



LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Carnegie Forum
305 West Pine Street, Lodi

AGENDA
Date: May 11, 2021
Time: 6:00 P.M.

Streaming Links:

<https://www.facebook.com/CityofLodi/>

<https://zoom.us/j/94893750501?pwd=UXkvUGMxOUZ5UWRYdU0xZE9CbUNsQT09>

Effective immediately and while social distancing measures are imposed, all meetings of the Lodi Improvement Committee (LIC) will be held virtually. All Committee Members will appear telephonically or via Zoom.

The following alternatives are available to members of the public to watch meetings and provide comments on agenda and non-agenda items before and during the meetings.

Viewing:

Members of the public may view and listen to the open session of the meeting by clicking the below links or pasting the link into a browsers

<https://zoom.us/j/94893750501?pwd=UXkvUGMxOUZ5UWRYdU0xZE9CbUNsQT09>

Password: 995482

Or iPhone one-tap: Us: +16699009128,,94893750501

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Public Comment:

Members of the public may provide comment via Zoom video conferencing at the following link:

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Members of the public may submit written comment prior to or during the meeting. Comments should be submitted to the Lodi Improvement Committee LICcomments@lodi.gov (or via mail sent to: Community Development Department, P.O. Box 3006, Lodi CA 95241). Written comments received two hours prior to the start of the meeting will be provided to the Lodi Improvement Committee and filed as part of the official record of the meeting. Five minutes of each written comment received before the Chair announces that the time for public comment is closed will be read into the record. **IMPORTANT:** Identify the Agenda Item Number in the subject line of your email. Example: Public Comment for Agenda Item Number 4a DISCRPTION.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Executive Order N-29-20, if you need special assistance to provide public comment in this meeting, please contact the Office of the Community Development Department at (209) 333-6711 or LICcomments@lodi.gov at least 48hours prior to the meeting in order for the City to make reasonable alternative arrangements for you to communicate your comments. If you need special assistance in this meeting for purposes other than providing public comment, please contact the Office of the Community Development Department at (209) 333-6711 or LICcomments@lodi.gov at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.160 (b) (1)).

SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE NOTICE

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20:

The Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953, contains special requirements that apply when members of a legislative body participate in a public meeting by telephone. Certain of these requirements have been suspended by Paragraph 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, executed by the Governor of California on March 17, 2020 to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus known as COVID-19. In particular, the Executive Order suspends that provision of the Brown Act that requires noticing, posting of agendas, and public access to each location where a member will be participating telephonically, as well as provisions that require physical presence of members of the legislative body or the public for purposes of a quorum or to hold a meeting. Executive Order N-29-20 allows an agency to conduct a teleconference meeting that provides members of the public telephonic or other electronic participation in place of making a physical location for the public to observe the meeting and provide public comment, consistent with other provisions of the Brown Act.

For information regarding this agenda please contact:
Kari Chadwick @ (209) 333-6711
Community Development Administrative Assistant

1. Roll Call
2. Approve Minutes – None
3. Comments by the Public on Non-Agenda Items (5 minute limit per speaker)
If you wish to address the Commission, please refer to the Special Teleconference Notice at the beginning of this agenda. Individuals are limited to one appearance during this section.
4. Quarterly Graffiti Abatement Staff Update
5. City of Lodi Public Works Director: 15 Minutes
6. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - A. Staff update on 2021-2022 Program Year
 - B. Staff update on CDBG-CV
7. 2020-2021 Annual Activities
 - A. Update from Members and Staff
 - a. Activities
 - 1) Assisting unsheltered population
 - 2) East Side improvement
 - 3) Covid-19 response
 - 4) Community improvement
 - 5) Civic engagement
 - 6) Housing and renting
 - 7) Transparency and accountability
 - 8) Administrative
 - B. Revised By-Laws update from City Staff
8. Regular Business
 - A. Determine topics for upcoming meetings
 - a. June – TBD
 - b. July – TBD
9. Comments/Announcements from Committee members and Staff on Non-Agenda Items (5 minute limit per speaker)
10. Adjournment

Pursuant to Section 54954.2(a) of the Government Code of the State of California, this agenda was posted at least 72 hours in advance of the regularly scheduled meeting (or 24 hours in advance of a special meeting) at a public place freely accessible to the public 24 hours a day.

