

City of Trenton

Department of Housing & Economic Development

Application workshop for:
Community Development Block Grant
Emergency Solutions Grant

June 2, 2017



Agenda

- Background on CDBG
- Consolidated Plan Priorities
- Background on ESG
- Summary of Application Process
- Discussion of Voluntary Grant Reduction (VGR)

These slides will be pushed out on the CDBG Email list and be posted at www.trentonnj.org/CDBG.

Background

- Beginning in 1974, the CDBG program is one of the longest continuously run programs at HUD. The CDBG program provides annual grants on a formula basis to 1,209 general units of local government and States.
 - CDBG is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of community development needs.
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- The City of Trenton is an entitlement community which means it receives annual grants on a formula basis.
 - The program is authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended.
 - The goals of the CBDG program are to:
 - Maintain **decent housing**;
 - Provide residents with a **suitable living environment**; and
 - **Expand economic opportunities.**
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National Objectives

Each CDBG Activity must meet one of the 3 National Objectives

1. Benefit Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Persons
 2. Prevent or Eliminate Blight
 3. Meet an Urgent Need
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FY 2017 Income Limits

FY 2017 Income Limit Area	Median Income	FY 2017 Income Limit Category	Persons in Family							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trenton, NJ MSA	\$95,400	Extremely Low (30%) Income Limits (\$)*	20,050	22,900	25,750	28,600	30,900	33,200	37,140	41,320
		Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$)	33,400	38,200	42,950	47,700	51,550	55,350	59,150	63,000
		Low (80%) Income Limits (\$)	47,600	54,400	61,200	68,000	73,450	78,900	84,350	89,800

Eligible Uses of CDBG Funds

CDBG funds may be used for, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition of real property;
 - Relocation and demolition;
 - Rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures;
 - Construction of public facilities and improvements, such as water and sewer facilities, streets, neighborhood centers, and the conversion of school buildings for eligible purposes;
 - **Public services, within certain limits;**
 - Activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources; and
 - Provision of assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities.
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Ineligible Uses of CDBG Funds

Generally, the following types of activities are ineligible:

- Acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of buildings for the general conduct of government;
 - Political activities;
 - Certain income payments; and
 - Construction of new housing
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Consolidated Planning Process

- *Every 5 years* the City must complete a Consolidated Plan to set priorities for the use of CDBG funds;
 - *Every year* the City prepares an Annual Action Plan to describe to the public (and HUD) how it intends to spend its annual allocation. The projects in the Action Plan can be divided into three categories.
 - Projects subgranted to organizations;
 - Projects delivered by the City; and
 - Administration expenses for oversight of the program.
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FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan Goals

1. **Increase the Number of Affordable Units** - Continue the housing rehabilitation, first-time homebuyer, and new housing construction activities to support an increase in the number of affordable units in the City of Trenton.
 2. **Slum and blight removal** - The City of Trenton seeks to improve the sustainability of suitable living environments by acquiring strategically located buildings for redevelopment.
 3. **Improve public infrastructure** - Infrastructure in the low income areas of the City must be improved or expanded to improve the quality of life for lower income residents.
 4. **Improve public facilities** - Public facilities serving low income residents including senior centers require capital improvements.
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5. **Improve health care** - The Trenton Health Clinic provides health screening activities.
 6. **Public Services** - Expand and continue non-housing community development supportive services.
 7. **Provide homeless housing and services** - Creation and preservation of affordable homeownership housing opportunities including housing rehabilitation assistance, creation of new homeownership units and down payment and closing cost assistance.
 8. **Acquisition** - The City will acquire one or more properties that are critical to redevelopment efforts.
 9. **Administration** - Provide administrative support for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.
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FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan Priorities

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Increase the number of affordable units	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Create and Maintain Affordable Housing	HOME: \$483,172 CDBG: \$313,257	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: --- Household Housing Unit
2	Slum and blight removal	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Demolition	CDBG: \$326,741	Buildings Demolished
3	Improve public infrastructure	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Infrastructure and Facilities (street improvements)	CDBG: \$151,318	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: --- Persons Assisted

FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan Priorities

4	Improve public facilities	Non-Housing Community Development	Infrastructure and Facilities (senior centers)	CDBG: \$144,580	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: ----- Persons Assisted
5	Improve health care	Public Services	Health care access	CDBG: \$104,838	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9,000 Persons Assisted
6	Public services	Non-Housing Community Development	Homeless Prevention, Family/Child Intervention, Health and Other Social Services, Critical Community Needs , Senior Center Operations	CDBG: \$760,467	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: ---- Persons Assisted
7	Provide homeless housing and services	Homeless	Homelessness	ESG: \$202,905	Rapid Rehousing: -- Households Assisted HMIS Support, Essential Services
8	Acquisition	Economic Development	Economic Development	CDBG: \$96,387	--- Buildings Acquired
9	Other		Infrastructure and Facilities	CDBG: \$474,397 HOME \$53,686 ESG: \$16,451	Other: 1 Other

Anticipated CDBG Budget

US HUD has *not* issued *Estimated Allocations* for CBDG, ESG or HOME awards at this time. For planning purposes, we estimate:

Estimated CDBG Award (based on 2016-17)	\$2.3M
Minus VGR	(\$1.1M)
Available CDBG Entitlement Funds	\$1.2M
Max Allocation to Public Service Projects (24.5%)	\$292k
Minus Senior Centers Operations	(\$184k)
Remainder Available for Public Services	\$108k

Emergency Solutions Grant

- Strictly limited to serving homeless or those in jeopardy of homelessness.
 - Authorized by the McKinney-Vento Act of 1987.
 - Funds are awarded to the City of Trenton using a formula.
 - The adoption of the 2011 HEARTH Act dramatically revised the eligible uses of ESG funds.
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ESG Eligible Activities

Rapid Rehousing

- Tenant-based Rental Assistance for homeless individuals

Street Outreach

- Engagement
- Case Management
- Emergency Health Services
- Emergency Mental Health Services
- Transportation
- Services to Special Populations

Shelter Operations

Costs to operate and maintain emergency shelters and also provide other emergency lodging when appropriate.

