

**Minutes of the
TROY CITY COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
April 2, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, this meeting was held remotely via videoconference.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Council President Mantello.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: The roll being called, the following answered to their names: Council Member Gulli, Council Member Ashe-McPherson, Council Member Steele, Council Member Cummings, Council Member Zalewski, Council Member McDermott, Council President Mantello, Chair.

In attendance were Mayor Patrick Madden, Deputy Mayor Monica Kurzejeski, Corporation Counsel James Caruso, and Deputy Comptroller Andrew Piotrowski.

Public Forum - written statements were submitted by the following individuals and are appended to these minutes:

- Sam Chiappone, Ida Street.
- Eric Wisher, Troy UFA

Deputy Comptroller Andrew Piotrowski gave an overview of the Preliminary 2019 Audit Report.

23. Ordinance Authorizing And Approving, The Filing Of The City Of Troy's Application For Funding Pursuant To The Housing And Community Development Act Of 1974, The McKinney Act Emergency Shelter Grant Program And The Home Investment Partnership Program And Designating The Mayor As The Authorized Representative Of The City For Such Purposes (Council President Mantello) (At The Request Of The Administration)
For introduction only.

39. Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Submit The City Of Troy's Five Year Strategic Consolidated Plan To The U. S. Department Of Housing And Urban Development (Council President Mantello) (At The Request Of The Administration)
For introduction only. Resolution title amended to insert "and the One Year Annual Action Plan" after "Consolidated Plan," 7 ayes, 0 nos.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

A video recording of this meeting is on file at the City Clerk's office.



December 9, 2019

Carolin Skriptshak
Community Development Program Supervisor
City of Troy
Housing & Community Development
433 River Street, 5th Floor
Troy, New York 12180

Dear Carolin,

We are writing this letter for two reasons. First, we would like to sincerely thank you, Charles Doyle and V. Zubkovs for conducting the public informational meetings over the past month, regarding the Community Development Grant (CDBG) Funding Process. Second, we would like to formalize our requests to the City as outlined in this letter and attachments including; a meeting response comment sheet, letters of support, City of Troy Project Revitalization Map, and our groups timeline for requesting CDBG Funds.

Our sincere desire is to see long term, infrastructure improvements that will enhance 4th Street north of Canal Ave to Division St., one of the main traveled corridors and historic areas in the city.

The Little Italy Area has seen an increase in ownership investments in our housing stock. Over the last two years, within our neighborhood borders, 72 properties have been sold on the open market and many more have changed hands via private sale. A person walking through our area would see many work crews, building permits, and projects going on by both long term residents and new owners. Additionally, the Troy Police Department has made significant efforts, through dangerous work, to remove the less desirable residents and increase the quality of life. We want to capitalize on this positive work and request the attached, long-term, physical improvements to our area.

One discussion point that is concerning to our group is the lack of active revitalization projects taking place in the South-Central section of our city. This lack of project work was noted during the recent public informational meeting and shown on the attached map as displayed at these meetings. While we appreciate, support, and applaud all the great efforts happening to the north and south of us we feel it's time to address the South-Central Area with CDBG Funds to keep pace with the revitalization happening around us.

Our group is proposing the infrastructure improvements to 4th Street as outlined on the attached meeting comment sheet. As a group, we have discussed these improvements for our neighborhood and we would like to request that the City focus on these items as first priorities for the upcoming CDBG application process and final plan due to HUD in Mid-May 2020. These requested improvements are firmly seeking

a long-term major impact opportunity for 4th St. Our requests fall in line perfectly with the City's own comprehensive plan (CTCP) and specific improvements outlined in the plan for Strategies for South-Central / Little Italy. All requested improvements are from the first priorities of that report.

Our vision is to continue working with city administrators, council members, and staff to develop and execute a revitalization plan for 4th Street improvements within the next two years as we have been doing since 2014 (see attached timeline).

The QLC would like to thank all who have listened to our request and are willing to work with us to complete this effort including Mayor Madden, Deputy Mayor Kurzejeski, current and past City Council Members, fellow neighborhood groups, Steven Strichman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development, James Rath, Assistant Planner, V.Zubkovs and Charles Doyle, Planners City of Troy, and Carolin Skriptshak, Community Development Program Supervisor, past Mayor Rosamilia, Tim Mattice, former Director of Community Housing and Development.

In closing, we see the next round of CDBG Funds as an opportunity to bring the revitalization vision for 4th St. north of Canal Ave. to reality. These improvements would go so very far in reaching our goal to make our neighborhood the best that it can be and provide the best return on investment for the entire city.

