

City of Fresno

*2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721
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Action Summary

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

5:00 PM

Regular Meeting

**Fresno City Hall, 2nd Floor
Room 2165N (Room A)**

Housing and Community Development Commission

A) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fiske called the meeting to order at 5:09 P.M.

B) ROLL CALL

Present 4 - Commissioner Bob Farrar, Chairperson Barbara Fiske, Vice Chair Bob Reyes, and Commissioner Chong Yang

Absent 1 - Commissioner Marina Harutyunyan

C) COMMUNICATIONS

None.

D) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

E) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of HCDC minutes for March 13, 2019

F) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

HEARING to obtain public comments regarding implementation of the City of Fresno's proposed activities with federal grant funding pertaining to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan.

Development and Resource Management (DARM) Housing Manager, Thomas Morgan offered to provide a brief review of the PowerPoint included in the staff report, summarizing the Draft 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan out for a 30-day review and comment period. Because the information was included in the meeting packet, and made available to the public in advance as well as at the meeting, the HCDC did not request an additional verbal summary. Chair Fiske opened the public hearing at 5:14 P.M. Upon call for public comment, the following three people addressed the HCDC:

1) Martha Caudle: Ms. Caudle is a resident of Southwest Fresno and has been for the last 55 years. She thanked the HCDC for recommending funding for the Maxie Parks Community Center air conditioning in the draft action plan. Ms. Caudle spoke about her experience at the Maxie Parks Community Center and the heat issues, especially during summer. Ms.

Caudle spoke about the seniors utilizing the Maxie Parks Community Center, as well as children who play basketball with the doors open because it is so hot.

2) Michaelynn Lewis: Ms. Lewis is a resident of Southwest Fresno and is involved in the community. She continues to support funding for the Maxie Parks Community Center HVAC, stating that the swamp cooler is not sufficient for cooling the facility for those that use the space, including seniors and children. Ms. Lewis commented that both seniors and children enjoy the facility and would like to stay longer to enjoy activities such as getting health checks, eating a healthy meal, or basketball, however, they are limited due to the heat issues. Ms. Lewis suggested that more than \$50,000 will be needed for proper air conditioning. Ms. Lewis also thanked the HCDC for recommending funding the Saints Rest Community Center and spoke about their grand opening on April 20th, including the farmers market for those needing fresh produce.

3) Yolanda Randles, Director West Fresno Family Resource Center: Ms. Randles spoke about her non-profits lead role in operating the City of Fresno's Maxie Parks Community Center. Ms. Randles stated the community center provides social service activities, and is a learning site for Fresno State students. She indicated that the annual-back-to-school health fair held in August has over 2,000 families in attendance. Ms. Randles recognized that the Maxie Parks Community Center is a beautiful facility, with a recreation room, and while the small offices in the facility have air conditioning; the larger social areas only have a swamp cooler which is not sufficient during the hot summer months. Ms. Lewis spoke about a statewide meeting planned at the facility last year, and was embarrassed to state that the members were very uncomfortable due to the heat. She went on to state that there have been incidents where individuals have passed out from the heat and she would like to see the nearly 9,000 individuals utilizing the facility each year to have air conditioning during the summer months, and possibly increase the events that the facility can host between May and September. Ms. Randles thanked the HCDC for this first step, and hopes that down the line there will be additional dollars.

Chair Fiske closed the public hearing at 5:26 P.M.

Following the public hearing, Commissioner Farrar asked Yolanda Randles for clarification on the Maxie Parks air conditioning project, and if it was the same presentation he recalls about the water cooling tower. Ms. Randles provided further information about the disruption of the swamp cooling system at Maxie Parks Community Center, and that there has been no clear understanding of how the facility can accommodate a new air conditioning system. DARM Assistant Director, Kelli Furtado, clarified the HVAC project at Maxie Parks Community Center is anticipated to be a multi-year project, with the initial funding proposed in the draft plan being essential to ensure that an appropriate air conditioning system is designed for the Maxie Parks Community Center, and this would be a new system to improve upon a swamp cooling system, not the water cooling tower project.

Commissioner Yang shared that he was pleased with many exciting projects occurring in West Fresno.

G) INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

None.

H) COMMISSIONER ITEMS

None.

I) UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATION

Nicole Linder with the Marjaree Mason Center thanked the HCDC for their support and reminded commissioners that due to the confidential nature, RSVP's are required to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, April 12, 2019, for the Marjaree Mason Center Kitchen Remodel Project.

J) ADJOURNMENT

Chair Fiske adjourned the meeting at 5:33 P.M.

The next scheduled HCDC meeting is May 8, 2019.