Other ESG Uses

Essential Services

Services provided to individuals and families who are in an **emergency shelter**: Case Management, Life Skills, Child Care; and more.

Rehabilitation and Renovation

Renovating buildings to be used as emergency shelter for homeless families and individuals.

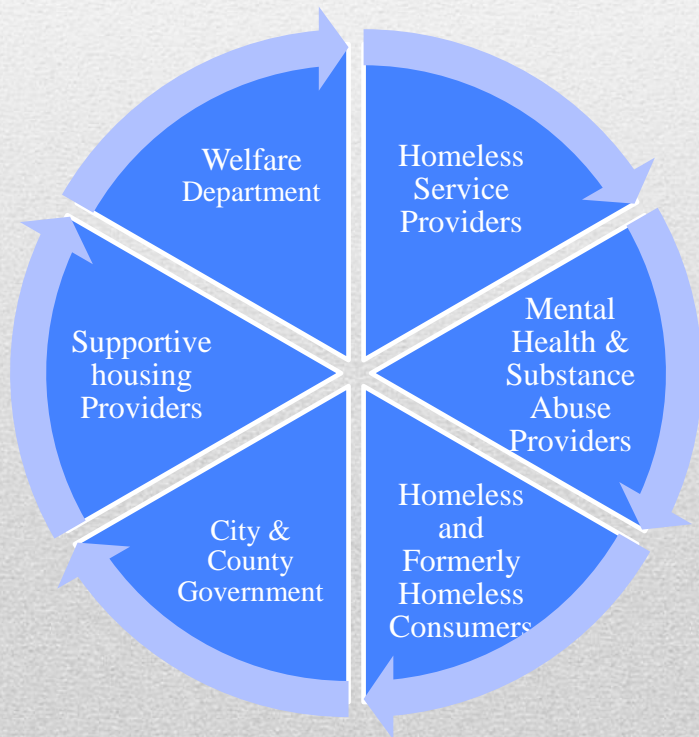
Assistance required under “URA”

- Assistance required under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and
 - Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (URA) as described in subpart E of the interim regulations.
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Continuum of Care (CoC)

Continuum of Care is a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the needs of people who are homeless. The vision of the Continuum of Care is to develop and implement policy designed to house people as quickly as possible and provide the necessary supports to maintain housing. This plan is funded by the (HUD) through a national competition. The Trenton/Mercer CoC receives approximately \$2 million annually.

CoC Membership



Who We Serve

- Homeless Individuals and Families
- Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families

How We Serve

- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Rapid Rehousing
- Supportive Services: Case Management Services; Job Readiness/Coaching; Mental Health Counseling; and Community Linkages.

Community Impact

- In Mercer County, homelessness has declined by 58% since 2007.
- In our community, over 200 individuals with a history of chronic homelessness are now living in permanent housing as a result of our CoC strategy to end homelessness

Anticipated ESG Budget

US HUD has *not* issued *Estimated Allocations* for CBDG, ESG or HOME awards at this time. For planning purposes, we estimate:

Estimated ESG Award (based on 2016-17)	\$213,526
Administration (7.5%)	\$16,014
Homeless Management Information System Support	\$15,000
Rapid Rehousing and Street Outreach	\$129,512
Shelter Operations	\$53,000

CDBG/ESG Application Process

- Application round opened June 2, 2017 on ZoomGrants.
 - Deadline for CDBG & ESG Applications:
Friday, June 23, 2017 at 11:59PM Pacific Standard Time
 - Each CDBG application will be scored by 3 individuals.
 - As per HUD regulation, ESG applications will be scored by 3 individuals from the Continuum of Care Executive Board.
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CDBG/ESG Schedule

Event	Date
Application round opens	June 1, 2017
Technical Assistance Workshop	June 2, 2017
Deadline for submission of applications	June 23, 2017 (11:59PM PST)
Staff review of proposals	June 26 – July 7, 2017
Draft Action Plan released	July 13, 2017
Provisional List of Public Service Awards (and scores) Released.	July 13, 2017
30-day 15-day citizen comment period and public hearing	July 13 - July 27
City Council approval of Action Plan	August 3, 2017
Annual Action Plan Submitted to HUD	August 4, 2017
HUD review and approval (estimated)	October 2017
Contract Year begins	July 1, 2017

2017 Application Changes

- Revamped application on ZoomGrants
 - Eligible CDBG activities limited to three Youth Engagement categories
 - Public Services Youth Engagement: Educational
 - Public Services Youth Engagement: Life Skills
 - Public Services Youth Engagement: Career Exploration
 - Maximum CDBG Request is \$25,000; Minimum CDBG Request \$15,000
 - Eligible ESG activities limited to: Rapid Rehousing & Street Outreach; and Emergency Shelter Operations
 - Applicant's past performance on projects previously funded CDBG/ESG projects taken into consideration.
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Appeals Process

- Any applicant may appeal their score.
 - The appeal must be based on a factual error that, if corrected, would result in an award.
 - Appeals must be filed in writing within 10 calendar days of today.
 - If the Hearing Officer is in agreement that the error would have resulted in an award, a hearing will be scheduled immediately.
 - Complete policies and procedures are available on the Appeals Process.
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Applicants are encouraged to reach out to City staff with questions throughout the application process.

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