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CALL TO ORDER

[Time: 00:00:04]

Mayor Ortega: I call the May 2, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting to order. City Clerk Ben Lane, please conduct the roll call.

ROLL CALL

[Time: 00:00:16]

City Clerk Lane: Thank you, Mayor. Mayor David Ortega.

Mayor Ortega: Present.

City Clerk Lane: Vice Mayor Kathy Littlefield.

Vice Mayor Littlefield: Present.

City Clerk Lane: Councilmembers Tammy Caputi.

Councilwoman Caputi: Here.

City Clerk Lane: Tom Durham.

Councilmember Durham: Here.

City Clerk Lane: Barry Graham.

Councilmember Graham: Here.

City Clerk Lane: Betty Janik.

Councilwoman Janik: Here.

City Clerk Lane: Solange Whitehead.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Here.

City Clerk Lane: City Manager Jim Thompson.

City Manager Thompson: Here.

City Clerk Lane: City Attorney Sherry Scott.

City Attorney Scott: Here.

City Clerk Lane: City Treasurer Sonia Andrews.

City Treasurer Andrews: Here.

City Clerk Lane: And the Clerk is present. Thank you Mayor.

[Time: 00:00:37]

Mayor Ortega: We have the Scottsdale Police Sergeant Don Ryan, as well as Dustin Patrick and firefighter Brandon Rollins, should anyone need assistance. Also, I'll point out the restrooms are through that rectangular opening there at the upper level. Let's begin with the pledge of allegiance. I'll call on Solange Whitehead.

Councilwoman Whitehead: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands: One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mayor Ortega: Well, let us call our attention to the war on Ukraine and remember that their sacrifice and fight for freedom and Democracy is ongoing. I'll ask you to join with me in silence.

Thank you.

Well, May is full of graduations, and we'll be hearing about one shortly. However, it is also -- May is affordable housing month, and we have a proclamation and we will have representatives from city staff, as well as the Scottsdale Realtors and the Fair and Affordable Housing Committee. So with that, I will read our proclamation.

Whereas having an affordable place to call home is essential for all generations of Scottsdale residents to continue to live in a community that provides an exceptional experience, outstanding livability, community prosperity and distinctive character; and whereas, the City of Scottsdale values creative housing solutions and seeks to partner and maintain high quality and safe housing for everyone; and whereas, the City of Scottsdale encourages the development and preservation of affordable housing types that meet the socioeconomic needs of people who live and work in Scottsdale; and whereas, the City of Scottsdale as the City of Scottsdale implements General Plan 2035, full spectrum housing options, consideration of high quality and durable and affordable housing is a priority.

Therefore, I, David D. Ortega, 12th Mayor of Scottsdale do declare May 2023 as Affordable Housing Month in Scottsdale and encourage residents to support and participate in creative solutions for affordable housing.

[Time: 00:04:02]

If we have representatives from the board of realtors, please come forward and I'll present this as well as the community assistance office.

[Applause]

Mayor Ortega: Well, next we will have the City Manager's report. I call on City Manager Jim Thompson to provide his report.

City Manager Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'm not sure we have a short video this evening, which should be -- there it is, thank you.

Video Audio: Hi, I'm public affairs specialist Stephanie with Five Fast Things happening around the city you need to know. Starting us off at No. 5, rock and roll at the Railroad Park is back on track. Enjoy free concerts every Sunday evening with a variety of local bands through June 25. Recently recognized as one of the best live music venues in Arizona by best of American towns, Sundays at the Railroad Park are the place to be in Scottsdale this May through June with Motown disco rhythm and blues and retro 90s we have something for everyone. Bring a blanket or chair and relax in the park, pack a picnic or rotating selection of food trucks, training carousel rides are \$3, get all the details at therailroadpark.com.

Coming in at No. 4, bring summer relief for homebound seniors. Scottsdale Beat the Heat program serves two equally important functions, first the city provides homebound seniors to help keep them cool during the summer. Second, staff and volunteers assess the needs of the most vulnerable and connect them to helpful resources. The program is built on donations from the community. Items needed are bottled water, nutritional drinks, healthy prepackaged snacks, fans, hygiene items, \$35 gift cards and stamps. Please drop off donations between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday by May 25. Thank you to all who donate this program is made possible due to your generosity. Learn more at ScottsdaleAZ.gov and serve beat the heat.

Next up at No. 3, save the date. Scottsdale's Annual Community Juneteenth Celebration is next month. Come and enjoy cultural exhibits, vendor booths, live performance and food and activities and so much more. News free indoor-outdoor event is from 2 to 7:00 p.m. Saturday, June 17 at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts and Scottsdale Civic Center.

