

CD

Tinti, Elisa

From: Shaut, Andrea
Sent: Thursday, April 01, 2021 9:05 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Cc: Worthington, Rita
Subject: FW: Crime/Gun Violence Request

Good morning Elisa,

Can you please include the following emails in my communications folder? I will be assigning this discussion to Community Development for April.

Thank you,
Andrea

From: Worthington, Rita
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 4:37 PM
To: Davis, Tony <tdavis@kingston-ny.gov>
Cc: Hirsch, Michele <mhirsch@kingston-ny.gov>; Alderman <Alderman@kingston-ny.gov>
Subject: Re: Crime/Gun Violence Request

Tony:

Thanks for supporting the idea of utilizing CDBG monies to help curb the violence that's going on in the city. From email conversations with both Amanda Bruck and the Mayor, it appears the CDBG monies may not be allowed to be utilized for installation of ring doorbells/cameras on private residences. However, those funds may be used for public cameras in the public right of way.

As this pertains to public safety, I'd like to request that this be on the agenda for your next public safety meeting for the committee to discuss. I would be glad to attend to field any questions. I realize I may also need to go through community development and/or finance.

Thank you.
Rita

From: Davis, Tony
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 2:52 PM
To: Worthington, Rita; Noble, Steve; Alderman
Cc: Bruck, Amanda
Subject: RE: Crime/Gun Violence Request

Rita,

A great suggestion on a way to utilize CDBG monies in needed areas.

Mayor, as the Chair of Public Safety. I along with Rennie, Jeffrey and community members have been discussing various ways to curb this violence in our City streets.

I would like to ask you to look into the requirements of the CDBG funds and/or other potential funding to support this initiative.

Tony

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: "Worthington, Rita" <ward4@kingston-ny.gov>

Date: 3/18/21 12:03 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Noble, Steve" <SNoble@kingston-ny.gov>

Cc: "Bruck, Amanda" <abruck@kingston-ny.gov>, Alderman <Alderman@kingston-ny.gov>

Subject: Crime/Gun Violence Request

Dear Mayor Noble,

I've recently been in contact with Amanda Bruck with regard to using CDGB monies for violence interruption and the gun violence that is happening in our city.

As indicated to Mandy, a group of community leaders, activists, business owners and myself have been meeting and talking about providing homeowners, especially those in the mid-town area with Ring Doorbells as a solution to curb violence in the community. Oftentimes when a crime happens, people are reluctant to provide information to the police which in turn causes the case to go unsolved and the perpetrator of the crime never being brought to justice.

The thought is to install Ring cameras on homes/apartments to all residents who want them free of charge. It would be totally voluntary. Police would have access to any video captured on the Ring doorbells, while at the same time making sure none of the homeowners'/renter's information is made public. (I've spoken to DA Clegg about this to make sure any information obtained from any cameras could be obtained anonymously.)

From Mandy's response, I understand that subsidizing privately owned doorbell cameras may not fit as an eligible activity under HUD regulations. However, Poughkeepsie and Newburgh have both engaged in what's known as the SNUG program (GUNS Spelled backwards), which has used CDBG monies as well as State and Federal Justice Dept., grant dollars.

I know that the FY2021 CDBG applications are already under review. However, should there be any additional funding that can be reallocated, I would ask that we keep my request in mind. Also, if there is a chance that we could use some of the \$18.66M that was just awarded to Kingston from the Federal Government to help subsidize obtaining cameras for private citizens in some of the high crime areas, I'd like to bring it before the Council.

I know you understand the urgency of this matter and how important this issue is and the immediate need to address it.

Thank you for your time.

Rita M. Worthington
Alderwoman, Ward 4

