

# Memo

**To:** City Council

**From:** Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director

**Date:** March 6, 2020

**Re:** CEDAM Community Development Fellowship

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During two recent community and economic development strategy meetings with the MEDC and Redevelopment Ready Communities staff, the City of Charlotte was encouraged to make application to the Community and Economic Development Association of Michigan's Community Development Fellowship program.

This program would provide more than \$55,000 in funding for a full-time, 15-month, local community development position intended to help aid in the areas of organizational capacity, local collaboration and reducing barriers to development.

In turn, the City would need to provide office space, supervision and a \$6,000 local match, which can be split over two fiscal years. CEDAM will provide the funding for the required training and travel.

Rather than explain the program in detail in this memo, I am providing the Program Description for your review.

The deadline to apply is coming-up very shortly (March 13), so I have asked for the authorization to apply to be placed on the expedited portion of your Council agenda.

City Manager Guetschow and I believe this is a very good opportunity to maximize our community development capacity at a critical time.

As you know from previous presentations, we are currently enjoying an enhanced level of staffing due to the creation of CharlotteRising and the realignment of responsibilities with the Chamber of Commerce. Adding another professional to this group at a time when the City will be looking to complete RRC certification, update its zoning code and re-evaluate the Community Master Plan will help ensure the success of these significant projects.