[Time: 00:07:34]

At No. 2, it's warming up, let's talk about hiking and heat safety. According to Maricopa County, 200 people each year need to be rescued while hiking, it's important to know the early warning signs and take action. Common symptoms include heavy sweating, paleness, headaches, nausea, dizziness, shallow breathing and rapid but weakened pulse rate. Call 911 if a person becomes confused, passes out from the heat and/or stops sweating. Hikers should know their limits and know their hike and know the weather conditions and what to bring with them. The key to prevention is start early, pre-hydrate days before your activity, bring plenty of water on the hike and turn around when your water bottle is half empty and carry a cell phone in case of emergency. Learn more at ScottsdaleAZ.gov and search hiking safety.

Wrapping things up at No. 1, did you know that the Scottsdale you live in today was shaped by a group of visionary citizens more than 60 years ago? Beginning in 1964 several hundred residents working in 14 different committees began identifying the major planning policy and infrastructure issues that the town of Scottsdale needed to tackle. The Scottsdale Town Enrichment Program was initiated by the Mayor and city council and open to any resident who wanted to participate. The Indian Bend Greenbelt bikeways, Scottsdale Civic Center and the resort corridor are among the many legacy contributions that resulted from this incredible community collaboration. Today the city is reviving that collaborative spirit and invites residents to join a year-long effort through speak up Scottsdale. And online community when Scottsdale residents can interact with one another, discussing city issues, perhaps, services and projects. Simply better service for a world class community is the City of Scottsdale's vision.

We look forward to your contributions and encourage you to share your voice, creating a Scottsdale we can all enjoy together. For more information and to sign up, visit ScottsdaleAZ.gov and search speak up Scottsdale. And that's Scottsdale Fast Five for May. Thanks for watching.

Mayor Ortega: Let me add to that. Indian Bend Wash originated from citizen input and originated at El Dorado Park. This Saturday, the 6th, we will have a -- an event called Bash on the Wash. It starts at 6:00 and runs until 8:30 at night at El Dorado Park, please bring a chair or a blanket, enjoy live music, lawn games, inflatable slides, food trucks and a foam party. I think we know what that is, lots of fun. I know the children are listening to that and we will be having other events in Indian Bend Wash throughout May. Please look out for that.

Next we will go for a presentation, today we will recognize the 2023 Scottsdale 101 Citizen Academy Graduates, and this program will be outlined for us by Christy Hill, she's our citizen liaison, and the council presented -- visiting with the class just before opening this meeting tonight. So please tell us more, Christy.

[Time: 00:11:08]

Christy Hill: Great, thank you for having us. We are excited to be here and to celebrate our graduation. Scottsdale 101 Citizen Academy is designed to give residents a better understanding of the people, places and programs that shape our city and the community we live in. After three-year hiatus Scottsdale 101 returned with a new and exciting format that included 12 additional classroom hours, experiential learning and a requirement to complete a minimum of two engagement projects.

The love Scottsdale engagement projects were a great success, including projects such as paying it forward, adopt a road during earth week, coordinating a summer food drive for Vista Del Camino food bank, baking and cooking for public safety, attending open houses, council and commission meetings, as well as volunteering for events and just spreading the good word of our city services. In short, getting out there and loving Scottsdale. Tonight we have all of our grads present, but we have three that will come up and share some of their thoughts and moments in Scottsdale 101. With that, I will call Nancy Powers, Michael Pomerico and Jan Debauskas if you want to take some of these front seats. Michael, you go first and then Nancy next and then Jan.

Michael Pomerico: Thank you. I'm Michael Pomerico. Mayor, councilmen and women, thanks for the opportunity to say a few words about the Scottsdale 101 academy we just completed. Thank you for your support. A program I wish I had taken part in sooner.

Growing up in a military family and continuing to move quite a bit as a young adult, I lived in many places before ultimately settling here in Scottsdale. Having that experience, I can say that Scottsdale is truly an exceptional place to live. There are a number of obvious reasons for that, but I think one of the biggest reasons is the residents of Scottsdale. To me, my fellow participants in Scottsdale 101 are really emblematic of that. They're veterans, parents and grandparents, community leaders, volunteers, and former candidates for office among others. Like many, they have come from all over the country. To make Scottsdale home.

Of course, we have learned much from the many city officials and staff who have given of that their time generously to speak with us about city management and the various city services. I've always learned a lot from the really incisive comments and questions from my fellow participants throughout the course of the program.

A few folks also have a really great sense of humor as well. So it's been a privilege to take part in this program with them. One other quick point, the behind-the-scenes element of the program has been great.

