

- **What Department or bureau is Bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?**

The Consolidated Grants Program (CGP) legislation consists of three ordinances and one resolution and originates in the Department of Community and Economic Development.

The attached legislation, from the Department of Community and Economic Development serves as the template for the City of Allentown's application for federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) funds. Each piece of legislation serves a specific purpose, which when combined, contain all the recommended regulatory steps need to apply for these federal funds. These are the same types of legislation presented to City Council every year. However, the actual dollar amounts, list of activities and funds available are different every year.

- **Summary and Facts of the Bill**

42 Ordinance #2 Establish CDBG accounts

Summary: This legislation is required to establish expenditure accounts for the City budgeting system, in addition to listing all the activities/programs which will be funded for the 2016-2017 Consolidated Grants Program year. It provides the basis for the creation of the Action Plan which is submitted to HUD as the application for the CDBG, HOME and ESG program funds which the City receives every year.

- **Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **What does the Bill do – what are the specific goals/tasks the bill seek to accomplish**
 - **What are the Benefits of doing this/Down-side of doing this**
 - **How does this Bill related to the City's Vision/Mission/Priorities**

This ordinance provides the City with the second step needed to allow the City to apply for and then access \$3,202,863 in grant funds for the July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 program year. All activities funded comply with the CDBG, HOME and ESG regulations as promulgated by HUD and allow the City to further its Community and Economic Development Initiatives. This bill provides the second step in the process which forms the basis to complete the strategies of the second year of the City of Allentown's Consolidated Plan for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020.

- **Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **Cost (Initial and ongoing)**
 - **Benefits (initial and ongoing)**

This ordinance provides the City the ability to expend \$ 3,202,863 in federal funds to complete a variety of activities including demolition, public services, neighborhood improvements, administration of the programs, etc. This legislation has no adverse financial impact on the City and the General Fund.

- **Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **If transferring funds, please make sure bill gives specific accounts; if appropriating funds from a grant list the agency awarding the grant.**

The funding sources for this ordinance are the federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG).

- **Priority status/Deadlines, if any**

This bill has a high priority status. Failure to submit the application to HUD by May 15, 2016 could result in the loss of this money.

- **Why should Council unanimously support this bill?**

The City has again followed the scoring process approved by Council and used in the past to develop this budget. In addition, funding decisions were made by complying with HUD's regulations, which require the City to address concerns/needs noted in its five year Consolidated Plan