

Agenda Date: 1/28/2021
Council Meeting

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FRESNO CITY COUNCIL



Information Packet

ITEM(S)

File ID 21-162 (10:05 A.M.)

HEARING to obtain public comments regarding community needs for consideration in the development of the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan for federal funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Community Planning and Development (HUD CPD).

Contents of Supplement: Community emails.

Item(s)

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

Bernard Canez

From: Karla Martinez <kmartinez@leadershipcounsel.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 8:35 AM
To: Clerk
Subject: Written Comment Letter
Attachments: Agenda Item #21-162.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Hello,

I've attached a written comment letter for Agenda Item #21-162 prior to Thursday's city council meeting.

Thank you

--

Karla Martinez (she/her)

Policy Advocate

Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability

2210 San Joaquin St, Fresno, CA 93721 **(new office location)**

Office: 559-369-2790 | Cell: 213-944-4935

kmartinez@leadershipcounsel.org



January 27th, 2021
Fresno City Council

Public Comment RE: Agenda Item #21-162

Dear Council President Chavez and Councilmembers,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on Agenda Item #21-162: Annual Action Plan Public Hearing. As you may be aware, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability works alongside some of the most impacted communities to advocate for sound policy and eradicate injustice to secure equal access to opportunity regardless of wealth, race, income, and place. We work with community leaders throughout Fresno City on various issues such as affordable housing, essential transit services, safe walking paths, and the right to live free from industrial pollution with infrastructure that supports healthy lifestyles.

The 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan must prioritize funding for community-driven projects in areas with the highest need. Though we recognize that unfortunately, much of Fresno is identified as eligible for these targeted funding sources meant for lower-income neighborhoods, there are communities that are drastically under-invested that need to be prioritized. We acknowledge that the City of Fresno has allocated funding in the past to much needed projects such as the Neighborhood Streets and Sidewalks Improvements which significantly improved the bike and pedestrian access in neighborhoods such as Calwa, Central Fresno, and Southeast Fresno. However, we similarly acknowledge that these same neighborhoods and other South Fresno communities continue to rank at the bottom of several environmental, socio-economic, and public data and need more comprehensive community-identified solutions.

The following is an initial project list resulting from discussions with residents throughout the South Fresno region for the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan to improve their communities and quality of lives as they see best fit:

- Street improvements along Floradora Ave and Cedar Ave. These street improvements should consist of barriers between railroad lines, repavement of streets, and bike lanes. And while we appreciate the Staff's effort to obtain funding to pursue sidewalks on the north side of Floradora, there needs to be quicker timelines put in place due to the student and general community foot traffic.
 - ◆ Census Tract 25.01
- Streetscape and safety improvements consisting of street lighting along Fruit/Walnut region to ensure safe and secure travel for residents, especially after dark.
 - ◆ Census Tract 9.01



- Safer crosswalks on A Street leading to Columbia Elementary School. This can be in the form of a street sign or light to ensure student safety as they're going and coming from school.
 - ◆ Census Tract 2
- Stop sign/light at the crossing from Mary Ella Brown Community Center for the benefit of West Fresno Elementary students, staff, and neighbors.
 - ◆ Census Tract 10
- Stop sign/light near West Fresno Elementary School to the neighborhood north of East Annadale and South Tupman
 - ◆ Census Tract 10
- Stop sign/light near West Fresno Elementary School at East Annadale and South Ivy Ave
 - ◆ Census Tract 10
- Create safe pedestrian and bike access for residents of 3 Palms Mobile Home Park at Golden State and Mckinley Avenues to the shopping center at Clinton and Weber Avenues. Currently, residents are risking their lives every time they have to walk or bike to get groceries at Vallarta Supermarket or enjoy a family meal at Diccico's.
 - ◆ Census Tract 20

We want to thank the Councilmembers and Staff for taking our recommendations into consideration. We appreciate your time and consideration and hope that we see this reflected as funding in the Annual Action Plan. If any questions are to arise, please reach out to Karla Martinez at kmartinez@leadershipcounsel.org.

