



**Honorable Mayor and Members of the Hermosa
Beach City Council**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE USE OF FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS TO CONSTRUCT AMERICANS
WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COMPLIANT SIDEWALK PANELS AND CURB
RAMPS**

(Public Works Director Joe SanClemente)

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends City Council adopt a resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2024–25 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program allocating and authorizing the use of \$69,398 of funds and acknowledging that an estimated \$69,000 in Fiscal Year 2025-26 CDBG funds may be added, after July 1, 2025, to construct Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalk panels and curb ramps (**Attachment 1**).

Executive Summary:

The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) administers Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and requires City Council approval to accept and allocate available funds for eligible construction projects. Approval of the resolution for the FY 2024–25 CDBG program would allow the City to receive and allocate \$69,398 in funding to a future CDBG Capital Improvement Project (CIP) to be initiated in FY 2025-26. An additional \$69,000 in estimated CDBG funds for FY 2025-26, available after July 1, 2025, may be added to the project, resulting in a total estimated budget of \$138,398. The project would focus on constructing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant sidewalk panels and curb ramps along Monterey Boulevard and 2nd Street (**Attachment 2**), aligning with the City's ongoing efforts to improve public accessibility.

Background:

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The primary objective of Title I is to develop viable urban communities by providing housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

The CDBG program, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), offers an opportunity to implement program activities that best meet the needs of

communities, in accordance with the national objectives and requirements of the CDBG program.

The City of Hermosa Beach is a participating city in the County of Los Angeles Community Development Block Grant Program. The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) administers CDBG funding on behalf of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, for the County and 48 participating cities.

The CDBG program has three primary objectives:

1. Benefit those with low and moderate income;
2. Aid in preventing neighborhood deterioration; and
3. Meet other urgent community development needs due to natural disasters or other emergencies.

Use of CDBG funds is limited to certain types of construction projects in Hermosa Beach and requires pre-approval by LACDA. CDBG funds cannot be used for paving but may be used for the installation of Americans with Disabilities-compliant (ADA) curb ramps. The City is allocated approximately \$65,000 each year through the program, typically accumulating funds for two years, while observing grant spending deadlines, until there is a sufficient amount available to advertise a larger project to ensure efficiency and cost effectiveness for construction.

Past Council Actions

Meeting Date	Description
<u>January 8, 2019</u>	Approve and allocate CDBG funds for construction of sidewalk curb ramps.
<u>March 10, 2020</u>	Approve and allocate CDBG funds for construction of sidewalk curb ramps along Prospect Ave
<u>January 11, 2022</u>	Approve and allocate CDBG funds for construction of sidewalk improvements along Longfellow Ave.
<u>November 28, 2023</u>	Approve and allocate CDBG funds for construction of sidewalk improvements along Valley Drive, Monterey Blvd., and 2 nd street.

Discussion:

LACDA requires City Council approval to receive and use available CDBG funds for construction projects. The City's FY 2024–25 allocation is \$69,398. If approved, these funds would be used for construction.

Staff intends to utilize CDBG funds to construct ADA-compliant sidewalk panels and curb ramps at high priority locations along Monterey Boulevard, from Herondo Street to 19th Street, and 2nd Street, and from Valley Drive to Monterey Boulevard.

However, these funds are likely insufficient to cover all necessary improvements on these roadway segments and would be directed towards the locations with greatest need. Improvements include reconstruction of sidewalks to address barriers to accessibility such as trip hazards and areas that are too steep, deteriorated, or narrow. This project will further the goal of providing a safer and accessible path of travel for pedestrians within the right-of-way to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the latest Federal standards. The sidewalk and curb ramps along the selected roadway segments are aligned with the City's Safe Routes to School program and would benefit disabled adults and youth as well.

This project is still in the early stages of planning. As the design progresses, the proposed areas of sidewalk and curb ramp improvements may be refined to target areas in most need of improvements.

Staff recommends approval of the resolution adopting the FY 2024–25 CDBG program to allow the City to receive and allocate \$69,398 in funds to a future CIP to be initiated in FY 2025–26, with the acknowledgment that an estimated \$69,000 in CDBG funds for FY 2025–26, available after July 1, 2025, may be added to this project, resulting in a total estimated budget of \$138,398 for CDBG Improvements to construct Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalk panels and curb ramps.

ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Consistency

The recommended action is consistent with the goals of the Council Approved 2022 ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan as it directly works to advance the construction of improvements that remove physical barriers and facilitate access for all individuals.

General Plan Consistency:

This report and associated recommendation have been evaluated for their consistency with the City's General Plan. Relevant Policies are listed below:

Mobility Element

Goal 2. A public realm that is safe, comfortable, and convenient for travel via foot, bicycle, public transit, and automobile and creates vibrant, people oriented public spaces that encourage active living.

Policy:

- **2.1 Prioritize public rights-of-way.** Prioritize improvements of public rights-of-way that provide heightened levels of safe, comfortable and attractive public spaces for all non-motorized travelers while balancing the needs of efficient vehicular circulation.

Goal 3. Public rights-of-way supporting a multimodal and people-oriented transportation system that provides diversity and flexibility on how users choose to be mobile.

Policies:

- **3.1 Enhance public rights-of-way.** Where right-of-way clearance allows, enhance public right of ways to improve connectivity for pedestrians, bicyclists, disabled persons, and public transit stops.
- **3.2 Complete pedestrian network.** Prioritize investment in designated priority sidewalks to ensure a complete network of sidewalks and pedestrian-friendly amenities that enhances pedestrian safety, access opportunities and connectivity to destinations.
- **3.10 Require ADA standards.** Require that all public rights-of-way be designed per Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards by incorporating crosswalks, curb ramps, pedestrian signals, and other components to provide ease of access for disabled persons.

Infrastructure Element

Goal 2. Roadway infrastructure maintenance supports convenient, attractive, and complete streets and associated amenities.

Policy:

- **2.4 Sidewalk Improvements.** Consider innovative funding strategies, such as cost-sharing, ADA accessibility grants, or sidewalk dedications, to improve the overall condition, safety, and accessibility of sidewalks.

Fiscal Impact:

Approving the allocation of approximately \$138,398 in CDBG funds would allow the City to fund ADA sidewalk and curb ramp improvements under a future Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to be initiated in FY 2025–26.

Attachments:

1. Draft Resolution Approving FY 2024–2025 CDBG Program
2. CDBG Proposed Project Locations Map

Respectfully Submitted by: Karla Vargas, Assistant Engineer

Concur: Saad Malim, Senior Engineer

Concur: Joe SanClemente, Public Works Director

Noted for Fiscal Impact: Viki Copeland, Administrative Services Director

Legal Review: Patrick Donegan, City Attorney

Reviewed by: Angela Crespi, Deputy City Manager

Approved: Suja Lowenthal, City Manager