

Work Session

Agenda Item #	3
Meeting Date	March 4, 2013
Prepared By	Jessie Carpenter City Clerk
Approved By	Suzanne Ludlow Acting City Manager

Discussion Item	Continued Discussion of External Requests for FY 2014 Funding (Large Grants)
Background	<p>On January 28, 2013, the City Council held its first discussion of applications received from organizations requesting funds from the City for Fiscal Year 2014.</p> <p>Prior to the establishment of the large grant program, organizations often came before the Council throughout the year to request financial support for a variety of reasons. To regularize the process, ensure that all City organizations are aware that they can request funding, and allow for the funds to be included in the budget, the City Council set up this large grant process.</p> <p>The large grant program is intended to allow the Council to consider all the requests at the same time and determine which, if any, of the requests should be a priority for the Council such that the funds should be included in the next year's budget. The Council then requests that the City Manager include the funds in her/his budget. A final decision on funding is not made until the Council adopts its budget in May.</p> <p>Advertising the opportunity to request funds from the City has increased the variety of applicants and also the range of amounts requested. The Council has expressed interest in reconsidering how the large grant program works.</p> <p>Another consideration for the Council is whether there are organizations that should receive funding annually, subject to Council approval in the budget. The Old Takoma Business Association has moved into this category and is now part of the Housing and Community Development Department Budget. The Independence Day Committee may be another candidate for this category.</p> <p>Staff recommends that the Council provide direction to the Acting City Manager on the applications received to date. Alternatively, the Council could specify the maximum amount of funds to include in the budget, but not specify immediately which applicants would be awarded funds. After the budget is adopted, the Council could conduct a more thorough review of the large grant program, determine whether a committee would be helpful in selecting recipients, and determine if some organizations or activities should be funded annually outside of the large grant program.</p> <p>Grant applications for FY 2014 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Health and Empowerment through Education and Research (CHEER) - \$25,000 • Crossroads Community Food Network - \$40,000 • Dance Exchange - \$15,000

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECDC Enterprise Development Group - \$17,250 • EduCare Support Services, Inc. - \$56,700 • Seniors and Those Who Care for Them - \$25,956 • Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority, Inc. - \$4,615 (of which \$2,500 would be provided by a New Hampshire Avenue Community Gardens/Greening Grant through the Housing and Community Development Department) • Takoma Park Folk Festival - \$10,000 • Takoma Park Independence Day Committee, Inc. - \$15,000 • Takoma Park Presbyterian Church - \$10,000 • Washington Area Bicyclist Association - \$5,125 <p>Copies of the applications are available for review on the City's website.</p>
Policy	The City Council determines how funds are expended and the services to be provided by City government.
Fiscal Impact	The amount of funding to be provided to the applicants, if any, will be determined by the City Council during the budget process.
Attachments	Complete applications are posted at: http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agenda/index.html
Recommendation	Provide guidance to the Acting City Manager on which, if any, of the requests should be considered for inclusion in her proposed budget for FY 2014, subject to the availability of funds.
Special Consideration	