



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™
Community Development Department

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

From: Timothy J. Thompson, AICP, Assistant Director of Community Development

Date: October 14, 2025

Subject: Community Development Block Grants – Status Report Public Hearing

Recommendation:

1. Accept this report; and
2. Conduct a public hearing on November 10, 2025 concerning status reports on the following Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects:
 - a. Families in Transition Planning Grant: \$25,000
 - b. Community Justice Center Planning Grant: \$25,000

Background:

The New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority (NHCDFA) is the state agency responsible for administering the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program in New Hampshire.

NHCDFA rules require grant recipients to conduct a public hearing during the course of a CDBG project for the purpose of updating the community about CDBG funded projects.

Discussion:

Families in Transition (FIT): The Planning Grant for FIT studies the potential for the addition of new affordable residential units at their Bicentennial Square properties (5 Market Lane and 9 Odd Fellows Avenue). The attached feasibility study determined that 4 additional units were possible at the 2 locations. FIT is pursuing CDBG Housing Funds to assist in the development of these new units.

Community Justice Center: The Community Justice Center project team (603 Legal Aid, Disability Rights Center-NH, and New Hampshire Legal Assistance) selected and contracted with H.L. Turner for architecture and engineering services to study options for all three organizations to be located in a single facility.

The Turner Group developed a space plan for the proposed Community Justice Center. They also visited several sites with the project team and considered new construction. Preliminary estimates for all options exceeded \$5 million, which is not feasible for the project in light of current funding opportunities. The project team has currently paused the project. The project team will reconvene in the near future to consider possible options and next steps for completing the project.