



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Jeff Robinson, Director, Community & Economic Development Department
Daniel Murillo, Community & Economic Development Department, Housing Division Manager
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution to set April 7, 2020 Public Hearing Date
DATE: March 24, 2020

SUMMARY:

Set April 7, 2020, as the date for a public hearing on amendments to City of Tacoma’s 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan (AAP) for Housing and Community Development projects.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Foster a vibrant and diverse economy with good jobs for all Tacoma residents.

As a result of amending the AAP referenced, the City will reprogram unused Community Development Block Grant funds to support vital housing, community and economic development programs.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the City submits an AAP to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to fulfill the requirements associated with receipt of entitlement funding. The AAP outlines the uses of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. Periodically, changes to submitted AAPs are necessary. Depending on the significance of the change, the City must implement a “substantial amendment” process. As outlined in the City’s Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), a 30-day public comment period to include acceptance of public comment at a regularly scheduled City Council meeting is necessary.

On April 14, 2020, the City Council will receive a request to approve amendments to the City of Tacoma’s 2019-2020 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020) Annual Action Plan. The proposed changes will reprogram unused prior year CDBG dollars to housing and community development projects. This step is necessary for submittal of the substantial amendments to HUD. Prior to this, the City will provide for a 30-day public comment period in accordance with the CPP. This 30-day public comment period will include an opportunity for the community to comment on the proposed amendments at a public hearing before the City Council. This public hearing will occur on April 7, 2020.

ISSUE:

Before submission of the substantial amendments to HUD, the City must fulfill certain citizen participation requirements, including holding a public hearing on the proposed plan. The draft amendments were made available for a period of 30 days, beginning on March 13, 2020, and ending on April 13, 2020.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council could choose not to hold a public hearing. This alternative would put the City out of compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan and cause the City to not implement the proposed amendments.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends setting a date for the public hearing during the 30-day public comment period, as requested in this memo.



FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.