

**CITY OF LINCOLN PARK**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

A PROGRAM OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HUD

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW RECORD**

**42<sup>nd</sup> PROGRAM YEAR**

**JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2016 TO JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2017**

**Thomas E. Karnes, Mayor**  
**Thomas Murphy, Council President**

**CITY COUNCIL**

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- None

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- None

This document constitutes the **Environmental Review Record** (hereinafter the ERR) of the City of Lincoln Park, Michigan (hereinafter Grantee), for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Program Year of the **Community Development Block Grant** (hereinafter CDBG) Program. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Program Year commences on July 1, 2016 and ends on June 30, 2017. If you have any questions or comments relative to this

document, you are encouraged to direct them to Doreen Christian, Assistant Director of the Office of Community Planning and Development at 3240 Ferris, Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146. Business hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM and the telephone number is (313) 386-3100. The fax number is (313) 381-3202 and the email address is dchristian@citylp.com.

This document explains the environmental factors taken into consideration by the Grantee while preparing its Annual Action Plan for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Program Year. The One-Year Annual Action Plan is a part of the five-year Consolidated Plan covering the fiscal years 2016-2020. Copies of these documents are available to any interested party at no charge by contacting The Office of Community Development and requesting it.

This document contains a section explaining those activities that the Grantee thinks are “EXEMPT” from the National Environmental Protection Act (hereinafter NEPA), those that are “CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDED” from it and those activities which require an “ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT”.

### **EXEMPT ACTIVITIES**

The following activities are considered by the Grantee to be exempt from the environmental requirements of the NEPA and other federal regulations relative thereto.

1. **ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING: Section 58.34 (a) (3)**

These activity costs are limited to the costs of overall program management, coordination, monitoring of sub recipients and evaluation of programs as specified in 24 CFR Section 570.206 (a) and 24 CFR Section 570.206 (b-g). Activities in this category may include the payment of salaries and fringe benefits for the staff of the Office of Community Development located at 3240 Ferris, Lincoln Park MI 48146 as well as fair housing activities, citizen participation, development and submission of all federal applications, expenses associated with the Grantee’s Consolidated Plan, Grantee Performance Report, the Annual Action Plan and other similar documents and reports.

Overall program management, coordination and monitoring or evaluation may include the following types of activities: preparing program budgets, schedules and amendments, evaluating findings, development of systems for assuring compliance with program requirements, preparing reports and other types of compliance documents related to the programs for submission to the *United States Department of Housing and Urban Development* (hereinafter HUD) and developing interagency agreements, sub recipient agreements, agreements with contractors and others necessary to carry out various program activities. This category may also include the employment and payment of Auditors, CPA’S, Attorneys, Architects, Engineers, Planners and others necessary to carry out the various activities of the Office of Community Development. These activities will not have a physical impact upon the environment in any way. The nature, scope, character and quality of the administration of the Grantee CDBG Program will be the same as in previous years.

2. **BLESSED HOPE/FOOD BANK: Section 58.34 (a) (4)**

These funds will be used for the food pantry expansion to purchase an additional refrigerator with an electric update to accommodate the refrigerator, storage system, shelving for product, as

well as educational materials on how to safely store, prepare and serve food. The food pantry is operated by Blessed Hope Church located at 3804 Hazel Avenue, Lincoln Park Michigan. The Center serves a great need within the community and anticipates over 500 residents will utilize the pantry for the first time during July 1 – June 30, 2017 time period; joining another 400 households that currently utilize the pantry. This activity is considered by the Grantee to be exempt from the NEPA and other related federal environmental regulations for the same reasons as cited above. This activity is an authorized public service under Title I and the use of this small amount of CDBG funding will make only minimal changes of the level and type of services provided. The services provided impact only the social and economic environment and would not result in the development of new facilities or physical improvements regardless of the source of funding.

3. **CODE ENFORCEMENT: Section 58.34 (a) (4)**

With the Police and Fire Departments the activities carried out under this category include the code enforcement efforts in the low to low-moderate income neighborhoods. Many of these neighborhoods contain the city's oldest housing stock; much of it in disrepair. These same neighborhoods suffer from high rates of vacancy and a disproportional number of rental properties. In an all-out effort to combat further neighborhood decline the city will coordinate funding for residential rehabilitation, demolition, community policing and infrastructure improvements in these areas. Funding will be used to defray the operation of the program in regards to supplies, equipment and employment. As a public service these funds are exempt under section 58.34 (a) (4). The Grantee considers these activities to be exempt from the NEPA and other related federal environmental regulations because the activities are of a type of public service, and represent a continuation of previously assisted Title I activities. These activities only affect the social and economic environment and will not result in any change in the level and type of service provided previously nor the development of new facilities or physical improvements regardless of the source of funding. These activities are designed to address the root causes of neighborhood decline and are a part of the Grantee's overall plan to deal with these issues.