Jennifer Rhyne
Neighborhood Services Manager



MEMORANDUM, City of Lodi, Community Development Department

To: Lodi Improvement Committee
From: Jennifer Rhyne, Neighborhood Services Manager, City of Lodi
Date: May 11, 2021
Subject: Staff Report on 2021-22 CDBG Process, CDBG-CV Applications, Graffiti Abatement Quarterly Update, and Committee Annual Activities.

Purpose: Lodi Improvement Committee (Committee) 1) supports Staff in implementation of the City's five-year Consolidated Plan including conducting outreach, providing feedback on program processes, and making recommendations to the City Council on funding and project priorities; 2) has its purpose of maintaining and improving the quality of life and appearance of Lodi by the coordinated efforts of a broad spectrum of the community; 3) creates and takes action to implement annual goals and activities.

Action: Lodi Improvement Committee will 1) receive an update from City staff on quarterly graffiti abatements; 2) the Public Works Director will provide information on internal processes and updates as requested by the Committee; 3) receive update from staff on the CDBG-EN 2021-22 Annual Action Plan; 4) receive an update on CDBG-CV; 5) provide updates on progress towards meeting its goals and activities.

Graffiti Abatement:

Staff will share quarterly update on the number of graffiti abatements within the City in relation to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Target Area.

Public Works:

The City of Lodi Public Works Director, Charlie Swimley, will provide a general overview of the traffic engineering process and answer questions, any follow-up items on graffiti abatement, and questions on the bike lane on Pine Street.

CDBG Background:

The City of Lodi solicited and received applications from community-based organizations for the 2021-22 Annual Action Plan (AAP), which is funded by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement program. The City anticipates receiving a 2021-22 CDBG grant award of approximately \$659,204. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the actual amount of funding in March of 2021. Eligible organizations are limited to nonprofits and local government entities. If awarded, funds are anticipated to be available on July 1, 2021, and projects must be completed by June 30, 2022.

CDBG-EN - 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan Process

The applications were made available on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, and were due Friday, January 29, 2021. The City received seven applications for social services activities and four applications for capital improvement activities. City and consultant staff conducted preliminary reviews of these applications for completeness and eligibility, as well as, scoring. Upon completion of this preliminary review, the City provided the applications to the Committee for them to review and conduct preliminary scoring. At the Committee's March 9 meeting, the Committee reviewed and discussed applications; heard public comment and finalized scores. The Committee made recommendations for award allocations to be presented to the City Council for the Council's consideration on April 21, 2021.

Schedule

The 2021-2022 AAP is due to HUD by May 15, 2021.

The following process is planned for the 2021-22 AAP cycle:

- January – potential applicants provide presentations and answer questions at regular LIC meeting
- January – applications due and City reviews for completeness and eligibility
- February – Committee members receive applications to review and preliminary scores
- March 9th – vote on final scores and allocations at regularly scheduled LIC meeting
- April 6th – draft AAP released to public for 30-day public review
 - o <http://lodi.gov/183/Community-Development-Block-Grant-Progra>
- April 21st – present draft AAP to City Council
- May 5th – present final AAP to City Council for approval
- May 15th – Turn in final AAP to HUD

City's CDBG Allocation Policies and Practices:

City Council policy states that 60 percent of awarded CDBG funds will be allocated to City-sponsored projects, and that the remaining 40 percent will go toward community-based organizations (CBO). City-sponsored projects also receive priority ranking over CBO projects. The Lodi Improvement Committee performs scoring for CBO projects only. Furthermore, HUD guidelines limit public services activities to 15 percent of the total grant amount and administrative activities to 20 percent of the total grant amount.

Based on the anticipated \$659,204 allocation, the distribution of funds will be as follows:

- Administration \$131,841 (20% Cap)
- Public Service \$98,880 (15% Cap)
- Capital Projects \$428,483
 - o Total: \$659,204

CDBG-CV Applications for Funding

HUD has recently allocated additional funds to jurisdictions across the Country in an effort to help better respond to immediate needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the City of Lodi could receive approximately \$796,408 in additional Community Development Block Grant – COVID Response (CDBG-CV) funds. Funds can be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus impact.

Social Services

The City of Lodi solicited social services applications for its Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) CDBG (CDBG-CV) program. Eligible organizations are limited to nonprofits and local government entities. In January, City and consultant staff received and scored applications, and awarded approximately \$637,000 in grant dollars to Lodi social service providers to assist Lodi residents with the following assistance:

1. Emergency Rental Assistance
2. Landlord-Tenant Mediation Services
3. Basic Needs Assistance (Food, Diapers, Childcare, etc.)
4. Technology Improvements

City and consultant staff have prepared grant agreements and are finalizing with Subrecipients.

