

Ayer Office of Community & Economic Development

Monthly Report: February 2019

Respectfully submitted by Alan S. Manoian, Director of Community & Economic Development

Administration of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Prospect & Oak

St. Infrastructure Improvement Project: Construction bids received in February; construction contractor selected. The Ayer Office of Community & Economic Development (AOCED) & Ayer Public Works Dept. are currently engaged in administering construction project launch for April.

Pursuit of (Competitive) 2019 US Dept. of HUD Community Development Block Grant for Redevelopment of the Historic 1934 Ayer Central Fire Station for New Downtown Affordable Housing:

(AOCED) continues working with property owner to formulate and deliver a highly-competitive US Dept. of HUD CDBG Grant for 2020 Mass DHCD grant cycle.

Park Street Corridor Form-Based Code Formulation/Production Process

Schedule:

The Dir of (AOCED) has completed 1st DRAFT of Code and continues working in coordination with Ayer Planning Board & Office of Town Planner to deliver proposed Code for Special Town Meeting in June 2019.

Ayer Commuter Rail Station “Historic Ayer Minton Tiles” Public Space Design Improvement Effort:

The Dir. of (AOCED) has completed design and production process and proposes project installation for late March/early April 2019.

2019 Ayer Fourth of July Celebration Management:

The AOCED is fully engaged in developing, organizing, fundraising, and managing the upcoming Ayer 4th of July Celebration Event scheduled for July 6, 2019.

Implementation of the Ayer Master Plan:

The February Master Plan Implementation Luncheon focused on the “Housing Chapter” as presented by Community Development Program manager Alicia

Hersey. The session was well-attended and very successful. The next Luncheon Roundtable will be "Land Use" in March.

Office of Community Development: Office of Community Development

Through the months of January and February the office of Community Development has been working on our CDBG FY18 Housing Rehab program grant. We have identified two houses with emergency conditions, one of which did not have a working furnace. The project without a furnace went out to bid in January, at this point the property has a new working furnace. The CDBG FY18 grant has two components, the Housing Rehab and the Prospect and Oak Street infrastructure project. The OCED is working with the DPW on the Prospect and Oak Street infrastructure project and this project went out to bid January 30th.

In addition the department has been working on creating a new Affordable Housing Committee. We have identified members from the COA, CPC, Master Plan Housing Working committee, Loaves and Fishes, local realtors and general residents to serve on this committee. The committee came together for their first meeting Feb. 15th and we are looking forward to a productive upcoming year.

The CDBG Central Fire Station Application for affordable housing was a major focus for much of January with multiple community outreach engagements, and application preparation. Time tables have changed for the fire station and it was decided that we would apply for the FY20 CDBG grant cycle rather than the FY19.