

# **BLYTHE CITY COUNCIL**

## **Special Meeting**



## **AGENDA**

**FEBRUARY 22, 2018**

**2:00 P.M.**

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**Dale S. Reynolds, Mayor**  
**Eric Egan, Vice Mayor**  
**Joseph DeConinck, Council Member**  
**Johnny Z. Rodriguez, Council Member**  
**Joseph Halby, III, Council Member**  
**Mallory Crecelius, Interim City Manager/City Clerk**  
**Baron Bettenhausen, City Attorney**

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**MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 235 NORTH BROADWAY, BLYTHE, CA**



**Special Meeting of  
The Blythe City Council  
February 22, 2018  
2:00pm**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Reynolds  
Vice Mayor Egan  
Councilman DeConinck  
Councilman Rodriguez  
Councilman Halby

Interim City Manager/City Clerk Crecelius  
Police Chief Wade  
City Attorney Bettenhausen  
City Treasurer/Finance Director Elms  
Public Works Director Baldizzone

Planner Burrow  
Chief Building Official Gamica

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION**

**CONSENT CALENDAR-** (Item 1)

All matters listed under Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items prior to the time of voting on the motion unless members of the Council or staff request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action.

1. **Posting of the Agenda.**

The summary of agenda items were posted on the bulletin boards on the outside of the public entrance to the Council Chamber and near the inside entrance of the Council Chamber on Tuesday, February 20, 2018.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** (Item 2)

2. **Allocation of 2018/19 Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG).**

Recommendation: Subsequent to the Public Hearing, fund the Blythe Emergency Food Pantry or Palo Verde Senior Citizens (Harmony Kitchen) in the amount of \$10,738 or fund Blythe Emergency Food Pantry and Palo Verde Senior Citizens (Harmony Kitchen) in the amount of \$5,369 each, apply the remaining \$65,963 to City Improvement Projects, Authorize the Mayor to execute the Supplemental Agreement with Riverside County EDA and authorize the City Manager to reprogram funds as required.

**ORAL REPORTS** (Council may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, make a brief report on his/her own activities, request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.)

**PUBLIC COMMENT** Public comments will be allowed on matters not appearing on the agenda, but within Council/Blythe Successor Agency jurisdiction. Speakers are asked to identify themselves by stating their name and address for the record. Comments shall be limited to 3 minutes in duration.

**CLOSED SESSION:** (Items 3-4)

3. **Potential Litigation.** Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, one case.
4. **Personnel,** Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, City Manager Recruitment.

**REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION:**

**ADJOURNMENT** The next meeting will be held on March 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 235 N. Broadway, Blythe, California.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council regarding any item on this Agenda will be made available for Public inspection in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 235 N. Broadway, Blythe, California, and the information counter of the Palo Verde Valley District Library located at 125 W. Chanslorway, Blythe, California, during normal business hours. In addition such writings and documents will be posted on the City's website: [www.cityofblythe.ca.gov](http://www.cityofblythe.ca.gov).

