

Community Development Advisory Board

April 30, 2026, Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

The Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) met on April 30, 2026, at 12:30 PM, via a hybrid model including in-person (at 9 E. Vermijo Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903) and the virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting platform. Chair, Mr. Tyler Stevens, called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

Roll Call

The Community Development Advisory Board members present were:

- Tyler Stevens (Green Mountain Falls) (Chair)
- Leslie Ornstein (D1)
- Matt Buffington (D2)
- Tamara Estes (D4)
- Denise Howell (Manitou Springs) (Vice Chair)
- James Osborne (Ramah)
- Megan McReynolds (Calhan)
- Ben Sheets (Fountain)
- Samantha Padgett (Palmer Lake) (ONLINE)
- Madeline VanDenHoek (Monument)

The Community Development Advisory Board members absent were:

- Emily Peacock (D3)

Other persons present at the meeting were:

- El Paso County Commissioner, Cory Applegate (Board of County Commissioners Liaison)
- Luke Houser (Community Development Analyst for the CDBG, Economic Development Department & Staff Liaison)
- Crystal LaTier (Executive Director of the Economic Development Department)
- Randi Davis (Community Development Analyst for Housing, Economic Development Department)
- Natasha North (Project Manager, Economic Development Department)
- Joel McMillan (GMF CDAB Candidate, Member of Public)

II. Consideration of the March 2026 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Osborne moved to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2026, CDAB meeting, as presented, and so seconded by Mr. Buffington, the motion passed unanimously.

III. 2026 PY CDBG Application List and Estimated Budget

Mr. Houser provided the 2026 Application List and reminded the Board that they would be reviewing all applications in all categories.

IV. 2026 CDBG Application Review

A. 2022-2026 Consolidated Plan Goals (updated)

Mr. Houser provided a comprehensive overview of the EPC 2022-2026 Consolidated Plan goals, including a detailed breakdown of EPC ED's progress towards the completion of these goals.

B. Consideration of PY2026 EPC CDBG Applications

With Ms. Davis providing a detailed visual overview of the Application List, Ms. LaTier provided additional context concerning the applications and request amounts. She reminded the Board of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) 15% Public Service cap, the BoCC 'year of rest' rule, and the need to cut \$400,000 from the Public Service category. All requests made in the categories of Public Facility, Public Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development could be fully funded, if recommended by the Board.

During the March meeting, the Board requested additional clarification on some applications. Mr. Houser provided the requested information.

Recommendations regarding 2026 Public Service applications were made by Board members based off this review of submitted memorandums.

Ms. Howell moved to approve the following list of Public Service activities for 2026 Funding recommendations:

- Center for Employment Opportunities: recommended award amount of \$20,000.00 for their Colorado Transitional Employment program.
- Envida Transportation Services: recommended award amount of \$25,000.00 for their expansion of Transportation Access for Rural Residents program.
- Mission Medical Center: recommended award amount of \$20,000.00 for their expansion of Medical Services program.
- Mt Carmel Veterans Service Center: recommended award amount of \$30,000.00 for their Veterans Climb program.
- Porchlight Friends: recommended award amount of \$20,000.00 for their Companionship Services program.
- Serving Hope: recommended award amount of \$20,000.00 for their Currency of Caring program.
- Special Kids Special Families: recommended award amount of \$32,000.00 for the expansion of services for Zach's Place programming.

Ms. Estes seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Mr. Buffington made a motion to approve the recommended funding for all projects in the Economic Development, Public Facilities & Infrastructure, and Housing categories as follows:

- Exponential Impact: recommended award amount of \$30,000.00 for their Survive and Thrive SPICE program.
- City of Manitou Springs: recommended award amount of \$175,000.00 for the Duclo Avenue ADA Sidewalk project.
- El Paso County Parks: recommended award amount of \$140,000.00 for the Widefield Community Park Regional Trail Phase IV project.
- Town of Calhan: recommended award amount of \$90,000.00 for the Sidewalk project.
- Town of Monument: recommended award amount of \$100,000.00 for the ADA Parking project.
- Town of Ramah: recommended award amount of \$83,000.00 for improvements to the Ramah Playground project.

- Brothers Redevelopment: recommended award amount of \$125,000.00 for their Home Repair program.
- Rebuilding Together Colorado: recommended award amount of \$75,000.00 for their EPC Low-income Home Preservation program.

Ms. Howell amended the motion to recommend the \$85,676 funding surplus be kept as contingency reserves for Public Facility and Infrastructure construction projects.

Ms. McReynolds seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

V. Other Business

A. CDAB Vacancies in 2026

1. Commissioner Applegate provided a secondary introduction of Mr. McMillan, who was attending the meeting for informational purposes only.
2. The Board recognized Chair Stevens for his tenure beginning in 2009 and ending on May 1.

B. Upcoming Meetings

1. Ms. LaTier provided context into next steps in the review process, adding that the next CDAB meeting will be on October 21, 2026.

C. Other Comments from Board Members or Visitors

1. No comments.

VI. Adjournment

April 30, 2026, CDAB meeting adjourned at 1:51 PM.

Denise Howell

Denise Howell, Vice Chair of the Community Development Advisory Board

Public notice for this meeting was posted online via EPC Agenda Suite on April 22, 2026.