

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

TO: City Council
FROM: Mayor Paul A. Dyster
DATE: September 5, 2018
RE: **City Council Agenda Item:**
Reprogram of HUD CDBG Funds for Completion of Park Improvements

Council Members:

The Community Development Department has undertaken an aggressive plan of park improvements throughout the City of Niagara Falls, and now seeks to complete three of its four remaining major park improvements projects. This council agenda item would commit \$231,409.00 from several CDBG sources to fund the completion of three park projects.

Subsequent to the commitment of CDBG funds to the construction of a permanent bathroom facility at Gill Creek Park, it was decided that the project Gill Creek would be too costly to be feasible using CDBG dollars, and that mobile restroom facilities would pose cost eligibility issues with regard to the HUD CDBG program. The 2015 Hyde Park Playground improvements have been completed, and this transfer will enable NF CD to close out the project. CD's Single Family Rehab budget was increased significantly in the 2018 Action Plan, and this transfer would still allow the Department's Rehab Unit to complete all projected rehab projects through the city's anticipated receipt of 2018 CDBG funds. CDBG program income may be dedicated to any CDBG-eligible activity, and must be spent ahead of HUD's June 2019 spenddown deadline. This transfer will aid in compliance with that requirement, though a percentage of program income is being retained to pay administrative costs.

Project	Current Balance	Proposed Change	Proposed Final Allocation
NF CD Single Family Rehab	\$120,927.56	(\$50,000.00)	\$70,927.56
Gill Creek Improvements	\$94,674.67	(\$94,674.67)	\$0.00
CDBG Program Income	\$95,180.75	(\$80,540.99)	\$14,639.76
2015 Hyde Park Playground	\$6,193.34	(\$6,193.34)	\$0.00
Liberty Park PB360	\$127,000.50	\$43,749.50	\$170,750.00
Hyde Park Inclusionary Play Pod	\$75,000.00	\$63,059.50	\$138,059.50
Hyde Park Baseball Diamonds	\$43,002.50	\$124,600.00	\$167,602.50

This item commits no general fund dollars to these projects, and leverages nearly a quarter of a million dollars in outside grant funding from four separate foundations who have supported Community Development's park improvements and programming.

Will the Council vote to approve this item and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the same?

Respectfully submitted,

Kennedy_____ Scott_____ Tompkins_____ Voccio_____ Touma_____

Paul A. Dyster, Mayor

Nicholas Melson, City Administrator

Seth A. Piccirillo
Director of Community Development