Small Business Assistance

The City of Lodi started its Small Business Assistance Program in December, which provides grant dollars to those Lodi businesses impacted by COVID-19. The City has received approximately 68 requests for assistance and award amounts have been announced. City and consultant staff have prepared grant agreements and are finalizing with Subrecipients.

Updates on 2020-2021 Committee Annual Activities

Please see the attached 2020-2021 Annual Activities for the Committee. Members will provide an update.

Fiscal Impact:

HUD's annual allocation for 2021-22 CDBG funds were announced March 2021; the City anticipates receiving \$659,204. HUD also previously announced \$796,408 in potential CDBG-CV funds for City of Lodi for the 2020-21 Program Year in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Attachments:

1. 2020-2021 LIC Annual Activities

LIC Goals 2021

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1. Assisting the Unsheltered Population


A. Relationship with the Lodi Committee on Homelessness

The LCOH is tasked with assisting the unhoused (and those at risk of becoming so) in Lodi. The LIC should remain informed with the LCOH's activities and needs, and be available to assist and solicit support when asked.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Meeting Liaison	Always have at least one LIC member at every meeting. Generally, first Tuesday of every month at noon. Report back to LIC.	Ongoing	Kathryn
Provide an Overview	LCOH presentation to LIC to update on their goals, needs, resources, and more.	April 2021	Kathryn
Monthly Updates	Provide LIC brief, monthly updates on LCOH activity.		Kathryn

B. Point in Time (PIT) Count

Coordinated by the County of San Joaquin, the Point in Time count helps track the unhoused and provide necessary statistics about their well-being and needs. The LIC should be available to assist and solicit support, and be aware of the PIT's findings. This project occurs, generally, every two years.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
 Deferred: Due to the COVID19 pandemic, this task has been deferred until at least 2022.			
Spread the Word	Create two social media posts to solicit volunteers for the PIT event, and a third post to thank those volunteers.		David
Participate	Recruit at least three LIC members to participate. Email: LCOHCA@gmail.com.		David
Report to Committee	Report the findings of the PIT count back to the committee.		Kathryn
Report via Social Media	Create one social media post that reports the findings and links to the detailed report by the County.		David

2. East Side Improvement

A. Address Language Barriers

We've incorporated this goal into item 7.B.

B. Assist Senior Citizens

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Food Delivery	Increase awareness in Spanish and Urdu community about food resources including LOEL home meal delivery.		Sandra
Health	Explore services available for care, transportation, and interpretation for seniors. If none exist, explore a way to provide them.		Sandra
Transportation			
Yard Cleanup	Kathryn has started to connect local organizations interested in volunteering to help clean up residential areas upon request by the residents.		Kathryn

C. Traffic and Lighting Improvements

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Identify Locations	Brainstorm a list of locations to be researched and identified for improvement. The locations and needs are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lodi Ave @ Washington • Lodi @ Garfield • Sacramento St • Speed Reduction • Vine @ Garfield • Locust @ Washington • Pine @ Crescent • Locust @ Central 	✓ Complete	Kathryn
Submit to Public Works	Create a memo to Public Works and ask them for review.	✓ Complete	Kathryn
Presentation from PW	Hear a presentation from Public Works about our memo.	May	
Consider Funding	Research potential grants, including PSIUCL.		Kathryn
Next Steps	??		

D. Advance Youth Programs, Sports, and Arts

General description goes here.

Note: “Murals in Public Spaces” and “Scholarship Program” have been split into their own standalone projects, below.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Police and Fire	Explore hosting a basketball game between East Side parents and the Lodi Police and Fire Departments.		Sandra
Gift Program			

E. Murals in Public Spaces

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Mural in Public Spaces			Magdalena and Sandra

F. Scholarship Program

Create a fund to support extracurricular activities or connect with local organizations for funds for youth participants.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Draft MOU	Draft an MOU that connects local organizations for funds for youth participants.	✓ Complete	Kathryn and Lysay
Sign MOU	The PlayLodi! Scholarship has been created and is available now. The community organizations participating are Lodi Adopt-A-Child, CPFJSJ-Lodi Family Resource Center, and Lodi Parks and Recreation Department.	✓ Complete	
Program Start			

3. COVID Response

A. ~~CDBG-CV Grant~~

HUD has made available a \$780,000 fund that the City of Lodi may use to assist its residents, non-profit organizations, and businesses to relieve some of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Note: This project is now the responsibility of the City Staff and thus removed from our list.

