

**City of New Haven**  
**Meeting Minutes (Short)**  
**Joint Community**  
**Development/Human Services**  
**Committee**

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Thursday, February 26, 2009

5:30 PM

Aldermanic Chambers

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Consolidated Plan/CDBG deliberations

ORDER APPROVING THE CONSOLIDATED HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR FY 2009-2010 INCLUDING PROPOSED ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG), HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP, HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA), AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG) COMMUNITY PROGRAMS.

## Meeting Minutes

### Minutes

Joint Community Development-Human Services Committee  
February 26, 2009  
Consolidated Plan - Deliberations

Co-Chairs Blango and Sepulveda called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Present were and Alderpersons, J. Rodriguez, S. Rodriguez, DePino. Plattus, Clark, Brison, Lemar, Smart, James-Evans, Jones, and Calder.

On a motion by S. Rodriguez, duly seconded, the 2009-2010 Consolidated Plan budget was taken up for consideration.

The committee began to discuss Ald. James-Evans' amendments, but she was not present.

On a motion by smart, duly seconded, the committee voted by voice to recess for 10 minutes.

The committee reconvened at 6 p.m. by which time Ald. James-Evans had arrived.

Amendment #1: Ald. James-Evans, duly seconded.

#### HARDWARE

Crossroads	increase \$56,611	(new total \$56,611)
NH Ecology Project	increase \$20,000	(new total \$20,000)
R'Kids	increase \$20,000	(new total \$20,000)

#### Source:

Health Envir Rehab	decrease \$96,611	(new total 122,852)
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At the suggestion of colleagues, Ald. James-Evans revised the amendment, as follows.

#### HARDWARE

NH Ecology Project	increase \$10,000	(new total \$10,000)
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#### Source:

Health Envir Rehab	decrease \$10,000	
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The revised amendment passed with by a show of hands with Lemar dissenting.

Amendment #2: Ald. James-Evans, duly seconded.

#### SOFTWARE

Hill Development Corp.	increase by \$18,483	(new total \$18,483)
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Sources

Children in Placement	decrease	\$8,937	(new total \$20,000)
Literacy Volunteers	decrease	\$2,500	(new total \$20,000)
Community Mediation	decrease	\$1,220	(new total \$20,000)
FH Comm. Health	decrease	\$5,000	(new total \$20,000)
Centro San Jose	decrease	\$500	(new total \$15,000)
Clifford Beers	decrease	\$326	(new total \$10,000)

Following a brief discussion, James withdrew the amendment.

The committee recessed for a few minutes in order to move from the Aldermanic Chamber to Meeting Room 3.

Amendment #3: Ald. James-Evans, duly seconded.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that at least three CDBG-funded city employees shall be transferred to another funding source each fiscal year beginning in 2010-2011, thereby reducing the total number of city employees funded by CDBG by at least three per fiscal year in order to provide more money for community programming.

This amendment was debated by Aids. Jones, Blango, and Lemar. They expressed concern about how to fund it, and the arbitrary nature of moving three employees per year. Several members expressed a desire to study the issue in the future and it was so agreed. James withdrew the amendment.

Amendment #4: Ald. Blango, duly seconded.

HARDWARE

R'Kids	increase	\$10,000	(new total \$10,000)
Source:			
Health Envir Rehab	decrease	\$10,000	(new total \$209,463)

Ald. Plattus noted that this would be the second \$10,000 deducted this source. Ald. James-Evans said that the lead program has millions of dollars.

The committee approved this amendment by a show of hands with Roland dissenting and J. Rodriguez abstaining.

Amendment #5: Ald. Blango, duly seconded.

SOFTWARE

Planned Parenthood	increase	\$5,000	(new total \$5,000)
Source:			
Domestic Violence	(decrease	\$5,000)	(new total \$15,000)

This amendment passed by a show of hands.

Amendment #6: Ald. Blango, duly seconded.

SOFTWARE

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R'Kids	increase \$5,000	(new total \$5,000)
Sources:		
Neighborworks	decrease \$2,284	(new total \$7,716)
Alexis Montessori	decrease \$858	(new total \$9,142)
STRIVE	decrease \$858	(new total \$14,142)
City Seed	decrease \$1,000	(new total \$12,000)

Several Alderpersons objected to taking money from City Seed. Ald. James-Evans suggested taking it from Clifford Beers instead.

Co-Chair Blango revised the amendment as follows, and it passed by a show of hands with S. Rodriguez abstaining.

**SOFTWARE**

R'Kids	increase \$5,000	(new total \$5,000)
Sources:		
Neighborworks	decrease \$2,284	(new total \$7,716)
Alexis Montessori	decrease \$858	(new total \$9,142)
STRIVE	decrease \$858	(new total \$14,142)
Clifford Beers Clinic	decrease \$1,000	(new total \$12,000)

Amendment #7: Ald. Blango, duly seconded.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that with respect to any funds allocated to a city activity, the Office of Management and Budget may, where necessary as a result of unanticipated expenses, reallocate all or any portion of such funds to a different city activity.

This amendment was withdrawn by the maker.

Amendment #8: Ald. Blango, duly seconded.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that in all instances where New Haven residents need to be relocated due to an emergency, such as fire, gas leak, or a condemned building, the City shall find adequate funds to pay for the relocation in the City Activities portion of the CDBG budget, or from another source.

Ald Plattus suggested editing the amendment as follows, which Co-chair Blango accepted as friendly, and the committee approved the revised amendment by a show of hands:

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that in all instances where New Haven residents need to be relocated due to an emergency, such as fire, gas leak, or a condemned building, the City shall find adequate funds to pay for the relocation in the City Activities portion of the CDBG budget., or from another source. not to exceed \$100,000 without aldermanic approval.

Amendment #9: Ald. Edmonds-Sepulveda, duly seconded.

**HARDWARE**

Crossroads increase \$20,000 (new total \$20,000)

Sources:

Health Envir Rehab decrease \$15,000

Acquisition (City Activity) decrease \$5,000

This amendment passed by a show of hands with Aids. Plattus, Lemar, and DePino dissenting.

Amendment #10: Ald. J. Rodriguez, duly seconded.

**HARDWARE**

Neighborworks New Horizons increase \$17,125

Sources:

Edgewood Village decrease \$15,000

Parks Open Spaces/Community Gardens decrease \$2,125

This amendment is contingent upon a positive final ruling from HUD pertaining to conflict of interest and using the funds for rehab only.

This amendment was debated at length. Alderman Smart spoke several times on its behalf. Ald. S. Rodriguez expressed strong concerns that allowing the agency to revise its failed application would set a dangerous precedent and possibly expose the city to litigation. Chair Sepulveda suggested taking no action until receiving the HUD rulings, then introducing the amendment on the floor of the Board of Aldermen if the rulings were favorable. Ald. James-Evans' suggested discussing the amendment with the ward alderman before acting on it.

Ald. Plattus suggested funding the amendment from the city's hardware demolition account instead, since the agency needs money to demolish buildings and demolition is an allowed activity. J. Rodriguez accepted this amendment as friendly, and the matter was taken to a vote. It failed by a show of hands. J. Rodriguez then withdrew the amendment.

The committee then voted on the main motion by a show of hands on the main motion, issuing a favorable report on the 2009-2010 Consolidated Plan, Ald, Lemar dissenting.

Adjourn: 8:15 p.m.

An audio recording of this meeting is on file in the Office of Legislative Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Mercier  
Legislative Aide