[Time: 00:14:23]

For example, if you're lived here for a while the bus tour that we did didn't take to us too many places we weren't already familiar with you did get to meet and hear the unique perspective of the people that make these places run. Barrett-Jackson multiple times, that part of the tour stood out to me.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone involved, particularly Christy Hill. You can tell how dedicated she is to Scottsdale and she keeps the trains running on time better than anyone I know. I want to thank Bruce Wall as well for his limitless knowledge of the city. Learned quite a bit from him. Thank you again and as I told Christy just so everyone knows, I'm not speaking and running, I have a flight at 7:00 that I have to catch for a work trip for a conference, that's where I'm headed to now. Thank you all again.

[Applause]

Nancy Powers: Hello, everyone. My name is Nancy Powers, I moved to Scottsdale from New York, and I still have the accent, I'm afraid. In 2006. I just want to say that this program, Scottsdale 101 was just amazing. I don't think any of us knew learning about city government could be so much fun. What made this program so special is that in addition to the classroom presentations, it included interactive, behind-the-scene views of the way the city operates. The structure and organization of each session was so well done. A big thank you from all of us to Christy Hill for keeping everything running on time. And still allowing us to ask as many questions as we needed to.

We also want to thank all of the city staff who opened their doors to us to learn about their department's responsibilities, and goals, and for making this such a special experience. So I learned a little bit about the academy's history from Christy. Help me out with this, I asked her when was the first meeting, and she said, it was in 2003, and I had no idea because this was the first time I've heard about this program. I said 2003 and who -- how did this come about. And she said, well, it came about -- it was implemented from the City Manager, Mayor and council people. So I looked back at 2003, do to see who was council people. I came across two interesting names, one was Mayor Ortega and one was Bob Littlefield. So thank you to them for the wisdom 20 years ago to promote such a successful program. I came to this program not fully

aware of how our government works and the abundant services and resources it provides. I think we sometimes take for granted our quality of life in Scottsdale.

Not realizing the work it takes to have a city where everyone wants to live. Often when citizens are distrustful of government, it is because there is no transparency. Opening your doors to every department, allowing questions, encouraging participation, not only shows transparency, but pride in the work that is being done.

[Time: 00:18:01]

Connecting to the citizens in this way makes us feel our opinion matters, which in turn promotes an active and peaceful participation. In closing I would like to say Scottsdale -- I always knew Scottsdale was a great place to live, but I came away from this program feeling more connected to the city. I think we all have a better appreciation of what it takes not only to conserve and preserve what we have, but what is being done to advance innovation for future challenges. I will take back what I learned to my friends and neighbors and will encourage them to attend this very special program, and I thank you very much.

Jan Debauskas: Mr. Mayor, city councilmembers, thank you so much for having us here today. I'm in, and I'm a proud graduate. Class, let us thank Christy Hill. Christy, you did more than keep the wheels on and you did more than hook the speakers, you arranged for everything, did it with Grace and courtesy. You really had things organized in a way that made sense to all of the participants and went above and beyond. We would like to recognize you. Thank you, Christy.

Bruce, thank you so much for your participation. You brought some stories to us that really enlivens Scottsdale, you made us remember not only Scottsdale of today that we live in, but the proud tradition that Scottsdale has had over many, many years, and you made it fun. Thank you so much, Bruce, for your contribution to our class.

Councilmembers, Mr. Mayor, I know that you are aware of what a terrific city we live in. Scottsdale is special, Scottsdale is unique, it is world renowned. But not every one of us understood exactly all the work that goes into it. When we would meet with Mr. Thompson, when we would meet with these fine folks here, and talk about the exact work that they do, it is stunning the depth of knowledge, the pride that they have in the work that they do, and the openness and transparency about it, I was amazed to go to the public works and speak with the Director and he was so giddy and excited to talk about the exact details of how you get a curb straight. He loves having these fine details and then looking at the City of Phoenix and saying, Ha Ha, ours are straight and theirs are crooked because he understands the value of Scottsdale resident. He understands the expectation, and that is something that you have trickled down through the team and Mr. Thompson has as well, that they say, this is a special place. We need to do the work to maintain this special place.

And each department that we spoke with, not only talked about all of that detailed work, but

then talked about the city in its disparate areas, we need to think about fire in north Scottsdale differently than we think about fire in south Scottsdale. Which sets us apart from Chandler.

[Time: 00:21:25]

The people you have in this city are knowledgeable, they're open, they're incredibly thoughtful about the work that they do. I think that was so refreshing to all of us to see all these folks with bright, open eyes, who want to tell you, because they're so proud of all the work they are doing for the city.

