

Oregon Community Development Block Grant Program – 2018 Annual Action Development

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Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Development (AAD) Sub-committee

Purpose of the Annual Action Development Committee is to regularly review the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Method of Distribution (MOD) and discuss or assess proposed changes to the CDBG program delivery.

Proposed changes will be presented to the Infrastructure Finance Authority (IFA) Board for consideration and approval.

CDBG AAD SUB-COMMITTEE - MEMBERS

- **Kristin Retherford** – Member of the IFA Board acting as liaison between the board and the sub-committee.
- **Jason Green** – Executive Director of OAWU.
- **Pegge McGuire** – current housing manager for Community Services Consortium (CSC) and past Executive Director of Fair Housing Council of Oregon.
- **Claire Sequin** – Assistant Director, Oregon Housing and Community Services
- **Wendy Johnson** – League of Oregon Cities
- **Doris Penwell** – Association of Oregon Counties
- **Daniel Holbrook** – Program Policy Coordinator for Special Public Works Fund, Water Wastewater program
- **Becky Baxter and Fumi Schaadt** – Program Policy Coordinator for Community Development Block Grant

Quick Recap

- State received Technical Assistance grant from HUD

Purpose:

- Evaluate program delivery including timeliness (drawing of funds, project completion).
- Grant management – contracts, start-up, program resources.
- Capacity building of recipients – create tools including checklists, training modules, etc.

Quick Recap - continued

Outcome:

- Reduced project completion from three years to two years.
- Split out Public Works projects to design only and construction only.
- Reorganization and clarification/fine-tuning of scoring system – more transparent.
- Established a “front-loading” approach where regular “business” calls, based on milestones and quarterly reporting developed by the applicant/recipient, will ensure projects continue to move forward in a timely manner.

Summary of 2018 Adjustments – Part 1

- Keeping the current allocation percentages as is:
 - Public Works 53%*
 - Community Facilities 20%
 - Housing Rehabilitation Program 25%
 - Micro-Enterprise Assistance 2%
- No more than 30% of the Public Works allocation will be awarded to Design Only projects with the remaining 70% going to Construction Only projects.

Information located in Chapter 1 of the Method of Distribution.

Summary of 2018 Adjustments – Part 2

- Annual application round
 - Deadline proposed: July 31 of each year (May 1 – July 31)
- If at least 20% of the annual allocation is not fully obligated, Business Oregon reserves the right to open another application round.
- If any funds returned/ recaptured to the amount of at least 20% of that years' annual allocation, Business Oregon reserves the right to make awards based on priority of scoring from the most recent competitive application round.

Information can be found in Chapter 7 of the Method of Distribution.

Summary of 2018 Adjustments – Part 3

- Availability:
 - Split Public Works project category into design and construction only. Adjust funding cycle from quarterly to annually (May 1st – July 31st).
 - Provide training to potential applicants.
 - Adjust Application processing to front-loading approach.
 - Incorporation of E-application flow.
- Enhancing focus on achieving timeliness – project completion within 2 years.

Summary of 2018 Adjustments – Part 4

- Scoring/ selections:
 - Reorganized categories:
 - Need
 - Feasibility
 - Financing
 - Readiness
 - Capacity

Summary of 2018 Adjustments – Part 5

– Adjustments for scoring points and criteria:

- Tightening of Project Need requirements to highlight project development.
- Add focus and clarity of the readiness to proceed (breaking it down to financial readiness and project readiness along with the implementation of bonus points).
- Enhancing utilization of CDBG as Gap funding through adjustment of match scoring (to percentage of project cost).
- Refocusing of the priority scoring based on type of project for Community Facilities.
- Additional incentives and funding for manufactured home rehabilitation assistance.

Information can be found in Chapter 7 of the Method of Distribution.

Summary of 2018 Adjustments – Part 6

- Project Start up:
 - Tool enhancement: orientation webinars to jump start project administration.
 - Clarify the authorization of pre-agreement costs.
 - Establishment of front loading approach based on milestones and quarterly reporting requirements (Project Management Plan-Application stage).

Summary of 2018 Adjustments – Part 7

- Implementation:

- Tool enhancements: checklists, flow charts, visual aids along with on-going training (video, webinar, etc.).

- Monitoring:

- Monitoring Policy Adjustments (more in-depth Project Management Plan quarterly based monitoring).
- Develop risk based assessment and intervention strategies.

Conclusion

IFA Board Action: Acceptance of the CDBG Annual Action Development Committee recommendation of the 2018 CDBG program.

THANK YOU!!!!

We really appreciate your great contribution in advancing the CDBG Program.