



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

June 3, 2020

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Three-Year Cooperation Agreement with the County of Marin for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Programs

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Three-Year Cooperation Agreement with the County of Marin for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Programs.

DISCUSSION

The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) provides grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to local governments for housing, community facilities, and public service programs serving lower-income people. The Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) provides additional assistance for affordable housing activities. Marin County qualifies for both the CDBG and HOME programs because the cities have signed cooperation agreements to participate with the County government in a single joint countywide program. This qualifies Marin County as a HUD “urban county,” enabling Marin to receive annual CDBG and HOME grant allocations established by formula.

In 2014, all eleven Marin cities/towns entered into three-year CDBG Cooperation Agreements enabling us to obtain formula funds as an urban county. In 2017 the Council approved the renewal of the Cooperation Agreement to remain eligible to receive funds for the next three fiscal years.

In order to continue the CDBG and HOME programs in Marin County, all cities and towns are being asked to renew their Cooperation Agreements and deliver them to the County by June 11, 2020.

The attached 2020 Cooperation Agreement is similar to the 2017 agreement, with one change. The agreement states the Town will receive notification that the Cooperation Agreement will be automatically renewed unless we notify the County by the end of the qualification period. The County receives notice from HUD every three years and more often than not, the agreement will need to be changed with new or modified language from HUD. In short, the County will still need to notify us every three years giving us plenty of time if we wish to opt out. This change helps streamline some administrative processes on the County’s end. Therefore, Fairfax will still have the opportunity to evaluate the agreement and offer changes, if needed.

However, a formal re-signing of the agreement may not be needed every three years. Attached is a copy of the new agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Town does not receive funds directly from this program, but the CDBG allocation countywide would be impacted without this agreement.

ATTACHMENT

Resolution with Cooperation Agreement attached