So we thank you so much for this opportunity, we thank you for the opportunity to -- that you opened up the doors to us and not only that, but you've invited us to continue on to apply for boards, to volunteer more in our communities because this really is a gateway for the rest of us to Scottsdale, we will tell our friends and family and we will all invite and encourage others to apply for Scottsdale 101, the water board, for the police, for the fire commissions as well. Commissions and academies. So thank you so much for your time, thank you for the investment that you make in the residents. We appreciate you. Thank you.

Mayor Ortega: Well, congratulations, Scottsdale 101, citizens academy. You make us proud. We know we are together. Together we are Scottsdale. We as a council certainly support the staff, supports everyone individually, and all our organizations work together with the school districts, and with the community college, because we are all one community. So with that, I'd like you -- to acknowledge you, please stand and we do -- Christy is the Dean, and Bruce is the co-Dean of the Academy, so I'd -- please -- yeah, there you go, we want to acknowledge everyone. You know, Bruce, you should be in that picture. Come over here. Thank you so much.

So we are moving on to the business that's per our agenda, and during tonight's meeting, the council may make a motion to recess into executive session to obtain legal advice on any applicable item on the agenda.

[Time: 00:24:14]

If authorized by the council, the executive session will be held immediately and will not be open to the public. The public meeting will resume following the executive session. Secondly, announcing that per our city council rules of procedure, citizens attending city council meetings shall observe the same rules of order and decorum applicable to members of the council and city staff. Unauthorized remarks or demonstrations from the audience, such as applause, stamping of feet, whistles, boos, yells or other demonstrations shall not be permitted. Violation of these rules could result in removal from the meeting by security staff.

We enjoy running a smooth meeting, and you can see by our attentive audience and the presentations that we have a lot to get through in our agenda. The next item is public comment. Public comment is reserved for Scottsdale citizens, Scottsdale business owners and/or property

owners to comment on non-agenda items that are within the council's jurisdiction. Advocacy for or against a candidate or ballot measure during the council meeting is not allowed pursuant to state law, and it is therefore not deemed to be within the council's jurisdiction. No official council action can be taken on public comment, and the speakers would be limited to 3 minutes to address the council. I have an indication there are no requests to speak for public comment. Therefore, I will close public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Next, we have our consent agenda items. And I see we had no minutes, correct? So -- we only have consent agenda items. And do councilmembers -- these are consent agenda items through 1-10. Do councilmembers have any questions on any of the consent agenda items or requests to move any of the consent agenda items to the regular agenda? Councilwoman Janik.

Councilwoman Janik: Thank you, Mayor. I have a quick question on No. 6. And the question is what was the contract before the current renewal, what was the amount of that contract? Currently we are at 750,000, and I was just curious how much inflation has played into the numbers?

[Time: 00:27:10]

Mayor Ortega: Thank you, we have our City Engineer stepping forward.

Alison Tymkiw: Hi, Allison Tymkiw, city Engineer. So this is a on-call engineering services contract, and we initially do it for two years, and then we can renew it for up to three additional year services. So this is the first of the three extensions we can do, and each year the limit is \$750,000.

Councilwoman Janik: Thank you. Very good information.

Alison Tymkiw: Thanks.

Mayor Ortega: Okay. Councilmember Graham. Did you have a question?

Councilmember Graham: I withdraw my request to speak.

Mayor Ortega: Okay. Thank you. Next, we have Councilmember Durham.

Councilmember Durham: Yes. Thank you, Alison. I just had one more question. I assume the 750 is just a maximum and we would pay them only as they performed services up to a maximum of 750?

Alison Tymkiw: Yes, Councilmember Durham, that's correct.

Councilmember Durham: Thank you.

Mayor Ortega: Okay. I'll just add a comment from time to time, there are things break, there may be need for HVAC, plumbing mechanical or electrical and we want to make sure the installation is correct. That's why it's reviewed by engineers who would be on call. Again, if it's the way we manage these large contracts. Councilmember Graham?

Councilmember Graham: I was going to move to accept the consent agenda. Items 1 through 10.

Mayor Ortega: You mean approve.

Councilmember Graham: Approve, thank you. What was the verb I used.

Councilwoman Janik: Second.

Mayor Ortega: We have a motion and a second to approve consent agenda items 1 through 10. Seeing no further discussion, please record your vote. Thank you, unanimous.

ITEM 11 – PUBLIC HEARING ON THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2023/24 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, THE ALLOCATION OF CDBG FUNDS AND THE FIFTH SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE FY 19/20 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

[Time: 00:29:18]

Mayor Ortega: Next, we will move on to the regular agenda item 11. There's actually two parts to this -- to item 11. The first is a public hearing on the Community Development Block Grant.

CDBG, fiscal year 2023-24. Annual action plan. The allocation of CDBG funds and the fifth substantial amendment to the fiscal year 2019-2020 annual action plan. So we'll have the presentation by Mary Witkofski, the Community Assistance Manager. Then I will open the public hearing. Please proceed.