B. Assist Families with Distance Learning

Recognizing that COVID-19 has impacted families with school-aged children, LIC will explore and possibly assist with solutions to ease the burden and improve distance learning until it is safe for children to return to school in person.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Internet Service	Explore options to assist families whose internet service is unreliable or insufficient.		Sandra
	Determined this goal is no longer applicable now that students have returned to in-person learning.		
Food Delivery	Recognizing that some students may not be able to pick up lunches from the school district, explore options to facilitate food delivery or increase awareness to these parents.		Sandra
	Determined this goal is no longer applicable now that students have returned to in-person learning.		
Workshops	Offer workshop on the “hidden curriculum” that will help students with a variety of useful knowledge.	Postponed	Vanessa

C. Vaccine Awareness

When a COVID-19 vaccine becomes available to the general public, many in our community will not be aware of the opportunity to become vaccinated, be able to attain a vaccination, or believe that it is important. The LIC should provide assistance to local health organizations to immunize as many residents as possible, as quickly as possible.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Exploratory	Discuss with health officials to learn what can be done.		Vanessa + David
Video	Create a video of testimonials from local people about the importance of the vaccine.		Vanessa + David

D. ~~Code Enforcement~~

Several businesses are flouting their disregard for required and recommended CDC and State of California guidelines. During a health emergency, the LIC should assist the City of Lodi in ensuring that all businesses are in compliance.

Note: David has conceded that there may not be enough interest nor resources to pursue this goal.

4. Community Improvement

A. Relationship with ABCD + Love Your Block

The Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) program helps build leadership within neighbors and provides resources for residents to improve their community. LIC will assist ABCD with their efforts.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Meeting Liaison	Always have at least one LIC member at every meeting. Report back to LIC.	Ongoing	Lynsay
Provide an Overview	ABCD presentation to LIC to update on their goals, needs, resources, and more.		Lynsay
Outreach	Event at Hale Park to promote ABCD on April 18. Magdalena will be there.	April 18	Magdalena

B. East Side Business Rights

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Know Your Rights	Explore a disconnect between Lodi businesses and city code enforcement to help businesses be in compliance.		Sandra
Tour Businesses			
Next Steps?	Possibly create a flyer.		

C. Bike Lanes

Some time ago, a bike line was formed on Pine Street, between the Lodi Arch and Cherokee Lane. It was intended for the lane to continue west but this has stalled. LIC recognizes the value of the bike lane and wishes to see it completed.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Pine Street	Complete the bike line on Pine Street, between Ham Lane and the Lodi Arch. Need an update from Public Works.		Kathryn
Bike Lanes	Green paint was added to multiple bike lanes in 2020. Public Works has plans to create new bike lanes in 2021.		Kathryn

D. Reconciliation Initiative

General description goes here.

Partner with existing non-profit organizations.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
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Discussion Groups	Provide a space for conversations to happen.	Vanessa
Workshops	Facilitate workshops on dialogue and anti-racism. Meeting scheduled for April 16 to discuss.	Vanessa

E. Graffiti Determent

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Murals	Facilitate murals and other art projects that will limit graffiti opportunities. Work with Tony Segale to bring back the Wall Dogs or something similar.		Vanessa + Magdalena

F. Community Recognition

The Lodi Improvement Committee wishes to recognize others who are improving the community in a variety of ways.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Property Improvement Awards	Nominate, vote on, and recognize property owners that have made significant aesthetic improvements to their properties.	Ongoing	LIC
Community Service Awards	Nominate, vote on, and recognize residents that have provided outstanding services to our community.	Ongoing	LIC
Employee Reminder	Remind employees about the LIC recognition program.	May 2021	Kari

G. Code Enforcement


Develop a relationship with Code Enforcement and assist them in their efforts.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Initial Meeting	Meet with CE and learn about what they do, their needs, and their prior relationship with LIC.	Complete	LIC
CE Presentation to LIC	Schedule a time for CE to present an annual summary to LIC.		David

5. Civic Engagement and LIC Meetings

A. Meet in Alternative Venues

In an effort to hear from as many residents as possible, some regular LIC meetings will be held in alternative venues throughout the city.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
 Deferred: Waiting until the COVID-19 pandemic is resolved before we begin this task.			
Determine Cadence	Decide how many meetings should be held outside of CF.		LIC


B. Promote Open Positions

City committees and those of non-profit organizations are often looking for committee members. The LIC can assist these organizations in filling those spots with qualified, enthusiastic individuals.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Exploratory	Discuss this with the City Clerk and local non-profit organizations to determine feasibility and need, along with existing resources.	July	David

C. Voter Engagement Forum/Debate

When measures, propositions, and candidates are on the ballot, the Lodi community lacks a forum that encourages healthy debate. The LIC could host, facilitate, or sponsor events that improve voters' awareness on local issues.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
 Deferred: Unnecessary in 2021 as no election is currently planned.			

