

## **BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 5:15 PM

City Council Chambers

### **AGENDA**

1. C&L Aerospace Update
2. Commission on Cultural Development Grant Recommendations (see attached Memo)
  - a. Bangor Symphony Orchestra
  - b. Maine Discovery Museum/Maine Science Festival
  - c. Penobscot Theatre Company
3. Expansion of CDBG Facade Grant Eligibility Area (see attached Memo and map)
4. **REFERRAL – ORDINANCE 15-056**, Amending Chapter 260, Signs, of the Code of the City of Bangor, By Clarifying Window Sign Requirements and Allowing Umbrella Logos (see attached Council Action and Council Ordinance)
5. **Executive Session** – Economic Development – Property Acquisition – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C) (Confidential Memo provided separately)
6. Committee Action on Above Item
7. **Executive Session** – Economic Development – Business Development – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C) (Confidential Memo provided separately)
8. Committee Action on Above Item

# MEMORANDUM



TO: Business & Economic Development Committee  
FROM: Caitlin Brooke, Business Development  
Specialist/Downtown Coordinator  
DATE: January 20, 2015

## Commission on Cultural Development Grant Recommendations

At its most recent meeting, the Commission on Cultural Development recommended that the Bangor City Council approve the following three grant applications.

### **Bangor Symphony Orchestra**

#### *Project Summary*

The Bangor Symphony Orchestra (BSO) would like to continue to expand its outreach initiatives throughout Bangor via its "On the Town" program. The BSO has requested funding to conduct ensemble performances at a variety of locations in Bangor (Bangor Mall, Bangor Public Library, Bangor International Airport, Acadia Hospital, and others). The BSO's application was for \$5,000. The Commission recommendation is to award a grant for \$2,500.

### **Maine Discovery Museum/Maine Science Festival**

#### *Project Summary*

The Maine Science Festival (MSF), with its inaugural festival to be held in March 2015 in Bangor, is committed to showcasing and highlighting the remarkable science that happens throughout Maine every day. The requested funds will support general funding for the Festival. (The Maine Discovery Museum is acting as the fiscal sponsor for the MSF.) The application was for \$2,500. The Commission recommendation is to award a grant for \$2,000.

### **Penobscot Theatre Company**

#### *Project Summary*

Penobscot Theatre Company's request would support the Maine premiere of the production *End Days*, which is presented in collaboration with the Maine Science Festival. Specifically, the funds will be used to defray the cost of dramatic rights, professional wages for the director, five-person cast and four-person design team, production materials, and additional programming that leverages the play as a "jumping off point" for facilitated discussions. The Theatre's application was for \$2,000. The Commission recommendation is to award a grant for \$1,500.

If the three projects are funded by the Council at the recommended levels, the Commission will have \$1,081 remaining for this fiscal year.

# MEMORANDUM



TO: Business & Economic Development Committee  
FROM: Jason Bird, Community and Economic Development Officer  
DATE: January 14, 2015

## Expansion of CDBG Facade Grant Eligibility Area

The City's Facade Grant Program, funded entirely with Community Development Block Grant funding, has historically been restricted to commercial or mixed use properties in Downtown and the West Side Village. We are fielding more and more requests from business owners in other parts of the City, asking us to consider expanding the eligibility area.

CDBG funding requires that the investments in this program only be made in Census tracts that are considered Low to Moderate Income. The attached map details the other eligible areas of the City. If the eligibility area is expanded, other key features of the program will remain the same; a 50% project match would still be required, and signs, siding, windows, doors and other exterior improvements would be eligible.