Mary Witkofski: Good evening, Mr. Mayor, members of the council, my name is Mary, I work at the community assistance office, and I come before you tonight for a public hearing regarding our community development block grant funds for our 23-24 as well as our fifth substantial amendment to our fiscal year 2019-2020.

I'm not sure how to change the slides from up here. There we go. So the community development block grant just to give you guys an overview was designed to reinforce several important values and principles of community development. This includes flexibility that empowers people and communities to design and implement strategies, tailored to their own needs and priorities. The program's emphasis on consolidated planning expands and

strengthens our partnerships within all levels of government and enhancing our community development efforts. Technical assistance activities and set asides for grantees that builds the capacity of the nonprofit partners. The grant is noncompetitive. It is the City of Scottsdale as an entitlement community and receives the funding directly from the housing and urban development. Our eligible expenditures you can see up here are public services, housing rehabilitation, public facilities, economic development, and planning administration.

Our next funding category is our home funding, it's the home investment partnership program on the next slide. The City of Scottsdale is a member of the Maricopa home consortium. We receive our funding as a subrecipient of Maricopa County. The funding through the home funds can be used for homeowner or occupied rehabilitation programs, rental housing acquisition, construction and rehabilitation, home buyer assistance and tenant-based rental assistance.

[Time: 00:32:09]

For our fifth substantial amendment to our 2019-2020 annual action plan, this is in reference to our consolidated action -- yeah, our consolidated action plan from 2020-2025, we received approximately \$2.5 million through the CARES Act fund and still have remaining funds we need to spend. We would like to allocate about \$22,000 of that funding in our planning administration category to do a heat mitigation study with our Office of Environmental Energy here at the City of Scottsdale. Our annual action plan public process began -- actually began last fall with our notice of funding availability. We took this before our Human Services commission for informal recommendations on March 9 as well as holding a public meeting with them. The Human Services commission made a formal recommendation which brings us here tonight. We are having a public hearing.

Our annual action plan after tonight's hearing, if this is approved, will go and be submitted to HUD for approval and no expenditures would take place before July 1 of 23. So what is our funding allocation this year. This year we are -- this is our actual allocation, no longer estimated. We are receiving \$1,079,000 in CDBG funds, we are estimating approximately 56,500 in program income, and that is received from the Her shall academy.

We also have our program income from our revolving loan program, our green housing rehabilitation program. And then we have program funds from prior funds unspent either through some of our programs or nonprofits about \$68,000. That gives us \$1.2 million to allocate.

As for our award recommendations, 1 million for the programs and services, 20 percent will go to planning and administration in the amount of 249. With our total funds that we are going to allocate, about 1.2, leaving a balance of 10,000 that we will look at reallocating in year 24-25.

How does that break down, we are looking at \$211,000 for our nonprofits. For public services such as domestic violence victims, our seniors, youth mental health, disabled and our homeless.

We have 689,000 going to our housing programs, through our housing rehabilitation, which is the green rehab, emergency roof and repairs, and we also are partnering with habitat for humanity, to help our staff, we have an excess of funding due to the COVID pandemic. We were unable to spend the money in the past two years, we have a nonprofit partner coming on board to help us expend the money for emergency repairs, Ability360 will join us as a partner rehabilitating rental properties. 100,000 will be set aside for the public facility improvements. We currently have about 4 or 5 public facility projects going on and some of them are going over budget. So we wanted to allocate some additional funding in case it was needed. This is where we put that funding.

[Time: 00:35:21]

Our home investment partnership programs, we have a carry forward amount of \$269,000 promise program year 21 that we took before the Human Services commission. And for acquisition and rehabilitation of affordable housing, and the recommendation is to award that to arm of save the family for the purchase of another rental property in the City of counties, bringing the total to 20 affordable rental in counties. The program 22 year funds, 166,000 allocated to the City of Scottsdale. We would like to begin a pilot project out of the community assistance office for tenant based rental assistance for the seniors being displaced from their homes. 343,000 will go directly to the seniors and 73,000 for staff to administer the program. Administered like the program except the referrals will be with the memorandum of agreement with our senior centers. So the referrals can only be received from those two agencies.

So this year we actually did receive public comments. We opened up the public comment period with our first public hearing in February and opened up our official public comment period on the annual action plan in March and in February we received an e-mail from a resident who said that he has been witnessing some homelessness in the community, said we should put our community development block grant funds towards stable housing, affordable option, mental health and transportation. That includes not just the homeless, but those individuals who need to get jobs or seniors to pharmacies, we also received a public comment from a resident in the hall craft community requesting to utilize the funds for, I believe it was, the water heaters changing it over for the entire community, and unfortunately, that community is at, I believe, 32.4 percent low moderate income, so they are ineligible community. In order to be an eligible census tract, Scottsdale is what's called an exception grantee. The area has to be 39.4 percent low to moderate income. However, individual homeowners in that area, should they need to have their water heater replaced could income qualify through the emergency repair program and she was made aware of that, as well as provided the links to that information.