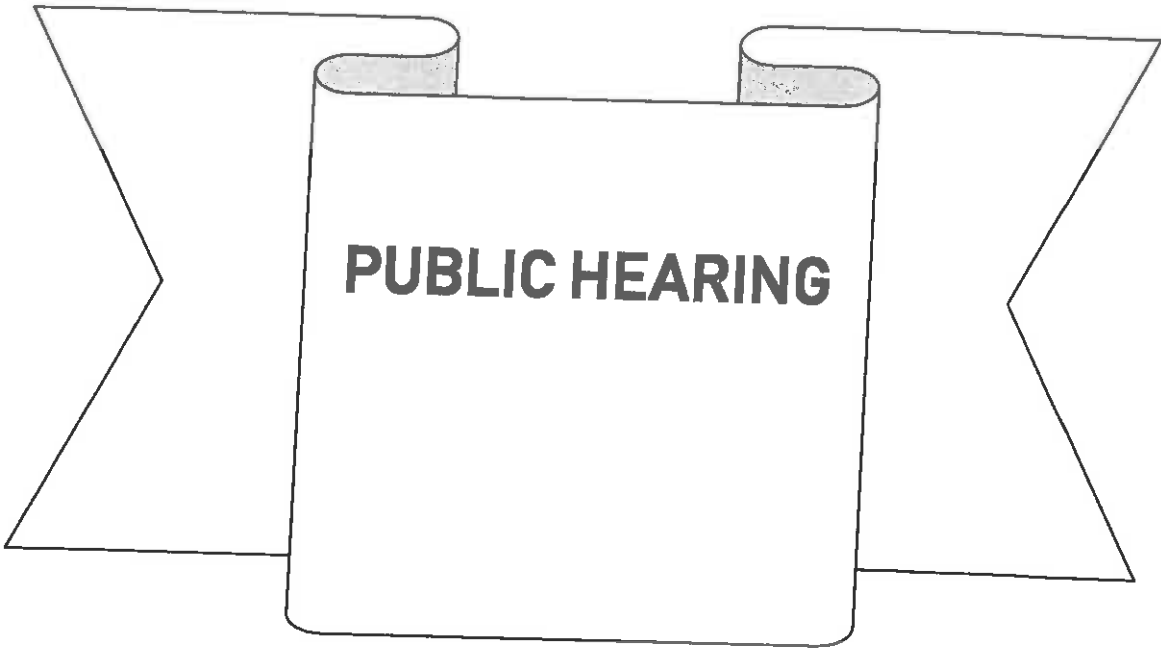
**NOTE TO THE PUBLIC:**

In compliance with the Americans with Disability Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact ADA Coordinator Mallory Crecelius at (760) 922-6161 EXT. 237 or by email at [msutterfield@cityofblythe.ca.gov](mailto:msutterfield@cityofblythe.ca.gov). Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.104 ADA Title II).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council regarding any item on this Agenda will be made available for Public inspection in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 235 N. Broadway, Blythe, California, and the information counter of the Palo Verde Valley District Library located at 125 W. Chanslorway, Blythe, California, during normal business hours. In addition such writings and documents will be posted on the City's website: [www.cityofblythe.ca.gov](http://www.cityofblythe.ca.gov).



**CONSENT  
CALENDAR**



**PUBLIC HEARING**



CITY OF BLYTHE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** February 22, 2018

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**SUBJECT:** Allocation of 2018-2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds  
**PRESENTED BY:** Armando Baldizzone, Public Works Director.  
**PREPARED BY:** Armando Baldizzone, Public Works Director.

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- RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends City Council, subsequent to the public hearing thereon:
1. Fund one of the Public Service/Facility Improvement (non-profit organization) projects, Blythe Emergency Food Pantry or Palo Verde Valley Senior Citizens (Harmony Kitchen), in the amount of \$10,738.00;
- Or
1. Fund both Public Service/Facility Improvement (non-profit organization) projects, Blythe Emergency Food Pantry and Palo Verde Valley Senior Citizens (Harmony Kitchen), in the amount of \$5,369.00 each,
  2. Apply the remaining \$65,963.00 to City Improvements project as recommended from the Parks & Recreation Committee.
  3. Authorize the Mayor to execute the supplemental agreement with the Riverside County Economic Development Agency (EDA) for the allocation of the 2018-2019 CDBG funds.
  4. Authorize the City Manager to reprogram funds as required.
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**FISCAL IMPACT:** 2018-2019 CDBG funds. \$65,963 for City projects and \$10,738 for community service projects.

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**BACKGROUND:** The City of Blythe, as a member of the Riverside County Urban County designation, receives a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation each year. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds are received, distributed and monitored by the Riverside County Economic Development Agency (EDA). These funds are distributed between the five supervisorial districts and those cooperating cities on the HUD "fair-share" formula which is based on population, extent of poverty and sub-standard housing. Projects selected for funding must meet criteria established by HUD. From applications received the Council allocates the funds within the established guidelines.

Projects/activities eligible for funding include: public facilities improvements; real property acquisition; public service (limited to 15% of total grant allocation); housing; capital equipment (fixed); and, rehabilitation/preservation. In order for an activity or project to qualify it must meet one of the three national objectives: (1) principally benefit (at least 51%) low and moderate income persons; (2) aid in the prevention of slums or blight; or, (3) meet community development needs having a particular urgency.

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**STAFF REPORT:** The CDBG allocation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-2019 is estimated to be \$76,701.00. Of the \$76,701.00; \$10,738 (14% of the City's allocation) are available to fund non-profit projects. The County withholds approximately the remaining 1% of public service funds for projects that provide County-wide assistance such as Fair Housing activities.

Riverside County EDA, for the 2018-2019 FY, has imposed a minimum grant restriction on participating cities of \$10,000 per public service project. According to EDA, projects in the amount less than \$10,000

are not feasible to administer due to the administrative tasks required. Projects awarded under \$10,000 will be administered by City Staff. It should also be noted that EDA has set time limits for the expenditure of City project funds. Funds allocated during any given year must be expended within two years of award.

Pursuant to CDBG program guidelines, staff has: 1) advertised in a newspaper of general circulation for interested applicants; 2) mailed letters to past applicants and recipients to encourage their continued participation in the program; and, 3) noticed this public hearing for allocation of CDBG funds.

The following organizations have submitted applications for public service and facility improvement project funding and only one can be funded.

Organization	Project Description	Amount Requested
Blythe Emergency Food Pantry	Food supplies and operating expenses	\$ 8,000.00
Palo Verde Valley Senior Citizens (Harmony Kitchen)	Food supplies and operating expenses	\$15,000.00
Riverside County Office on Aging	Consumable supplies	\$20,000.00

In the past, and due to the rural nature and limited funding of the City of Blythe, the minimum grant restriction has been reduced to \$5,000.00; this will allow the Council to fund one or two public service projects this year.

It is staff's recommendation Council fund Blythe Emergency Food Pantry and/or Palo Verde Valley Senior Citizens (Harmony Kitchen). These are two local non-profit organizations providing food for low income residents of the City of Blythe and other cities within the Palo Verde Valley. Both organizations have been applying for CDBG funds throughout the past years, and have also applied for State and private funds, and received donations. Staff does not recommend funding Riverside County Office on Aging under the consideration that it is a government organization with other sources of funding such as Federal, State, County, and donations as stated on their application.

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## ATTACHMENTS



**REPORTS**





**PUBLIC  
COMMENT**



**CLOSED  
SESSION**



**ADJOURN**