

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-50

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ASSISTANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 UNDER TITLE I OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, AS AMENDED, INCLUDING THE PY2026 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND FILING OF THE PY2026 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, INCLUDING RELATED CERTIFICATIONS, AND UPON AWARDING OF THE GRANT, AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, under provisions of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (which title is hereinafter referred to as the("Act") and the regulations promulgated there under (24 CFR Parts 58 and 570, hereinafter referred to as the ("Regulations")), the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter referred to as the ("Secretary")) is authorized to make grants to units of general local government to help finance community development programs (as that term is defined in the Act and Regulations); and

WHEREAS, the Secretary has notified the City of Kent of its eligibility to apply for HUD/CDBG funds in the amount of **\$257,501.00** for Program Year 2026. It will begin on **August 1, 2026**, and extend through **July 31, 2027**; and

WHEREAS, the City proposes to apply for such a grant for Program Year 2026 and has, in that connection and as required by and pursuant to the Act and Regulations, prepared its PY2026 Annual Action Plan marked Exhibit "A" and on file in the City Council office, which contains local objectives, identification of housing, homeless and non-housing community development priorities, a description of activities to be undertaken, a local community development budget, and certifications in the form of assurances; and

WHEREAS, this Council has duly reviewed and considered the PY2026 Annual Action Plan, as well as the comments and recommendations of the public and City administrative and planning officials.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Kent, Portage County, Ohio:

SECTION 1. That this Council hereby finds and determines that the PY2026 Action Plan gives maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low-to-moderate income persons or aids in the elimination or prevention of slum and blight and the PY2026 Action Plan includes those activities to be undertaken by the City with the funds provided for the 2026 Program Year that meet the housing and community development needs and objectives allowed by the Act and Regulations and identified in the City's **2025-2029** Five Year Consolidated Plan.

SECTION 2. That the City Manager, being the chief executive officer of the City as that term is defined in the Act and Regulations, is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the City to act in connection with the grant request and to provide such additional documentation or certifications as may be required by the Secretary or by other responsible agencies.

SECTION 3. That this Council hereby finds and determines that the City, in preparing its PY2026 Annual Action Plan, has complied with the applicable requirements of the Act and Regulations, and this Council hereby approves the PY2026 Annual Action Plan, together with all related documentation for submission to the Secretary.

SECTION 4. That this Council hereby directs that the City in carrying out the Program shall continue to comply with applicable requirements of the Act and Regulations and of other applicable laws, including, among others, requirements with respect to civil rights and anti-discrimination, citizen participation, relocation and land acquisition, environmental protection, cost accounting and administration, federal labor standards, flood control, conflicts of interest, political activity of employees, access to books and records and the requirements of giving maximum feasible priority to activities which will benefit low and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight, and this Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute and file with the Secretary certifications in such forms as the Secretary may


prescribe, which will provide assurances concerning the foregoing matters, and concerning such other matters as may be required by the Secretary in connection with carrying out the Community Development and Housing Program.

SECTION 5. That this Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to consent to assume the status of a responsible federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, insofar as the provisions of such act apply to the Secretary's responsibilities for environmental review, decision making and action to be assumed and carried out by the City Manager and authorizes the City Manager to consent on behalf of the City to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the purpose of carrying out the program. The City Manager is authorized to execute and file requests for release of funds and related certifications and prepare and file such other documents and take such other actions in connection with the environmental review process as may be required by the Act, the Regulations, particularly the regulations contained in 24 CFR Part 58, and by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

SECTION 6. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council, and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

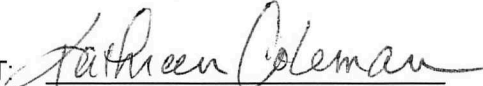
SECTION 7. That this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the residents of this City, for which reason and other reasons manifest to this Council this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately after passage.

PASSED: May 20, 2026
Date



Jack Amrhein
Mayor and President of Council

EFFECTIVE: May 20, 2026
Date

ATTEST: 

Kathleen Coleman
Clerk of Council

I, KATHLEEN COLEMAN, CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF KENT, COUNTY OF PORTAGE, AND STATE OF OHIO, AND IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE ORIGINAL FILES AND RECORDS OF SAID COUNCIL ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF **ORDINANCE No. 2026-50**, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON May 20, 2026.

(SEAL)



KATHLEEN COLEMAN
CLERK OF COUNCIL



CITY OF KENT, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Date: February 23, 2026

To: Dave Ruller, City Manager

From: Kailyn Cyrus, Zoning and Grants Coordinator

Cc: Bridget Susel, Community Development Director; Kathy Coleman, Clerk of Council; Patti Long, Assistant to the City Manager; PY2026 CDBG Action Plan File

Re: PY2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project Funding Recommendations

The City is preparing its funding request for the Program Year (PY) 2026 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The request is submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on an annual basis and must include a list of proposed programs that will be implemented with CDBG funding during the year. The City has not received notice yet from HUD regarding its PY2026 allocation amount, so the following recommendations are based on the CDBG funding level the City received for PY2025, which was \$265,000.

The PY2026 CDBG “Request for Proposals (RFP)” was issued on January 15, 2026, and the City received a total of six (6) project proposals seeking CDBG funding assistance. The total amount of funding requested was \$304,000. Based on a review of these proposals and in consideration of all applicable CDBG regulatory requirements, staff is recommending Council approval of the projects and amounts as outlined below at its May meeting. Formal approval in May allows time for a public comment period and a second public hearing to take place prior to formal authorization.

2026 CDBG Funding and Project Recommendations

1. City of Kent, Engineering Department – Elm Street Reconstruction
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This activity provides funding to assist with the design and full-depth reconstruction of Elm Street from Cedar Street to South Water Street. The work involves rehabilitation of the asphalt pavement, new sidewalks, concrete curb and gutter and new storm sewers to improve drainage along the roadway. This is a multi-year project, and construction is scheduled to begin in 2027.

Funding Requested: \$170,000 **PY2026 Funding Recommended: \$157,000**
PY2025 CDBG Funding: \$159,857

7. City of Kent, Community Development – Administration

These funds are used to cover grant administration costs such as the cost of staff, supplies, advertising, postage, copying, travel costs for training, and other related costs. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Planning and Administration 20% funding limitation.

Funding Requested: N/A

PY2026 Funding Recommended: \$2,000

PY2025 CDBG Funding: \$2,000

8. Fair Housing Consultant – Fair Housing Services

These funds will be used to cover the cost associated with the provision of fair housing services. The consultant will provide counseling in the areas of housing discrimination and landlord-tenant issues. They'll investigate fair housing complaints and provide a variety of public education and outreach services in the City. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Planning and Administration 20% funding limitation.

Funding Requested: 24,000

PY 2026 Funding Recommended: \$24,000

PY2025 CDBG Funding: \$19,000

NOTE: The Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank requested \$5,000 for Food Distribution services. Due to the federal reporting requirements of the CDBG program, the Community Development Department determined that these services may be better aligned with the City's Social Service Grant Program. Staff will forward an application to the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank when the RFP for that program is issued.

A spreadsheet summarizing the requested and recommended funding amounts has been attached for review. Copies of all submitted PY2026 CDBG proposals also are available for review at the Community Development Department.