So the action requested this evening is to adopt resolution 12764 to approve the 23-24 annual action plan and the fifth substantial amendment to the 1920 annual action plan, use the award and allocation of CDBG and funds for eligible programs and services associated contracts, we program our prior year funds and then designate the city manager and the Community Assistance Manager to take any further action. That concludes tonight's presentation.

Mayor Ortega: Well, the next step is I will open public hearing on the subject, CDBG program as noted. And by opening the public hearing, this allows us to comply with the requirements of notification and as stated, there was some comment earlier. However, I see no cards have been submitted as additional input. So with that, I would close public comment.

At this point, on item No. 11, I have several council people wishing to speak, and then I will be open to an action item. Councilwoman Whitehead and Councilmember Durham.

[Time: 00:39:16]

Councilwoman Whitehead: This is very exciting of course, I'm really supportive. I was not aware about the revolving loan program income, can you give me more information on that?

Mary Witkofski: Sure. Mr. Mayor, members of the council, we have a green rehabilitation program. So when a homeowner income qualifies for the program, we can do modifications to make it more energy efficient. We do work -- worked with the energy in the Planning Department and they receive up to \$85,000. After a period of three years, half of the loan is forgiven and the other half is place -- a lien is placed on the home. They don't have to pay it back unless they sell the property.

Councilwoman Whitehead: I was not aware of that program. Then on the Ability360. That's terrific news. The goal there is to rehab homes to make them accessible for people with disabilities?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, yes.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Okay, great. Tell me a little bit more detail about the rental assistance for seniors, that's definitely what I'm seeing one on one in the community in need.

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, we did meet with our senior centers, probably repeatedly over the last two years and have really started -- last year we talked about the silver tsunami, we are seeing the seniors being displaced, renters, landlords are increasing their rents, the seniors can't afford it and getting nonrenewal of lease and can't afford to pay their rents based on Social Security. So in an effort to keep people who have lived in Scottsdale their entire lives to remain and live in the area where they were raised, we are proposing to do tenant based rental assistance. The target population is seniors, those 50 percent or more cost burdened by their rent.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Is there a limit of the assistance -- what percentage of the rent can be paid for through this program or is it -- how are you determining how much is paid?

Mary Witkofski: Through the housing choice voucher program, it will be administered and they

would have to pay potentially up to 30 percent towards their rent and this community assistance office would pay the remaining balance. So they would enter into something called a HAB contract with the City of Scottsdale.

[Time: 00:41:38]

Councilwoman Whitehead: When would the funds be available?

Mary Witkofski: July 1, hopefully that will be on a June agenda, otherwise you might not see it until August. It just depends on when the contract come from the county.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Okay, I want to point out, as I've pointed out before, the city governments are front line governments, I know I can picture the faces of people who need that money today. I'm really happy about that. Thank you, I will be supporting this.

Mayor Ortega: Thank you, next we have Councilmember Durham and then councilwoman Janik.

Councilmember Durham: Thank you, Mayor. I saw on here that there is I think \$200,000 for habitat for humanity, which is going to go to roof repair, and there is also another amount, 250,000 for the City of Scottsdale for roof repair. Is there a difference those two programs or directed at different classes?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, they are both the same program. However, we are paying the contractor as we don't have enough staff to move the programs through, especially with the heat season coming and people's ac's are breaking, it allows us to expend the funds quicker and allows us to work with the partners to get them out into the community sooner so that everyone can get ac.

Councilmember Durham: Thank you.

Mayor Ortega: Councilwoman Janik and then councilwoman Caputi.

Councilwoman Janik: Thank you, Mary, very nice report. Really excited to see the funds going where they are needed. I just had one question, and you mentioned you have \$269,000 that you're going to repurpose or reprogram, and it was on the home investment partnership program. How are you lucky enough to have money leftover?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, previous year fundings from 18 and 19 were unexpended before the housing boom. We were able to purchase -- they were able to purchase the properties at a reduced rate, leaving a balance. So they are stretching their dollars to make them work.

Councilwoman Janik: Thank you, appreciate it. Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor Ortega: Councilwoman Caputi and Councilmember Graham.