4. **COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAM: Section 58.34 (a) (4)**

This activity will pay the salary and fringe benefits for a Community Policing Officer to meet with and oversee the activities of the Neighborhood Watch program, Citizen's Patrol Watch and the Ordinance Officers. Activities of the program may include the training and deployment of police officers to work in the schools, senior apartments, senior organizations, Neighborhood Watch Block Clubs and with the Citizens Patrol Watch or other community based groups to educate the citizens of the community relative to issues of crime prevention and crime awareness. The Grantee considers these activities to be exempt from the NEPA and other related federal environmental regulations because the activities are of a type of public service, and represent a continuation of previously assisted Title I activities. These activities only affect the social and economic environment and will not result in any change in the level and type of service provided previously nor the development of new facilities or physical improvements regardless of the source of funding. This activity attempts to deal with the root causes of crime and delinquency within the community and is an intricate part of the overall Grantee plan for dealing with these issues. The Community Policing Office is located at 1394 Cleophus Parkway, Lincoln Park MI 48146. The desired

outcome is to enhance crime awareness among residents thus increasing participation in the Neighborhood Watch program and the Citizen's Patrol Watch to reduce crime by increasing the number of crimes reported to police by neighborhood residents which in turn increases public safety.

5. **CRIME AWARENESS PROGRAM: Section 58.34 (a) (4)**

Activities of the Program may include training Neighborhood Watch Block Clubs and the Citizens Patrol Watch or other community based groups to educate the citizens of the community relative to issues of crime prevention and crime awareness. The Grantee considers these activities to be exempt from the NEPA and other related federal environmental regulations because the activities are of a type of public service, and represent a continuation of previously assisted Title I activities. These activities only affect the social and economic environment and will not result in any change in the level and type of service provided previously nor the development of new facilities or physical improvements regardless of the source of funding. This activity attempts to deal with the root causes of crime and delinquency within the community and is an intricate part of the overall Grantee plan for dealing with these issues. The Community Policing Office is located at 1394 Cleophus Parkway, Lincoln Park MI 48146. The desired outcome is to enhance crime awareness among residents thus increasing participation in the Neighborhood Watch program and the Citizen's Patrol Watch to reduce crime by increasing the number of crimes reported to police by neighborhood residents which in turn increases public safety.

6. **FIRST STEP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM: Section 58.34 (a) (4)**

These funds will be used to help defray the operating expenses involved in the First Step Domestic Violence Program. This program works with women and children who are victims of domestic violence providing a comprehensive list of services that includes shelter, counseling, crisis response, food, clothing and medical assistance. With the overwhelming job loss, housing foreclosure and current economic crisis in Michigan it is anticipated that the need for this program will increase drastically. It is anticipated that 10 victims of domestic violence will be provided temporary shelter and 100 will be assisted with other services. This activity is considered by the Grantee to be exempt from the NEPA and other related federal environmental regulations for the same reasons as cited above. This activity is an authorized public service under Title I and the use of this small amount of CDBG funding will make no or only minimal changes of the level and type of services provided. The services provided impact only the social and economic environment and would not result in the development of new facilities or physical improvements regardless of the source of the funding. The activities carried out by this sub recipient are those associated with working with the victims of domestic violence. The main office of First Step is located at 44567 Pinetree Dr., Plymouth MI 48170 with a community response center located in the Community Policing office at 1394 Cleophus Parkway, Lincoln Park MI 48146.

7. **THE GUIDANCE CENTER: Section 58.34 (a) (4)**

This activity is operated through the funding of a sub recipient by the Grantee, which in turn operates the actual programs. The Guidance Center Administrative Office located at 15601 Northline Road in Southgate maintains several branch locations throughout Downriver, including two sites in Lincoln Park. The Lincoln Park branch offers services for infants, children, adolescents and families. Outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment is provided along with in-home services providing services to children with severe and persistent mental illness and to their families who require intensive community based services. The Guidance Center also operates a Community Resource Center and a Head Start Program in Lincoln Park. This activity is considered by the Grantee to be exempt from the NEPA and related federal environmental regulations as an authorized public service under Title I and is a continuation of previously assisted activities with only minimal changes of level and type of services provided. The services that are provided impact only the social and economic environment and would not result in the development of new facilities or physical improvements regardless of the source of funding.