D. Engage with Other Organizations

Description.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Outbound Liaisons	Present to other organizations on what the LIC has been doing, our goals, and how people can become involved.		Vanessa

6. Housing and Renting

A. Affordable Housing

The lack of affordable housing (for owners and renters) in Lodi has greatly contributed to the number of unhoused (and at-risk) in our community – and placed a considerable strain on those whose rent continually increases.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Exploratory	Conduct (or facilitate) a survey on the cost of home ownership and renting in Lodi.		David
	Invite a housing expert to speak to LIC.		
	Determine what next steps would be.		
	Planning meeting.		
Next Steps	After Harmony Homes, explore next steps to bring more affordable homes to Lodi.		Magdalena

B. Discourage NIMBY

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
City Council Meetings	Encourage products in which the LIC supports at CC meetings.		Magdalena

C. Know Your Rights for Tenants

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Workshop	Facilitate a workshop (in person or remotely), in multiple languages, that helps tenants understand their rights particularly for disputes with landlords. Magdalena is meeting with Tenants Together April 21.		Magdalena

D. Increase Homeownership

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Workshop	Partner with organizations that will help first-time buyers to provide information to residents.		Magdalena

E. Resource Accessibility

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Promote Homeowner Grants	Explore options to promote grants available to low-income homeowners.		
	Jennifer mentioned that the program closed in October 2020 for repairs up to \$10,000. Applications were received and are being reviewed. Likewise for the Electric Utility rebate program and Minor Home Repair Program.		Kathryn
Awareness Presentations	Sponsor a series of live presentations that help residents with homeownership or other useful topics.		

F. Block Parties (post-COVID)

General description goes here.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee

7. Transparency and Accountability

A. Website and Social Presence

The LIC could have its own website, hosted by the City, to serve as a launching point for its meetings, progress towards annual goals, links to useful resources, and opportunities to get involved. Likewise, accounts on popular social media platforms could assist the LIC in its goals and help the community be informed.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Create Sub Committee	Designate a “Marketing Subcommittee” for the LIC		LIC

B. Multilingual and Accessible (ML/ADA) Announcements, Agendas, and Meetings

The LIC has agreed that all *announcements and agendas* should be published in at least English, Spanish, and Urdu. Further, the availability of interpreters should be made more obvious.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
ML Documents for LIC	Request that all LIC announcements and agendas be available in English, Spanish, and Urdu, published at the same time.		Sandra
ML Documents for CC	Encourage the City Council to do the same with their announcements, agendas, and minutes (if they aren’t already) and extend that to all committees. Kari is going to check with City Clerk and other departments on adding a statement to the bottom of upcoming LIC agendas in Spanish and Urdu for people who want a translation or interpretation.		Sandra Kari
Interpreters	Review meeting announcements and agendas and add language (if necessary) to ensure that non-English residents are made aware that interpreters are available upon request.		
Urdu Translator	Assist the COL in finding and retaining a qualified Urdu translator and establishing a budget (possibly a grant) to pay for these services.	March 2021	David

C. Catch Up on Minutes

Our committee is woefully behind in providing minutes to its members and the public.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Review Options	Explore what options the LIC has to catch up in a timely manner.		
Catch Up on Minutes	Complete the backlog of minutes and remain current.		

8. Administrative

A. Bylaws Revision

Propose changes to the Lodi City Council that reflect a positive, community-focused Lodi Improvement Committee.

Specific Goal	Description	Date	Assignee
Draft New Bylaws	Collect input from committee and create the draft.	✓	David
Approve by LIC	Review as a committee and make final changes, then approve.	✓	LIC
Submit to City Council	Get on the CC agenda and present at their meeting.	✓	Patrice
Revisions from CC	If any, make revisions.	April 2021	David
Resubmit to CC	If needed, resubmit to CC for a future meeting.	April 2021	Patrice
Approval by CC	Adopted by the CC.	May 2021	CC
Translate	Translate into Spanish and Urdu.	May 2021	Patrice
Website Update	Revise the LIC website to include the new bylaws.	May 2021	Kari