



# Onondaga County Legislature

**JAMIE McNAMARA**  
Clerk

**DAVID H. KNAPP**  
Chairman

**MELANIE VILARDI**  
Deputy Clerk

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## **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - JUNE 9, 2021** **KEVIN HOLMQUIST, CHAIRMAN**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Abbott-Kenan, Dr. Kelly, Mr. Kinne

**ABSENT:** Mr. Williams

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Knapp, Ms. Kuhn, Mr. DeSantis, Mr. Paro, Mr. Frateschi, Mr. Skahen, Ms. Lesniak, Ms. Velasco, Mr. Ockenden, Ms. Vilardi

Chairman Holmquist called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m. *A motion was made by Mr. Kinne and seconded by Dr. Kelly to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous committee. MOTION CARRIED. A motion was made by Mr. Kinne and seconded by Mrs. Abbott-Kenan to approve the minutes of the previous committee. MOTION CARRIED.*

### **C. PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND LOCAL LAWS:**

#### **1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:** Martin Skahen, Director

##### **a. Authorizing the Onondaga County Executive to File the 2021 Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant, Home Grant and Emergency Solutions Grant Programs**

Mr. Skahen:

- Annual trip to present block grant allocations – three different categories – block, home, and emergency solutions grant
- Flat funding from last year – one went up another went down so basically staying even
- Capital projects of \$1M is spent within Towns and Villages, \$350K housing, and \$150K for facades and businesses
- One change this year is the Town of Clay – because of their size they are entitled to their own money – historically Clay was guaranteed two \$50K projects per year which became unfair to receive \$281K in funding and only receive \$100K - going forward they will receive 90% and 10% will go to Community Development to cover administrative fees
- Every municipality that applied was awarded a project with the exception of Van Buren – denied because the submitted project could be 75% complete by the highway department and received a sizeable amount
- Quite a few parks on this year's list
- Answered Mr. Kinne's question regarding who is on the Steering Committee – two Town Supervisors, two Village Mayors, two County Legislators and three citizens from the community
- The two Legislators are appointed by the Chairman - currently Mr. May and Mr. Knapp
- We ask for 25% matching funds – not a requirement but a request – have funded projects with \$0 matching – could be in-kind services like engineering services
- The amount is determined by the Town/Village that applies – usually try to fund the entire amount
- Answered Mrs. Abbott-Kenan's question – the application deadline is usually the beginning of April

**2021 Community Development  
Capital Projects**

<b>Municipality/Agency</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>CDBG Funding</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Project Total</b>
Town-Cicero	Gateway Community Park Improvements Ph II	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500
Town-Clay	Pending	\$ 197,804	\$ -	\$ 197,804
Town-Geddes	Lakeland Park Accessibility Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 75,000
Town-LaFayette	Stafford Park Seior Center	\$ 150,000	\$ 756,000	\$ 906,000
Town-Onondaga	Santaro Park Updates	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500
Town-Salina	Burnham Park Improvements (1st)	\$ 50,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 160,000
Town-Salina	Schaffer Park Improvements (3rd)	\$ 50,000	\$ 86,500	\$ 136,500
Village-Baldwinsville	South Shore East Trail Enhancements	\$ 50,000	\$ 20,600	\$ 70,600
Village-Camillus	Sidewalk Reconstruction (Priority #1)	\$ 50,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 63,000
Village-East Syracuse	Bagg Street Playground Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 65,000
Village-Fayetteville	Senior Center 3 Season Room Project	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000
Village-Liverpool	Vine Street Streetscape Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 26,328	\$ 76,328
Village-Minoa	Sidewalk Replacement Program Phase V	\$ 38,000	\$ -	\$ 38,000
Village-North Syracuse	Community Center Rehab	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500
Village-Solvay	Boyd Park Improvements Ph II	\$ 50,000	\$ 27,900	\$ 77,900
CCE	Community Forests	\$ 28,150	\$ 7,725	\$ 35,875
<b>Municipality Total:</b>		\$ 1,013,954	\$ 1,125,553	\$ 2,139,507
<b>Fair Housing</b>				
ARISE, Inc	ARISE Housing Referral & Advocacy Program	\$ 5,000	\$ 39,700	\$ 44,700
CNY Fair Housing, Inc	Fair Housing Education & Enforcement	\$ 50,000	\$ 111,000	\$ 161,000
<b>Fair Housing Total:</b>		\$ 55,000	\$ 150,700	\$ 205,700

Mr. Knapp:

- There are quite a few Towns and Villages that don't qualify because of income and other factors
- Marty Skahen and his team do a great job in stretching dollars – committee visits projects, a lot of time spent trying to be as fair as possible to evenly spread the dollars

Mr. Holmquist:

- Served on committee years ago and knows it involves a great amount of time

***A motion was made by Mrs. Abbott-Kenan, seconded by Dr. Kelly to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**b. INFORMATIONAL: Housing Development Fund**

Mr. Skahen:

- Housing Development Fund Company (“HDF”) is a nonprofit with one task – take homes off the tax delinquent list – usually about 8 a year – rehab and sell to first time home owners – subsidized by NYS up to \$30K
- Normally look for a house in a neighborhood that is an eyesore – hoping that rehabilitation will enhance the street
- Homeowners have to stay for five years or will have to payback money
- Home in North Syracuse structurally deficient so only save two walls - work is bid out to local contractors – listed for \$160K – waiting to close
- Buyers qualify by income and are required to take a course on home ownership – this pool of people are notified of the sale - gives first time homeowners a chance to build equity in a house that previously rented
- 337 Chestnut Street in North Syracuse – refinished floors and walls, kitchen with open concept – sold for \$165K

- Never sure of what will need to be repaired inside because unable to get inside the homes until after acquisition
- Try to balance out – lose money on some homes but make money on others
- Charles Ave in Solway – currently occupied so haven’t been inside – working on eviction process
- Howlett Hill Road- interesting but unique – ton of water in basement, mold and water damage – looking at different options – looking to build an accessible home which allows for other pockets of grant money
- 7<sup>th</sup> North Street in Salina, Syracuse street Baldwinsville
- Answered Mrs. Abbott-Kenan’s question regarding location selection – based on tax list – do a drive by to see if it is a home that could make money after rehabilitation - \$160K is about the highest first time buyers can afford
- Answered Ms. Kuhn’s question regarding down payment – buyer does put down a down payment
- Answered Mr. Knapp’s question regarding pricing of supplies and availability of contractors – working on last year’s bid prices and have the luxury of waiting for contractors because flexible deadlines

*A motion was made at by Mr. Kinne, seconded by Mrs. Abbott-Kenan to adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



MELANIE VILARDI, Deputy Clerk  
Onondaga County Legislature

### ATTENDANCE

#### COMMITTEE: **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

DATE: **June 9, 2021**

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
MARTY SKATEW	Comm. Dev.
JULIE VELASCO	LAW
RYAN BERGENDEN	LAW
NICK PARO	City Leg
TIM FRATTSCHI	
M. KUHN	
D. KNAPP	
D. LESNICK	