8. **RESIDENTIAL HOUSING REHABILITATION LOAN PROGRAM: Section 58.34 (a) (12)**

Activities under this category include the provision of low interest or no interest loans to low to moderate-income persons and families for the purpose of making renovations to their homes and rental units to bring them up to applicable housing quality standards. Under certain circumstances, the Grantee may assist persons and families on an emergency basis. The Grantee considers these activities to be exempt from the NEPA and other related federal environmental regulations because these activities are limited to the rehabilitation of existing homes. The density is not increased, the land use is not changed and the footprint of the building is not increased in a floodplain or in a wetland. Any improvements made will be consistent with the previous use of the site resulting in an improved and often healthier and safer living environment.

9. **THE SENIOR ALLIANCE PROGRAM: Section 58.34 (a) (4)**

This activity is operated through the funding of a sub recipient by the Grantee, which in turn operates the actual programs. The Senior Alliance coordinates and provides a variety of services exclusively to senior age citizens of the community. This sub recipient also operates a clearinghouse for obtaining needed services and funding from other governmental and private sources. This activity is considered by the Grantee to be exempt from the NEPA and related federal environmental regulations as an authorized public service under Title I and is a continuation of previously assisted activities with only minimal changes of level and type of services provided. The services that are provided impact only the social and economic environment and would not result in the development of new facilities or physical improvements regardless of the source of funding. The activities carried out by this sub recipient are of the nature of counseling and related services to the senior members of the community. The Senior Alliance is located at 3850 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Wayne MI 48184 and is anticipated to help 15 senior residents to remain living in their homes while assisting 85 in obtaining prescriptions and other essential services.

10. **SENIOR CENTER SERVICES: Section 58.34 (a) (4)**

The Senior Center is located at 3250 Ferris, Lincoln Park MI 48146. This activity will pay a portion of the salary and fringe benefits of the city employee assigned to the Senior Center to support and coordinate the activities of the Senior Center. This position includes, but is not limited to, providing assistance to the senior clubs with approximately 200 members. The clubs provide senior citizens an improved quality of life by providing group activities, outings, and expanding their social network. The Center also assists citywide 5,650 senior citizens by providing meals on wheels, blood pressure checks, and assistance in gaining access to government benefits/services; i.e.: Senior transportation which promotes and increases the independent living capabilities of the area senior citizens. Funds will also be used to purchase tables, chairs and other equipment and supplies necessary for the center. This activity is considered by the Grantee to be exempt from the NEPA and related federal environmental regulations as an authorized public service under Title I. The service provided will impact only the social and economic environment and would not result in the development of new facilities or physical improvements regardless of the source of funding.

11. **STREETS & UTILITIES: Section 58.34 (a) (12)**

Activities carried out under this program will be to improve roads, the water distribution system and storm water and sanitary sewer collection systems. The City anticipates using these funds to pay for concrete and/or asphalt sectional work on the street intersections along Electric Avenue at Montie and O'Connor. After rebuilding the intersections, any remaining funds will be used to replace concrete sections of other streets in the area. These projects are located in and/or serve the low to moderate-income quartile areas of the community.

The Grantee considers these activities to be exempt from the NEPA and other related federal environmental regulations because these activities include the reconstruction, rehabilitation and installation of public facilities or improvements. Furthermore, these activities and improvements will generally have no changing effect upon the use, character, size or capacity and location of said public improvements and facilities. Any improvements made will be consistent with the previous use of the site. Because these activities generally result only in the renovation of previously existing facilities, the human environment should not be adversely affected. If a new facility is constructed, the Grantee will prepare an Environmental Assessment of the project before proceeding with construction. Often the renovation of older surfaces results in the removal of badly deteriorated and hazardous materials, which were used in the original construction and often end up in the sewer system. The aesthetic improvements made also improve the quality of the living environment of the community in many instances.

### **CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDED PROJECTS**

The Grantee does not have any programs and projects to be categorically excluded from the NEPA and other related federal environmental regulations.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS REQUIRED**

The Grantee does not have any programs and projects to be of a nature that will require an Environmental Assessment. If a change in the original projects becomes apparent, the Grantee will prepare an Environmental Assessment of the project before proceeding.

Any questions, comments or concerns relative to this Environmental Review Record of the City of Lincoln Park for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Program Year of the Community Development Block Grant Program should be directed to Doreen Christian, CPD Asst. Director at 3240 Ferris, Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146 (telephone number is 313-386-3100 ext.# 21; fax number is 313-381-3202, email is [dchristian@citylp.com](mailto:dchristian@citylp.com)). Anyone desiring additional copies of this document, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Program Year Annual Action Plan, the five-year Consolidated Plan or other related documents should contact the Office of Community Development. Questions, concerns and comments may also be directed to the *United States Department of Housing and Urban Development*, Community Development Department, attention Ms. Darlene White, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Patrick McNamara Building, 477 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

June 23, 2016

*Doreen Christian*, Asst. Director  
Community Planning & Development