

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application Workshop

September 5, 2023

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State of Iowa CDBG Program Overview

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Today's Agenda

- » CDBG Program Overview & Changes
 - 9:00 - 10:00
 - Programs & timeframes
 - General application requirements/reminders
 - Upcoming changes

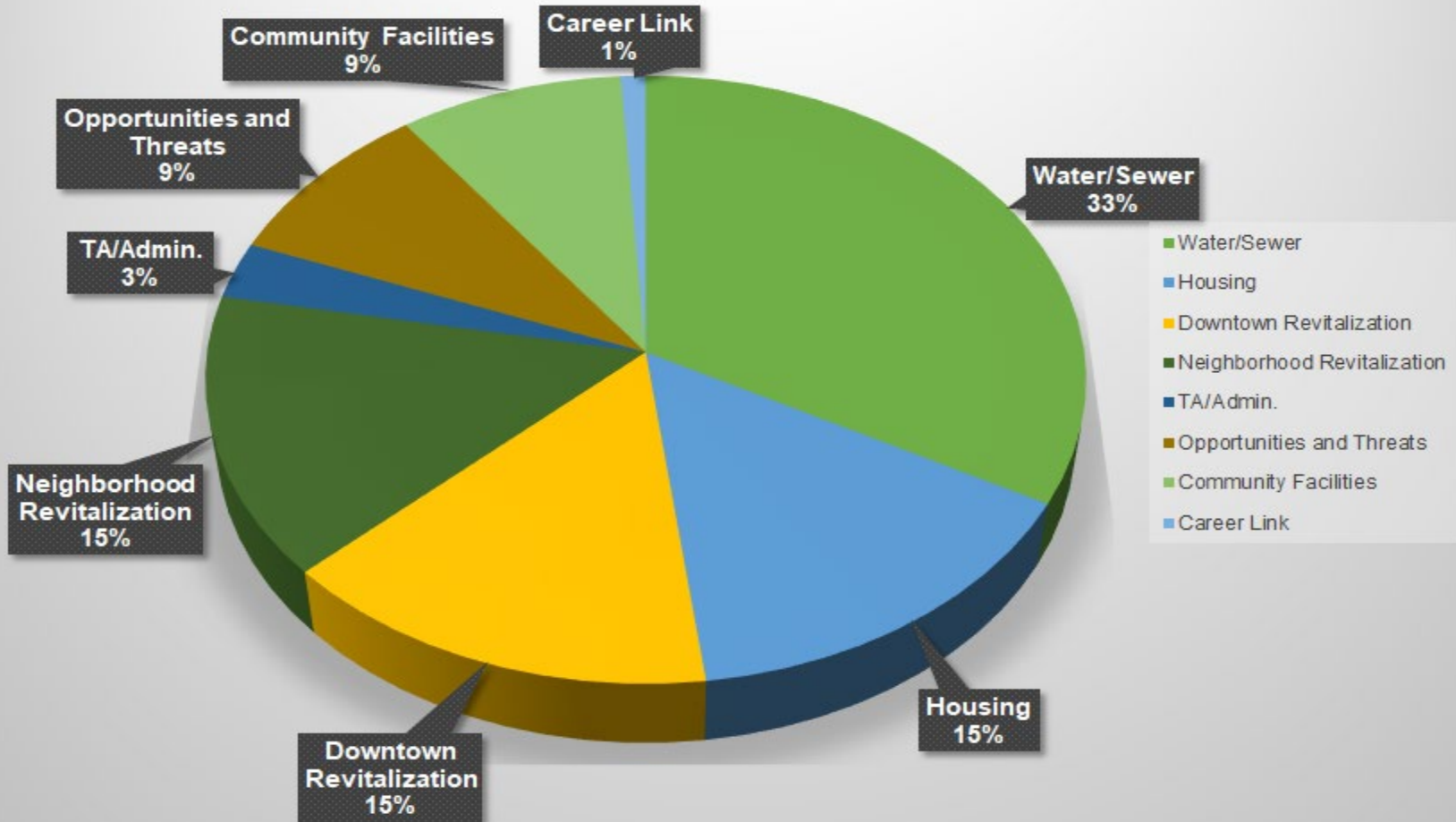
- » Program Breakout Sessions
 - 10:15 - 11:00 - Neighborhood Revitalization Planning Program
 - 11:00 - 12:00 - Water/Sewer & Community Facilities
 - 1:00 - 2:00 - Upper Story Housing
 - 2:00 - 3:00 - Downtown Revitalization