Sincerely,

The image shows handwritten signatures and addresses for several members of the Quality of Life Committee. On the left, there are signatures for Sam Chiappone (90 10th St, Troy, NY 12180) and Michael Esposito (304 4th St, Troy, NY 12180). In the center, there are signatures for Heather Hamlin (104 1st St, Troy, NY), Denise Saint-Onge (227 Fourth St, Troy, NY), and Dan Frank (91 Brunswick rd, Troy, NY). On the right, there is a signature for Josh Chiappone (63 Maple Ave, Troy, NY 12180).

Quality of Life Committee Troy's Little Italy - South-Central Troy Members
Sam Chiappone and Mike Esposito (Co-facilitators), Josh Chiappone, Seamus Donnelly, Dan Franklin,
Heather Hamlin, Dan Lennon, and Denise Saint-Onge

November 21,2019

Carolyn Skriptshak
Community Development Program Supervisor
City of Troy
Housing & Community Development

The _Osgood Neighbors and South Troy Neighborhood Watch groups are pleased to submit this letter in support of the Quality of Life Committee's (Little Italy / South Central Troy) request for Community Development Block Grant Funding (CDBG) in upcoming grant cycle for 4th Street infrastructure improvements starting north of the Poestenkill Creek.

We support the project because the 4th Street corridor is a high traffic primary route into and out of the City of Troy for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians. It is the main gateway to many business district attractions such as summer events and the Troy Farmers Market, as well as neighborhood events in the Burden, Osgood, Little Italy, and Pottery Districts. For many visitors to our city, 4th Street is their first impression of Troy.

For these reasons all of 4th Street from South Troy to the Business District needs to be an exceptional example of the pride and commitment, the City of Troy has for welcoming visitors to a clean, enjoyable, safe, business-friendly, and modern city. This project will be a logical continuation of past and current CDBG projects along 4th Street aimed at improving the infrastructure of this vital gateway to Troy.

Given these stated reasons, we support the request as it is in line with the City of Troy's Comprehensive Plan (CTCP) in three areas outlined below:

1. ***Installation of new sidewalks and curb cuts as completed in South Troy and North Troy:*** Our group feels very strongly that this improvement will provide a connection with our neighborhood downtown and with South Troy. The continuity of infrastructure will encourage private investment and encourage safer pedestrian travel. (CTCP, Strategies for South Central, SC1)
2. ***Update street lighting as completed in South Troy:*** This is another improvement that our group feels strongly about as it will visually improve the connecting corridor and reduce criminal activity. The continuity of

infrastructure again between South Troy and Downtown will encourage private investment and encourage safer pedestrian travel. This project will also remove old or redundant street poles, remove or repair redundant/damaged or abandoned overhead wires. (CTCP, Strategies for South Central, SC1)

3. ***Installation of formal crosswalks:*** To be clear, our group feels that crosswalks should be installed per DOT specifications so the work lasts as long as possible. We would likely add plastic crossing poll, to help slow traffic. Polls should have a knockdown hinge so fire trucks can run them over without damaging the City's equipment. The continuity of infrastructure again between South Troy and Downtown will encourage private investment and encourage safer pedestrian travel. (CTCP, Strategies for South Central, SC1)

In closing, we know the best long-term return on a CDBG investment to benefit the entire South Central Area is to complete the revitalization efforts to 4th Street from South Troy, through South-Central to the Business District.

We hope to find a favorable response to this request as we move closer to the May 15, 2020, City of Troy submission to HUD for the upcoming grant cycle.

Sincerely,

For Osgood Neighbors – Julia Soto, Sid Fleisher, Diane Bell,

251 4th Street
Troy, NY 12180

November 29th, 2019

Carolin Skriptshak
Community Development Program Supervisor
City of Troy
Housing & Community Development

I, Andrea Daley live at 251 4th Street Troy. I have been a resident for the past 13 years. I have spent an enormous amount of time, and money into improving Little Italy's neighborhood. I have seen very little results of improvement from the city in the immediate area of which I live.

Fourth Street is one of the four main entrances into Troy. I think it might be the busiest next to Congress St. When people enter from the south, they see buildings boarded up, red X marks on buildings, sidewalks in disrepair, trash along the walkways resulting from a corner store, windows that are draped with sheets along with broken window shades. It is not a pleasant view. For some, it's their first impression of Troy. What does it say?

I suggest that Fourth street, from Ida, north to Ferry, be a priority to put in new sidewalks, trees, and lighting. I hope that a relationship with code and the owners with houses in need of obvious repair, abandonment or boarded up, would be notified and encouraged to fix up their properties.

