City of **JOPLIN** City Council Agenda Item

Requested Council Meeting Date: November 16, 2015

Item: Amendment to CDBG-DR Subrecipient Agreement with Crosslines Churches of the Joplin Area, Inc.
Originating Department: Planning, Development and Neighborhood Services

Attachments: 1) Exhibit A - Crosslines Request Letter
2) Exhibit B - Amendment to CDBG-DR Subrecipient Agreement
3) Council Bill No. 2015-406

Planning and Community Development Director: Troy Bolander
Finance Department: Leslie Haase
City Attorney: Peter Edwards
City Manager: Samuel Anselm

Recommended Action: Approval of Council Bill No. 2015-406

INTRODUCTION:

The following Council Bill is for an amendment to an agreement approved on February 2, 2015, between the City of Joplin and Crosslines Churches of the Joplin Area, Inc. (Crosslines) to provide funding for the rehabilitation of a larger facility to accommodate the expanded services Crosslines is providing as a result additional needs since May, 2011.

DISCUSSION:

Crosslines is a community of cross-denominational volunteers whose main mission is to supply emergency food, clothing, hygiene items, baby supplies and basic household necessities. Additionally Crosslines provides assistance with rental and utility obligations in crisis situations.

In September, 2011, The Salvation Army of Joplin closed their Food Pantry and stopped distributing Government Food Commodities so they could focus on tornado case management. Crosslines is now the only entity in the Joplin area that distributes Government Food Commodities. This has resulted in the need for larger food pantry space to adequately serve those in need. Crosslines has also seen an increased need for the other services they provide since May, 2011.

The original agreement provides for reimbursement of costs in an amount not to exceed $474,560.00 that will be incurred in the rehabilitation and retrofitting of a building at 320 School Avenue in accordance with HUD CDBG-DR and City of Joplin requirements.

PRESENT SITUATION:

Crosslines has encountered obstacles in completed the renovations at 320 School Avenue due to a

couple of factors. First, it became apparent that the original cost estimate was inadequate. Additional items needed to be included; specifically, adding a dock to unload commodity items, a security fence, exterior improvements, and additional roof repairs. Secondly, first bid and only bid came in considerably over. Crosslines, their architect, City staff and Deloitte staff have since helped value-engineer the project to provide the necessary improvements at the lowest reasonable cost possible. Crosslines has engaged their architect to provide construction oversight. Bid packets were let for segments of the work to be performed. Having completed this due diligence, Crosslines now knows that they need an additional $321,302.00 in CDBG-DR funding to complete the renovation and occupy the building, for a total renovation cost of $795,862.00. Crosslines anticipates work to be complete in April, 2016. Crosslines is currently in temporary quarters and has had to suspend some services until the building is ready. Crosslines' request for additional assistance is attached as Exhibit A.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Staff recommends the approval of this Council Bill on an emergency basis, Section 2.12(1) of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Joplin, Missouri, in that said ordinance deals with public health and safety issues, so Crosslines may complete the retrofit of a facility to accommodate for the emergency services for those in need.