State of Iowa CDBG Program

- » Iowa's 2023 allocation is \$24,645,105
- » Iowa's 2022 allocation was \$24.6 million
- » We have received our funding agreement from HUD.

CDBG Method of Distribution

CDBG Funding Allocation



State of Iowa CDBG Program

Reminders:

- » Every CDBG project must meet a national objective:
 - Benefit to low- and moderate-income persons (70% of allocation or greater)
 - Slum & blight elimination
 - Urgent need

- » Eligible Applicants
 - All cities under 50,000 population (including Cedar Falls)
 - All counties
 - City or county can apply on behalf of non-profit entity

Application Windows

- » Some CDBG programs have an open application window.
- » Applications will be accepted and reviewed as funds are available.
- » We anticipate review times will take 30-45 days for complete applications. This may change depending on demand/number of applications.
- » Applications must be complete and thorough to be reviewed.

Application Windows

CDBG Water & Sewer applications will continue to be accepted and reviewed quarterly.

Water & Sewer application deadlines:

October 1, 2023

January 1

April 1

July 1

Water & Sewer Award Announcements:

**Mid-month in March, June,
September and December**

Application Windows

CDBG Community Facilities applications will be accepted & reviewed on an on-going basis as funds are available.

- » We will review applications in the order in which they are received.
- » IEDA will continue to accept applications & make awards as funds are available.

Application Windows

Programs with an annual competitive round:

Downtown Revitalization

Upper Story Housing

Neighborhood Revitalization

» **Applications will be due by 11:59 PM on November 22, 2023**

Application Windows

Other CDBG programs with an open application window will continue as such.

- » Includes the following programs:
 - Career Link Employment Transportation
 - Opportunities & Threats (*Check with IEDA before submittal*)
 - Sustainable Community Demonstration

- » IEDA will continue to accept applications & make awards as funds are available.

- » Check with IEDA on funding availability for these programs.

CDBG Program Requirements

All CDBG applications must include:

- » Community Development and Housing Needs Assessment
- » Minority Impact Statement
- » Federal Assurance Signature Page (signed by Mayor)
- » Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Form (signed by Mayor)
- » Public Hearing Documentation
 - Public Hearing Notice, Proof of Publication or Affidavit of Posting, and Signed Minutes

CDBG Program Requirements

All CDBG applications will need to include:

- » Resolution committing matching funds, if applicable
- » Documentation of other funding sources
- » Target area map, if applicable
- » Any program specific items- Green Streets information, etc.

CDBG Program Requirements

- » Applications are available now at www.iowagrants.gov
- » Applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM on application due date. The system will not accept applications after this date/time.
- » **Incomplete applications will NOT be reviewed or scored.**
Complete means all required information is provided in the application AND all required attachments are uploaded with the application.

CDBG Program Requirements

- » Program specific application information will be covered in breakout sessions today.
- » Changes to the applications from the prior year's application round will be discussed in the breakout sessions
- » Please contact IEDA with any questions on required attachments, documentation, etc. **before** you submit an application.

