

Summary of Public Participation for the
Annual Action Plan Program Year 48 (2022-23) Housing and Community Development
Consolidated Plan
Spring 2022

Overview

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, on March 12, 2020, the Mayor of Los Angeles imposed social distancing safety measures and directed that all nonessential public meetings be canceled. The Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD), in conjunction with the Mayor's Office, invited the public to participate in two virtual Spring meetings, which included the Program Year 48 (2022-23) (PY 48) Consolidated Plan (Con Plan) and a review of the Mayor's proposed Annual Action Plan. Two virtual public meetings were held on May 3 & 4, 2022, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., to collect public input on the proposed PY 48 Con Plan. Both meetings included a Spanish language simulcast to allow for greater participation by non- and limited-English speaking persons. There were 59 attendees for both virtual meetings (See Attachment 1) and seven public comments were received.

Throughout this public engagement process, the top three categories of need repeatedly identified were:

- Prevent and Reduce Homelessness/Domestic Violence
- Parks and Green Space
- Develop Affordable Housing

Virtual Public Meetings

The Spring virtual public meetings included a presentation on: what the Con Plan is, the Con Plan goals, examples of the programs and projects funded, and the actual grant funds allocated to the City the previous year. The Mayor's Office presentation highlighted the proposed budget with 56% of federal grant funds invested towards combating homelessness and increasing access to affordable housing, a primary concern. The proposed budget also included 19% towards neighborhood improvements to public facilities and infrastructure, 8% towards social services, 7% towards economic development, and 13% towards planning and administration. Also, investing in public safety in the upcoming program year, through domestic violence survivor programs and street lighting, was an important concern.

Additional resources were presented with website information for: how to access and apply for affordable housing; low-cost internet services and free access to computers and digital literacy services; and the 311 Request for City Services hotline and app.

Real-Time Participant Interaction

The audience answered interactive poll questions and submitted comments and questions that were addressed live in the meetings.

Public Participation

Throughout the presentation the audience participated through answering interactive poll questions and by submitting comments and questions. Questions and comments were addressed during the meeting, and opportunities for continued comments and questions were made available via email to CIFD. Staff responded to most of these questions verbally and also responded to several questions in writing through Zoom's chat feature.

Though there were 59 participants, not everyone answered all the poll questions. See Attachment 2 for further analysis.

1) Of the four federal grants mentioned, which one does the City of Los Angeles receive the most money for?

The correct answer, Community Development Block Grant, was selected by 91% of respondents

2) Now that you have heard our goals and seen examples, what is most important to you?

Of the six goals presented, the top choices were: "Prevent and Reduce Homelessness/Domestic Violence" was the most popular, "Develop Affordable Housing" was second, and a tie between "Preserve Existing Affordable Housing" and "Help Low-Income Families to Stabilize Economically".

3) Of the following types of projects, how likely are you to use them?

The audience was presented with the following 5 projects: Parks and Green Space, Senior Centers, Electric Vehicle Carshare, Business Incubator, and FamilySource Center. They were then given the following 3 response options for each project: Very Likely, Somewhat Likely, Not Likely. The most popular project was Parks and Green Space, as 13 responded that they would Very Likely use this project. The second most popular project was FamilySource Centers with seven mentions, followed by Business Incubator with three.

4) Does the Mayor's budget for these federal grants address the needs in your community?

The audience was given three options, 13 responded with Somewhat, four replied Very Well, and two answered Not at All.

Email Comments

There were six public comment received by email and one through the Council File. These comments generally spoke to access to affordable housing.

Outreach

The Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD) used a number of outreach methods to promote the virtual meetings, including: flyers, mass email notification to about 25,000 subscribers, posting on the CIFD website and City social media outlets, a newspaper publication, the City's Channel 35 television station, as well as notifications to the Mayor's Office, Council District Offices, various City Commissions, Neighborhood Councils, community-based organizations, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) for sharing with residents, other City Departments and the Los Angeles County Development Authority.

Conclusion

There was meaningful feedback from the participating public, and many participants appreciated the information and gave positive remarks on the information provided.