024

In attendance: Ron Rupp, Nathan Cleveland, Arthur Hamlin, Megan Roush, Patrick Scheld, Debbie Ingram, Frank Knaack, Ari Kister, Jo Ann Troiano, Adam Wechsler, Bill Colvin, Kathleen Burk, Max Krieger, Molly Shimko, Kelly Poupore, Rachel Batterson, David Reigel, Sandrine Kibuey, Lily Sojourner, Adam Grinold

### **February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting notes** – no comments

#### **Program Updates –**

- The VCDP is increasing the maximum award for Public Facility Grants up to \$1,000,000.
- The VCDP will start to require a pre-Application with a notice to proceed.
  - Adam G asked how that's different. Nathan explains is the intent is to try and mirror the NBRC process (Northern Border Regional Commission) to be able to vet projects more efficiently for competitiveness, readiness, and eligibility. Nathan spoke about the federal expenditure rate in which the CDBG funds need to be expended in a timely manner.
- VHCB – HOME funds: Ron explained HOME gets about \$3 million and is looking forward to the same amount. He will share the recent report they submitted to the Vermont legislature about VHCB programs.
- No changes for ESG/OEO

#### **Discussion and Feedback on Draft Plan**

- Rachel Batterson: Questions about CDBG. Questioning how to add up to \$7.3 million with \$2.3 million SS home rehab, \$600,000 for accessibility... Nathan and Arthur explained the percentage breakdown of priorities between housing, economic development, public facility, and public service.  
Rachel expressed concern about the remaining amount of funding available for non-housing – homeownership applications. Nathan and Patrick explained that VCDP is dependent on the applications submitted. While the goal is allocating 45% of the funding to Housing, the reality is that VCDP receives and funds more than 45% of the funding to housing projects because that is the type of projects that are sought.

Arthur suggests reviewing the past performance to see what has been funded in the past few years to see that despite the proposed goals in the

Adam Grinold – will market the program for economic development applications to ensure VCDP gets a fair share of economic development projects.

#### **Public Hearing Testimony**

Arthur mentioned that it's always a challenge to get public involvement.

Rachel Batterson suggested that using different language to explain the Consolidated Plan would be beneficial. The legal language in the notice is confusing. Instead, it could be described as “The State receives federal funding to conduct community projects...” instead of saying the “Consolidated Plan” which might be more accessible for understanding.

**Schedule**

Arthur reviewed the remaining schedule leading up to the submission of the Consolidated Plan to HUD.

**Additional Comments**

No additional comments. The meeting adjourned at 2:40pm.

DRAFT