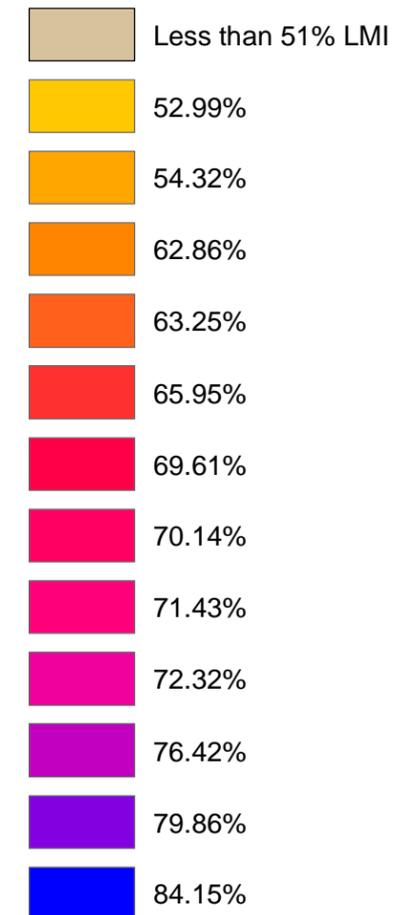
Staff supports the eligibility expansion and recommends Council approval.

Attachment: Map of Low to Moderate Income Neighborhoods in Bangor

N

# LMI Percentage (2014) by Census Block Group (2010 U.S. Census)

## Legend



FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY  
Created 4-24-14 by JWB  
Updated 7-22-14 by JWB

**COUNCIL ACTION**

**Item No. 15-056**

**Date:** January 12, 2015

**Item/Subject:** **ORDINANCE**, Amending Chapter 260, Signs, of the Code of the City of Bangor, By Clarifying Window Sign Requirements and Allowing Umbrella Logos

**Responsible Department:** Legal

**Commentary:** This ordinance will amend Chapter 260 of the sign code to clarify language regarding window signage and umbrella logos. Currently, the ordinance has been interpreted by some to only include window signage on the first floor. If approved, this ordinance amendment will clarify that window signs for commercial and office space are permitted on all floors, so long as the sign takes up no more than 20% of the area of the window. Further, the amendment would allow umbrellas with logos for outdoor seating. Downtown businesses have requested this, as they can often get free umbrellas with logos from suppliers, but umbrellas without logos are expensive and must be replaced each year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head

**Manager's Comments:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Carl M. Cole*  
City Manager

**Associated Information:** Ordinance

**Budget Approval:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

**Legal Approval:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature]*  
City Solicitor

**Introduced for**

**Passage**

**First Reading**

**Referral** to the B&ED Committee meeting on January 20, 2014

Assigned to Councilor Graham



## CITY OF BANGOR

### **ORDINANCE**, Amending Chapter 260, Signs, of the Code of the City of Bangor, By Clarifying Window Sign Requirements and Allowing Umbrella Logos

**WHEREAS**, in 2013, the Sign Code was amended to relax certain restrictions on windows signs, namely by allowing window signs without being included in overall limits on amounts of signage;

**WHEREAS**, the intent of the amendment was not to allow window signs that covered more than 20% of the window area; and

**WHEREAS**, restaurants with outdoor seating often wish to place umbrellas for the benefit of their patrons, but umbrellas without logos are expensive and typically do not last more than one season;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BANGOR AS FOLLOWS, THAT

Chapter 260 of the Code of the City of Bangor be amended as follows:

#### **§ 260-1. Definitions.**

...

#### **UMBRELLA SIGN**

An umbrella with one or more logos or other signs incorporated into its design.

...

#### **§ 260-5. Signs exempt from permit.**

...

#### **I. Umbrella signs.**

...

#### **§ 260-6. General standards and limitations.**

- A. Window signs. ~~Window signs shall not exceed 20% of the window area on the ground floor street frontage of a premises. No more than 20% of any window may be covered by window signs.~~ Window signs shall not be included in the calculation of the number of signs and sign area allowed for a business.

...

K. Umbrella signs. Umbrella signs are permitted only when used for providing shade and protection from rain for outdoor seating for a restaurant, bar, tavern, or lounge, as defined in § 165-13. An umbrella sign may be located on a City sidewalk or esplanade only if permitted under an outdoor seating permit or license agreement with the City.

Additions are underlined, deletions ~~struck through~~.