

May 30, 2014

Memo to: Harrison West Civic Association

From: Mark Dravillas, AICP, Development Department
Susan DeLay, Development Department

Subject: Harrison West Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF) Plan

The following is a draft UIRF Plan for consideration by the Harrison West Society. It is a list of the UIRF projects that were suggested by the community that were evaluated by city staff and approved in terms of constructability and other factors. Twenty-five UIRF requests were received for Harrison West. Staff reviewed the community suggestions to note general eligibility requirements, duplicate suggestions, project feasibility, and remove suggestions that are currently planned and funded. This list, provided the support of the Harrison West Society, will serve as the Harrison West UIRF Plan.

The Development Department respectfully requests that the Harrison West Society schedule the draft plan for a vote at its next meeting. Notification to the Development Department (Mark Dravillas, mcdravillas@columbus.gov) of a positive recommendation from the Harrison West Society by July 15th will allow for the possibility that funds can be allocated to work toward implementation of the first project(s) in 2015.

Important notes:

- Support from the Harrison West Society does not imply that any or all projects will be implemented, but that this list will serve as a guide in identifying future potential projects.
- It is expected that this UIRF Plan will serve the community for the next 5 years.
- UIRF Plans can be amended in future years with new project ideas. The Development Department will identify additional details on how to amend UIRF Plans.
- A commitment to a given dollar amount for each UIRF community cannot be given, as it is unknown if funds will be available on an annual basis and because different areas have different sized populations and potential needs. Staff will make every effort to equally distribute dollars throughout the UIRF area.
- Any projects noted with an asterisk*, including planted medians, bike lanes, and road diets are listed as items for further analysis and consideration, including a study/preliminary engineering to determine the project's feasibility and particular conditions. These items are contingent on and could only be considered for implementation after 1) the development, on the part of the city, of access management guidelines, 2) an analysis of potential impacts on access to properties in the area of interest and consistency with said access management guidelines, 3) a traffic study, 4) a maintenance agreement with an established entity who will be responsible for maintaining the items (for example, plantings in median strips) and hold the necessary insurance policy, 5) neighborhood support for any potential changes in the usage of the right-of-way (travel lane, parking, etc.).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Harrison West Society UIRF Plan – Recommended Potential Projects	
Project Type	Location
New sidewalks	See “Selected projects that were not supported”
Park improvements	Allocate a percentage of UIRF dollars for: Playground equipment, benches, tables, garbage cans, and/or trees at Harrison West Park and a potential canoe/kayak portage site on the Olentangy River. Specific installations and other improvements would occur based on staff review and follow up communication with the Harrison West Society to clarify needs and potential UIRF support and follow up consultation with the given neighborhood.
Street Lighting – standard, “cobra head”	None requested.
Street lighting – decorative (only eligible within commercial districts)	Third Avenue (in vicinity of commercial properties): Cost estimates are being developed for this request. Continued communication between the community and the city will be required to determine feasibility, particularly from the budget perspective.
Road “diet”*	None requested.
Alley repair (Chip and Seal/Surface Treatment)	None requested.
Curb replacements	None requested.
Multi-use asphalt path or other bike facility (lanes or sharrows)*	None requested. Existing UIRF trail project underway.
Planted median*	No new medians requested.
Curb ramps*	None requested.
Intersection “bump outs”*	None requested.
Other traffic calming*	None requested.
Street and Other Trees	Allocate a percentage of UIRF dollars for the planting of street trees in areas recommended by City Forester, with follow up communication with the given neighborhood.
Intersection or road improvements*	See “Selected projects that were not supported”

Selected projects that were not supported include:

- Some sidewalk requests are for sidewalk repair, which is not eligible for UIRF.
- Sidewalk request under the railroad underpass on W. Third is an existing project.
- Replace asphalt streets with brick (not eligible).
- Construction of a community garden (not eligible).
- Rebuild or remove damaged traffic island (maintenance and repair not eligible).
- Mirrors at intersections (not eligible, not a capital projects).