Respectfully,
Karla Martinez
Policy Advocates
Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability

Bernard Canez

From: Bertha Aguilar <baguilar@gridalternatives.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 8:40 AM
To: Clerk
Subject: Paved neighborhoods

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

My concern is that since the streets are not getting repaired. They seem to be getting worse in our neighborhood. I vote for my neighborhood to be paved and to have speed bumps put in. People drive through really fast. They don't care if there are kids playing. My address is 4854 E Cambridge ave Fresno 93706. Thank you

Thank You

Bertha Aguilar | Sr. Outreach Coordinator

[GRID Alternatives](#)
[4140 N Brawley Ave. Suite 108, Fresno, CA 93722](#)
o: [559-490-2391](#) | f: [559-420-0357](#)
[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

[Savings for you, clean power for your community](#)
- <http://www.grid solar.org/referral/>

\$200 Referral Program

Marco Martinez-Velasquez

From: BOBETTE <phatkitty18@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 10:28 AM
To: Clerk
Subject: Neighborhood Street Paved

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Good morning,

I am a new home owner of address 4877 E. Vassar 93703. Our streets are horrible and really need to be paved. I am disabled and have disabled children. The potholes and uneven pavement are affecting are quality of life. I cannot afford repairs to my vehicle. I can see more of the asphalt coming up since we have had many rainy days. Please help.

Respectfully,
Bobette Varela

From: noreply@granicusideas.com <noreply@granicusideas.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 5:06 PM

To: Yvonne Spence <Yvonne.Spence@fresno.gov>; Briana Parra <Briana.Parra@fresno.gov>

Subject: New eComment for City Council on 2021-01-28 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

New eComment for City Council on 2021-01-28 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting

Nicole Linder submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council on 2021-01-28 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting

Item: ID 21-162 HEARING to obtain public comments regarding community needs for consideration in the development of the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan for federal funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Community Planning and Development (HUD CPD).

eComment: Dear Mayor Dyer, Council President Chavez and members of the Fresno City Council, As you consider plans for how to address housing needs for the people who call Fresno home, we ask you to continue to ensure adequate resources for victims of crime, specifically adults (and their children) fleeing domestic violence. For more than 40 years, Fresno has relied upon the Marjaree Mason Center to provide a safe refuge for survivors seeking emergency shelter. Through past ESG/CDBG/HEAP and CARES Act funding, you have supported our emergency shelter operations to meet the growing demand for services. For that we are extremely grateful! I once heard someone say that, "domestic violence will only rise to a level in which the community allows it." You are all well aware that Fresno County has the highest per capita calls to law enforcement for domestic violence. Local crime statistics already show that year-to-date, Fresno Police Department has recorded a 173% increase in domestic violence over January of last year. Marjaree Mason Center is a 501c3 and will do everything in our power, and with the resources available to us, to assist survivors with their multifaceted needs. Your continued partnership to ensure their safety in housing is paramount to us changing the trajectory for families in Fresno. With sincere gratitude, Nicole Linder Executive Director

[View and Analyze eComments](#)

From: noreply@granicusideas.com <noreply@granicusideas.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 2:31 PM

To: Yvonne Spence <Yvonne.Spence@fresno.gov>; Briana Parra <Briana.Parra@fresno.gov>

Subject: New eComment for City Council on 2021-01-28 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

New eComment for City Council on 2021-01-28 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting

Tina Robertson submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council on 2021-01-28 9:00 AM - Regular Meeting

Item: ID 21-162 HEARING to obtain public comments regarding community needs for consideration in the development of the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan for federal funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Community Planning and Development (HUD CPD).

eComment: Workforce Training in Fresno The biggest problem facing the technology industry is their inability to find talent fast enough to keep up with demand. Bitwise is focused on providing training and apprenticeship to low- and moderate-income persons. The programs are designed to increase STEM competency, job readiness and prepare participants for entry level high paying jobs with Fresno based businesses. Bitwise programs are specifically designed to make it possible for the son or daughter of a migrant farm worker, adults vulnerable to gangs, or individuals from persistent poverty to become a skilled worker in the technology sector. In our tech apprenticeship programs, participants will learn while producing actual client work. In this accelerated learning program, it is important that participants are able to devote their full time and attention to working on these projects and acquiring the skills that will make them successful in the industry. For this reason, we hire apprentices in order to pay them a wage and offer a benefits package. Many individuals that we serve work in low wage, low growth jobs. We are eager to expose people to the skills that can make them successful in the high wage, high growth technology industry. Bitwise respectfully proposes that workforce development and training programs are included in the \$7,112,600 Community Development Block Grant allocation in the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan.

[View and Analyze eComments](#)