[Time: 00:44:01]

Councilwoman Caputi: I'm not super familiar with this program, I had a couple more nuts and bolts questions. We have a pretty decent sized city here in Scottsdale and getting a million 2 and a million of which we can use for these amazing programs. Why is the amount so small? What determines how much we get as a city?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, population size. So they do it on a formula based on approximately 241,000 people.

Councilwoman Caputi: And then how do we -- how are we deciding? What's the process, it seemed like it was such a small amount of programs that were in that list that we got. I know it goes before our Human Services commission and -- but do we wait for people to ask us for a grant or do we go out into the community and look at where there's needs?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, it's both. So we do start our planning process once this annual action plan is submitted to HUD and start the planning process again before it will cycle through by the time I come before you again next May to have the same conversation, but our staff works with other departments within the city, economic development, planning, community services. Public works, we reach out to the CIP programs to see what is an enhancement we can do within the city, what is lacking in the budget we can enhance with CDBG funds. We do start inward first with what is needed within City of Scottsdale government and work with our nonprofit partners, so we do start the funding process, usually around August and September. So we start working with those nonprofits. We did do something different this year, worked with the Human Services commission and set funding priorities. So that the applications received were targeted directly where they were needed most.

Councilwoman Caputi: I noticed one of the comments was about helping with transportation, you know, that being a gap. I had this conversation with our Assistant City Manager, Bill Murphy. I think another place where I would love to see us put some effort would be in helping fill the gap for childcare. I didn't see that anywhere in here, just like transportation, you can give someone all the housing and jobs that you can, but without somewhere to put kids, it's kind of useless. I would love to try to reach out and I find some way to fund that in some way next year.

And then my last comment is -- I know councilwoman Janik brought this up as well, I made a little note that 366,000 towards affordable housing, I think that we said to start the meeting that it's affordable housing month, wow, I would love to see us do some more creative things with that money. I wish there was more. That doesn't seem nearly enough. To me that seems like, again, a place where we should really get creative with those dollars and I would love to hear more about what we are doing because that is definitely an area necessary we would like

to -- area we would like to concentrate on and get more creative. That's it, thank you.

[Time: 00:47:20]

Mayor Ortega: Let me call on the city manager and then Councilmember Graham.

City Manager Thompson: Councilmember Caputi, to add to the response from Mary, Jim was wanted to add on CDBG funds, it's based on populations, there are characteristics that open up other pots of money, which we are very minimally eligible for. One of that is blight. We are not qualified as a blight community. The other is income within the community and so we have very small segments in the community. Or pockets as noted with the discussions on some of the other programs. So we don't have a lot of availability of some of the CDBG moneys that maybe other communities have because we don't have those two that exist in any large scale within the community. Thank you.

Mayor Ortega: Thank you. Next we have Councilmember Graham and then Vice Mayor Littlefield.

Councilmember Graham: Thank you for your presentation, Mary. I wanted to ask you about a few of the programs. First one being home, that program. So that's for property acquisition. Is that right? Who -- is that correct?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, it is one of the eligible activities.

Councilmember Graham: Eligible. Not necessarily going to happen?

Mary Witkofski: It is one of the four eligible categories, yes. But the property acquisition is given to our nonprofit partner of arm save the family.

Councilmember Graham: I guess my question was who owns the housing or do they purchase housing units when it says acquisition?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, arm of save the family will own the property. However, a lien is placed on the property based on the cost of the property for an affordability period between 15 to 20 years. So the city has a lien on it and have to maintain affordability for an extended period of time and then the City of Scottsdale monitors them on a biannual basis.

Councilmember Graham: Do you get like -- what's the reporting, what do type of reporting do we receive to kind of monitor that over that time period?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, they submit during the grant period progress reports, and then once the contract is resolved, then the City of Scottsdale community

assistance office is part of our ongoing HUD regulations. We monitor them directly. So we go out just this last year, we went to arm of save the family, picked a funding year, fiscal year 1920, we went through all of their files and expenditures to assure compliance with HUD regulations as well as their rent rolls and verified they were using the correct income guidelines and utility assistance payments to ensure compliance.

[Time: 00:50:14]

Councilmember Graham: How many total units do you think there are as part of that program, I guess on a community basis?

Mary Witkofski: Are you asking me for Scottsdale or the entire state. Scottsdale, this will make property No. 20 for the state, I don't know the answer.

Councilmember Graham: Was curious about Scottsdale?

Mary Witkofski: Arm of save the family, this will be their 20th property.

Councilmember Graham: Okay. Ability360 looks like there's four units there. How do you -- Councilmember Caputi kind of talked about this, how do you -- what's your selection criteria. How do you --

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, Ability360 actually was a nonprofit partner that went through the social services funding process. And they applied for housing category. So habitat for humanity was a special notice of funding availability specifically for a contracted worker as opposed to Ability360 applied as a nonprofit agency. They went through the same process where they submitted an application, they were then scored by the Human Services commission and then voted upon.

