PUBLIC HEARING - CDBG PROGRAM INCOME FUNDS

The Town of Greenfield, through the Department of Planning and Community Development, will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.** at the **Greenfield Office of Planning and Development** located at **114 Main Street, Greenfield** The purpose of this hearing is to provide an update on the Town of Greenfield’s CDBG Program activities and to seek citizen comment on the potential allocation of CDBG Program Income funds to the following activities:

- Infrastructure – municipal high speed internet broadband
- Public Facilities – pocket park adjacent to new municipal garage

**INFRASTRUCTURE** –

The City of Greenfield is building out a municipal high speed broadband internet system. Work started in 2016 to install the fiber optic cable and access points; the system engineering and provisioning is underway; the first residential customer went active in June 2017. The initial build out was to be funded with a $5 million municipal revenue bond. GCET experienced some start-up challenges and in late 2017, it was recognized that additional funding for build-out would be necessary to achieve operational sustainability. The City prepared and submitted a request from our CDBG18 funds for $200,000 to support GCET build-out provisioning in the residential neighborhood areas around Downtown. The CDBG18 funds will become available in summer 2018. As the financial planning for build-out was better defined in early 2018, it became clear that GCET would need additional funding prior to the summer availability of CDBG18 funds. This request of $63,000 in CDBG Program Income funds will be used to cover the cost of system engineering and provisioning GCET serves in the residential neighborhoods (see map). This activity is a CDBG eligible activity and meets the national objective of serving neighborhoods that are predominantly low/moderate income households.

**PUBLIC FACILITIES** –

Greenfield’s municipal garage project will create a small pocket park between the garage and Bank Row. Greenfield is planning to use approximately $30,000 to create two park installations – one is an interpretive sign describing the history of two historic Greenfield figures whose work advanced the understanding of science regarding dinosaurs and honey bees. The second installation is either an actual dinosaur footprint or a cast print. This activity is a CDBG eligible activity and meets the national objective of eliminating slum/blight as it is the improvement of a pocket park in an area identified as blighted.