CDBG Application Manual

- » IEDA application manual last year includes application deadlines, instructions for applying, scoring criteria and specific program requirements.
- » Wanted to provide a resource for applicants that included program policies, resources and instructions.
- » CDBG Application Manual is available on the IEDA website:
<https://www.iowaeda.com/cdbg/management-guide/>

Iowa Green Streets Criteria

- » IEDA made changes to Iowa Green Street Criteria in 2021
- » Green Streets is no longer mandatory for regular CDBG programs
 - Was previously required for Community Facilities, Upper Story and DTR projects



Iowa Green Streets Criteria

- » However, IEDA encourages all projects to consider and incorporate Iowa Green Streets practices.
- » For the Upper Story Housing program, additional points will be provided to those projects that incorporate this criteria into their project.
- » For Upper Story and Community Facilities programs, additional funding may be available to projects that decide to incorporate certain green building practices/ activities. More info at program break out sessions on how this will work.
- » Green Streets will no longer apply to the DTR program.



GALLERY GARDEN

JEFF.GEERTS@IOWAEDA.COM

515-348-6211

Upcoming Program Changes

- » Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) requirements
- » Procurement clarifications
- » A copy of the DNR construction permit application must be uploaded as a required attachment
 - Beginning January 1, 2024 – Quarter 1
- » Environmental Review changes

Build America, Buy America

BABA

- » BABA establishes a domestic content preference for Federal financial assistance obligated for infrastructure projects.
- » The BABA preference applies to three separate product categories: (i) iron or steel products; (ii) manufactured products; and (iii) construction materials.
- » Certification of compliance with the BABA requirements.

Procurement

» HUD guidance and clarification

- Grant Administration
 - If not using local COG or Planning Agency, services must be procured in accordance with the CDBG Procurement Policy
 - Contract must include federal contract language found in Appendix 2
- DTR Architectural Services
 - Services must be procured in accordance with the CDBG Procurement Policy, regardless source of funds used to pay for these services.
 - Contract must include federal contract language found in Appendix 2
- Water/Sewer Engineering
 - Procure for ALL services prior to an application including preliminary design, final design, and construction management services.
 - CDBG project-specific agreements still need CDBG federal contract language, regardless of if/how they are funded or procured, or if/how they are captured in the grant budget

Procurement reminders

- » Applications must meet State of Iowa procurement standards/ requirements. Please refer to Procurement Policy included in the CDBG Management Guide.
- » Consultants/COGs may not be involved with procurement process if they plan to bid on those services. (applicable to all service providers)
- » Sample RFP templates & publication documents are available on the IEDA website
- » Please refer to FAQ on procurement requirements and contact IEDA with specific questions

Procurement

- » All contracts involved in a CDBG project, regardless of how they are funded or whether or not they are included in the grant budget, must have the required CDBG federal language provisions.

General Environmental

» Changes:

- Radon mitigation is now *required* if pCi/L is over 3.9
- The floodplain rules for projects in the 500-year have drastically changed

» Remember:

- From this point on, do ***nothing*** project sites to avoid committing choice limiting actions
- Projects are not clear until they receive a release of funds letter from Robert Jonet

Radon Changes

- » HUD's new radon rule goes into effect sometime next month
- » Every environmental submitted *after* the rule change is subject to it, including all of these projects
- » New rule: Radon mitigation is no longer optional; it is mandatory for all projects with a pCi/L greater than 3.9. Any project on a building that will house people for 4 hours at a time is required to complete testing.
- » No exceptions, no waivers, no sign-off forms – must complete the testing and include mitigation where required
- » Affects community facilities, upper story, and DTR *so far*

Floodplain changes

- » FEMA maps are outdated and new "CISA" maps should be utilized instead
- » In practice, this will blur the line between 100-year floodplain and 500-year floodplain
- » "Special flood hazard area" likely takes up part of the 500-year, so extra work should be done to determine if a project is in SFHA
- » CF, DTR, HSGU applications will include portions that require flooding history since 2008 and ERs will require 8-step
 - How frequent flooding occurs, how badly does the town flood, images of flooding, mitigation done in the past 15 years, etc.
- » Using this information, IEDA will determine if project site is in SFHA (eligible for funding or not)
- » Contact local officials (mayor, libraries, etc.) and Iowa Flood Center

Questions?

Thank You!

We look forward to great
applications...

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