Councilmember Graham: Okay. The commission, very good. The side question, the heat mitigation plan, do you know what the total cost of that is going to be, off the top of your head. This is the paying for part of that?

Mary Witkofski: This is \$22,000, and it is specifically just for south Scottsdale and the Vista del Camino and Paiute community centers.

Councilmember Graham: When do you expect to have results from that study?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor and councilmembers, I will defer to for that information. I will let her move forward she can move forward on July 1. As we complete next year's funding, Chief of Staffs our consolidated performance evaluation report, that information will be contained within there, but I would be happy to share it once it becomes available.

Councilmember Graham: Okay. Very good. Public services, there's a lot of entities in there, and a lot of very good entities. Is that part -- sort of the same criteria, selection criteria as far as scoring and the commission looked through that?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, yes, it is competitive grant process.

Councilmember Graham: I was going to ask about -- we have a property, called Bellevue and kind of mentioned in the packet. Can you say more about the Bellevue property?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, councilmembers, we do own a property on Bellevue, it is approximately 8 units. It was purchased from CSA originally who had the funding from the community development block grant, it is currently being managed by Dunlap McGee and brings in an average value about \$67,000 a year as program income.

[Time: 00:53:13]

Councilmember Graham: How -- what's the tenancy turnover? How long do tenants stay? Is it kind of like a -- we talked about kind of like a bridge. Is that what this is or more longer term?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, more long term. There is CDBG housing guidelines and we are actually in the process of monitoring Dunlap McGee and the Bellevue property as we speak.

Councilmember Graham: So do you know what the kind of how long people -- how long tenant answer might be?

Mary Witkofski: I don't know that answer, but I'll be happy to get back to you.

Councilmember Graham: Does that project interface with any other programs we offer to move people towards self-sufficiency or is that -- is that sort of outside the mission?

Mary Witkofski: Mr. Mayor, members of the council, it is currently outside of the mission at this point.

Councilmember Graham: All right. And then -- I had a few more questions, but I think I'll leave it there for the time being, Mary, thank you for taking my questions, Mayor, thank you.

Mayor Ortega: Next we have Vice Mayor Littlefield.

Vice Mayor Littlefield: I want to thank you, Mary, I think over the last year too as I've been watching with this and working with our social services department and becoming more familiar with what is happening with this money, you are doing a fantastic job. My questions have been answered. I had questions very similar to Councilwoman Janik and Caputi, and I think they were

answered and so I am very, very thrilled with what you're doing and continue on. Thank you.

Mayor Ortega: Okay. Well, my comments, I find that the use of the funds is quite efficient, very small carry forward. Do you want to point out, I do serve on the Maricopa association of governments, mag, and there's a document called pathway home that is available, and it will outline all of the efforts of all cities and outline large to small of different programs that are -- and their effectiveness.

With that, I will move to adopt resolution No. 12765 to approve FY to 23/24 annual action plan and fifth substantial amendment to the FY 2019-20 annual action plan and authorize part a, Part B, part c, part d and e as stated.

Councilmember Durham: Second.

[Time: 00:55:51]

Mayor Ortega: Thank you, we have motion and second, further comment and questions? Seeing none, please record your vote. We have unanimous. Thank you.

Next we will return to the subject of public comment. Public comment is an opportunity for anyone to step forward for 3 minutes and discuss an item which is not on the agenda. We see that there are no requests for public comment. Therefore, I will close public comment.

Next we are moving on to the citizen petition, item No. 12 on our agenda. Our city charter calls for and recognizes any petition, if it's presented to the clerk to be -- brought forward during the next meeting. Seeing none, therefore, there are no petition -- citizen petitions and I close that item as well.

Next we have -- I will at this point adjourn the regular portion of the city council meeting, and we will be convening a special meeting.

CALL TO ORDER – SPECIAL MEETING

[Time: 00:57:14]

Mayor Ortega: So accordingly, I will call the May 2, 2023 city council special meeting to order and note for the record that councilmembers and charter officers are present. Our item one for our special meeting is request for executive session.

May I have a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss, consider and provide possible direction regarding the recruitment and hiring process of a new city auditor, discuss and consult with city attorneys and representatives in order to consider the city's position and instruct the attorneys and representatives on contracts related to recruitment and potential appointment of

a city auditor and discuss and consult with the city's attorneys for legal advice regarding the same.

Vice Mayor Littlefield: So moved.

Mayor Ortega: And a second.

Councilmember Durham: Second.

Mayor Ortega: Thank you. Let's please record your vote. We are adjourned to executive session. Thank you.