
SECTION I

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

A. The Application Concept

The County of Montgomery, through its Office of Housing and Community Development, is announcing the availability of Program Year 2022 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). CDBG funds will be awarded through this application process.

The Non Housing Community Development Plan goals that are described in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan are as follows: *improvement of public facilities; improve the existing infrastructures, specifically improvements to low income neighborhoods burdened with storm and sanitary sewer problems; establish a working relationship with social service agencies and to provide the necessary gap funding for the increasing service needs; the removal of architectural barriers which restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly or handicapped persons; Historic Preservation; Economic Development and long range Planning. The provision of homeless assistance and supportive services to assist homeless individuals, homeless families and non-homeless persons with special needs to obtain and maintain self-sufficiency.*

Montgomery County 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan can be accessed on the Housing and Community Development web site. The 2020-2024 Priority Needs are located on pages 140 through 150.

Through the application process, Housing and Community Development is requesting all applicants to examine their approach to meeting the goals previously set in the Five-Year Strategy outlined in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. Housing and Community Development encourages a comprehensive approach, which integrates all available resources. HUD entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs are excellent sources of flexible dollars to address locally identified needs.

B. The Application Process

Montgomery County's Office of Housing and Community Development is responsible for administering the CDBG program in accordance with the requirements of the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act, as amended; (24 CFR Part 570.).

Applications for funding should be submitted by; 1) a unit of local government; 2) public agencies; 3) non-profit organizations; 4) private developers.

The following municipalities **have elected not to participate** in the County's program and therefore projects that primarily serve these communities generally are not eligible:

C. Competitive Review Process

County Housing and Community Development staff will review each project proposal as it relates to federal and county eligibility criteria and national objective criteria. Prior to the actual review process a preliminary screening of the application will take place testing for completeness. Staff will assess how the application will meet the goals of the County's Five-Year Consolidated Plan and how the project will accomplish those goals.

Upon selection, all recipients will be notified of the grant amount after October 1, 2022 following federal acceptance. All program participants will be required to execute a **Subrecipient Agreement** with Montgomery County. Specific instructions on how to begin implementation of the project will be given to you at an orientation meeting prior to the start of the project. **No costs incurred prior to the execution of the Grant Agreement and Notice of Environmental clearance will be reimbursed by the County Community Development Program. Any costs incurred and paid for prior to proper notification of clearance can jeopardize the use of funds on the project.**

Office of Housing and Community Development Floodplain Policy

The Office of Housing and Community Development will not fund new residential development in the identified 100-year floodplain. In accordance with Section 202 (a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, (42 U.S.C. 4106) no Federal officer or agency shall approve any financial assistance for acquisition or construction purposes (as defined under section 3(A) of said Act (42 U.S.C. 400(a)), one year after a community has been formally notified of its identification as a community containing an area of special flood hazard, for use in an area identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as having special flood hazards, unless:

- a. The Community in which the area is situated is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program, and
- b. The subrecipient assures that flood insurance is obtained for all assisted housing units in the identified 100-year floodplain.