

**Allen County PY 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program**  
**AGENDA AND MINUTES**  
**1st Public Hearing**  
**Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**

A representative of GLCAP reviewed the following information to apply for funding under the State of Ohio 2020 CDBG Programs:

1. Approximate Funding anticipated for the following major CDBG funds (from the DRAFT PY 2020 consolidated plan, to be finalized following the 30 day comment period after a March 1, 2020 Public Hearing in Columbus OH):

Community Housing Impact & Preservation (CHIP)	\$24.9m
Housing Development Assistance Program	\$26.5m
CHDO Competitive Operating Grant Program	\$150k
Homeless Crisis Response Grant Program	\$20m
Housing Opportunities for Persons w/AIDS	\$1.7m
Community Development Program	\$23m
Economic Development & Public Infrastructure	\$10m
Target of Opportunity Grant (formerly Discretionary Grant)	\$3m
Training and TA	\$550k

2. The County is eligible for the following PY 2020 Community Development programs, providing the County meets the applicable requirements:

**A. Community Development Allocation Funding Program**

1. Each project must meet one of these National Objectives: (1) benefit LMI persons (80% median income); (2) aid in elimination of slums or blight.

Must meet the LMI criterion by one of the following:

- a. Having a project in a Census area that is over 51% LMI households (there are very few of these areas);
- b. Having a project in a neighborhood that is surveyed door-to-door, and the survey documents that over 51% of the households are LMI. A certain sample size must be reached, based on minimums set by ODOT.
- c. Having a project exclusively benefit one of several types of beneficiaries, known as "limited clientele". These sets include abused children, elderly persons, battered spouses, homeless persons, adults that are "severely disabled", illiterate adults, persons living with AIDS, and migrant farm workers. Programs commonly provide services and facilities for the elderly, and many projects are undertaken to accommodate the disabled.

2. State objectives: Improved housing for LMI, construction and improvement of public facilities and infrastructure in communities with LMI concentration; create and retain permanent private sector job opportunities, principally for persons of LMI, through expansion and retention of business and industry; assist communities in alleviation of threats to public health or welfare requiring immediate resolution; assist in revitalization of Central Business Districts; assist communities in their compliance with federal laws to affirmatively further fair housing; and assist in the development of local micro-enterprise businesses.

3. Funding for program year 2020: **Approximate Allocation to County – \$220,000**

4. Administration and Fair Housing is combined for up to 20% of grant. After administration, the County has approximately 80% to fund projects throughout the county. Cities/counties may pool funds for common projects.

Timing: New Community Development Implementation Strategy (CDIS) requirement implemented by the state. a) Replaces the former CAS; b) allows grantees opportunity to holistically prioritize investment; c) requires participation from stakeholders. **The CDIS meeting with stakeholders is currently scheduled for – May 14, 2020 at 10:00 AM, after the 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing meeting.**

5. State will award on or about September 1, 2020. Grant agreement signed within 10 days of date in cover letter. All work completed by end of August 2022; all funds drawn by end September 2022; disbursed, expended, final report by end of October 2022.

6. Number of projects: 6 maximum

*Eligible activities include the following:*

Acquisition

Disposition

Senior Centers

Public facilities and improvements (but not general government facilities like city halls or township offices, unless project is for ADA handicap access)

Clearance, demolition

Parks & Recreation Facilities (park has to primarily benefit low moderate income)

Neighborhood Facilities

Solid Waste Disposal Facilities

Parking Facilities

Street Improvements, roadway reconstruction

Public utilities

Curbs & Sidewalks

Water & Sewer Facilities: new/replacement sewer or water lines

Flood & Drainage Facilities

Public services (15%) - must document it would be a new service or quantifiable increase in an existing service (such as serving a specific number of additional people)

Relocation costs for LMI, families, business, nonprofit, farm operations where required

Removal of architectural barriers (ADA)

Building rehabilitation: residential, low-income public housing, commercial/industrial: exterior and code violation corrections

Housing rehab and assistance to LMI

Code enforcement

Weatherization

Historic preservation, not in general government buildings

Economic development job-creating improvements

Planning and policy-planning (limit 10% up to \$10,000), management, capacity-building activities

Fire protection equipment

Cannot do maintenance and operation of public facilities

## **B. Neighborhood Revitalization Program**

Eligible activities include public facilities improvements such as constructing, reconstructing, and/or rehabilitating infrastructure in targeted areas of distress that do not fit within the criteria of other Ohio State CDBG competitive programs. At a minimum, Neighborhood Revitalization program applications must include three activities, exclusive of administration. (up to \$750,000)

## **C. Critical Infrastructure**

Up to \$500,000 – designed to fund public infrastructure improvements with a significant community impact.

Eligible Applicants: PY 2020 and PY 2020 Community Development Program Counties and Direct Cities. Counties may apply on behalf of non-direct cities, villages, and unincorporated areas.

The Critical Infrastructure Program was created to assist communities with funding for high priority, single-component, projects, such as roads, flood and drainage, and other public facilities projects with high community-wide impact and that benefit primarily residential areas.

Eligible activities include constructing, reconstructing or rehabilitating infrastructure components. Eligible infrastructure components include streets and bridges; sidewalks; flood and drainage; water and sanitary sewer; and fire protection facilities. Applicants must submit a map of the proposed service area indicating the proposed infrastructure project's boundaries and location. Applicants are expected to explain how the service area and project beneficiaries were determined. Communities will be required to complete an Infrastructure Condition Certification to catalog the targeted infrastructure's existing condition, and the degree to which the proposed Critical Infrastructure program will improve the identified conditions.

Communities must qualify activities under the HUD Ohio State Administered CDBG program national objectives of low- and moderate-income (LMI) area-wide benefit or the prevention/elimination of slum or blight.

**D. Economic Development Loan and Public Infrastructure Grant Program**

Total Funds: Approximately \$10 million in CDBG funds will be made available.

Eligible applicants may submit applications for one or more of the following categories of funding: Residential Public Infrastructure Program, Economic Development Public Infrastructure Program, and/or Economic Development Loan Program.

Local Program Benefit/National Objective: Communities must qualify activities under the HUD Ohio State CDBG program national objective of low- and moderate-income benefit.

Economic Development and Public Infrastructure: up to \$500,000 – grants and loans designed to improve infrastructure directly and primarily related to creating, expanding or retaining a business in the community.

Residential Public Infrastructure: up to \$750,000 - designed to create safe and reliable drinking water and properly disposed of sanitary waste.

**E. Target of Opportunity Program**

Up to an amount to be determined - designed to provide a means to fund worthwhile "targets of opportunity" projects and activities that do not fit within existing program structures and to provide supplemental resources to resolve immediate and unforeseen needs - includes Downtown Revitalization, up to \$250,000, designed to improve central business districts, aiding in the elimination of slum and blight structures.

**3. Comments/Questions:**