I would like to see the Community Development Block Funding, be applied to this area.

Sincerely,



Andrea Daley

The Troy CYO Center 237 4th Street, is pleased to submit this letter in support of the Quality of Life Committee's (Little Italy / South Central Troy) request for Community Development Block Grant Funding (CDBG) in upcoming grant cycle for 4th Street infrastructure improvements starting north of the Poestenkill Creek.

We support the project because the 4th Street corridor is a high traffic primary route into and out of the City of Troy for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians. It is the main gateway to many business district attractions such as summer events and the Troy Farmers Market, as well as neighborhood events in the Burden, Osgood, Little Italy, and Pottery Districts. For many visitors to our city, 4th Street is their first impression of Troy.

For these reasons all of 4th Street from South Troy to the Business District needs to be an exceptional example of the pride and commitment, the City of Troy has for welcoming visitors to a clean, enjoyable, safe, business-friendly, and modern city. This project will be a logical continuation of past and current CDBG projects along 4th Street aimed at improving the infrastructure of this vital gateway to Troy.

Given these stated reasons, we support the request as it is in line with the City of Troy's Comprehensive Plan (CTCP) in three areas outlined below:

1. ***Installation of new sidewalks and curb cuts as completed in South Troy and North Troy:*** Our group feels very strongly that this improvement will provide a connection with our neighborhood downtown and with South Troy. The continuity of infrastructure will encourage private investment and encourage safer pedestrian travel. (CTCP, Strategies for South Central, SC1)
2. ***Update street lighting as completed in South Troy:*** This is another improvement that our group feels strongly about as it will visually improve the connecting corridor and reduce criminal activity. The continuity of infrastructure again between South Troy and Downtown will encourage private investment and encourage safer pedestrian travel. This project will also remove old or redundant street poles, remove or repair redundant/damaged or abandoned overhead wires. (CTCP, Strategies for South Central, SC1)
3. ***Installation of formal crosswalks:*** To be clear, our group feels that crosswalks should be installed per DOT specifications so the work lasts as long as possible. We would likely add plastic crossing poll, to help slow traffic. Polls should have a knockdown hinge so fire trucks can run them over without damaging the City's equipment. The continuity of infrastructure again between South Troy and Downtown will encourage private investment and encourage safer pedestrian travel. (CTCP, Strategies for South Central, SC1)

In closing, we know the best long-term return on a CDBG investment to benefit the entire South Central Area is to complete the revitalization efforts to 4th Street from South Troy, through South-Central to the Business District.

We hope to find a favorable response to this request as we move closer to the May 15, 2020, City of Troy submission to HUD for the upcoming grant cycle.

Sincerely,

Raymond R. Piscitelli

Raymond R. Piscitelli
Executive Director



Troy
Uniformed Firefighters Association
Local 86, IAFF, AFL-CIO-CLC



P.O. Box 162 • Troy, New York 12181
Telephone (518) 273-2304



April 2, 2020

Dear City Leaders,

As stated in our last letter at the 3/17/2020 Special Council Meeting, the members of the Troy UFA remain committed to the citizens of Troy during the Coronavirus Pandemic Outbreak.

UFA members are on the front line dealing with the patients' medical emergencies. We've had multiple crews transport patients with the Coronavirus. So far no UFA Member has tested positive with the Coronavirus as a result. Some members have been quarantined and all have been cleared. UFA members are taking all necessary PPE precautions on every call and thoroughly decontaminating ambulances after each call. It appears the current plan implemented by Chief McMahan and agreed to by the UFA is working fine.

We would like to thank the Chiefs for making sure all members are equipped daily with enough PPE.

The Water Detail is back in place at E-6 (Canal Ave) thanks to the continued sacrifices of the UFA members for the safety of Troy's citizens as well as its firefighters. Their safety is paramount to us. This detail is in place because of the closure of Campbell Ave. and the long detour creating difficulty in getting to the southern most part of the City (Stow Ave. area).

Thank you again for your support, many of you have reached out to check on the UFA members and dropped off food. These calls of concern and dropping off stuff to the firehouses will go a long way in helping our members getting through these difficult times.

Very Truly Yours,

TROY UFA LOCAL 86

Eric Wisner, President

Affiliated With

International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO-CLC • New York State Professional Firefighters Association, Inc. • National Fire Protective Association
Troy Area Labor Council • New York State Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO • Capital District Union Label and Service Trades Council, AFL-CIO
Union Label and Service Trades Department of the State of New York, AFL-CIO