

Community Development Block Grants PY 2024 Application Guidelines and Project Eligibility

To meet the guidelines of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, every project submitted for funding must meet at least one of the following National Objectives:

- Benefit low and moderate income (LMI) persons.
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slum and blight.
- Urgent need (only for FLEX grant)

If you are qualifying the project with LMI, at least 51% of the households in the area that the project benefits must be low to moderate income to qualify as benefiting LMI persons. **If the benefit area is not at least 51% LMI according to the 2020 American Community Survey, the applicant must complete an income survey.** *Please contact MVPO to determine if an income survey is needed. All income surveys must be complete prior to community application submission. Income surveys completed prior to 2019 are no longer valid.*

Project completion dates for this grant period will be in **2026**. There is no guarantee that projects will be completed prior – if you have a project that is **required** to be completed before 2026, we may be able to assist you with finding alternative funding sources.

Eligible Construction or Improvement of Public Facilities

• Senior Centers	• Preservation of Historic Buildings or Areas
• Centers for the Handicapped	• Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreation Facilities
• Neighborhood Facilities	• Fire Protection Facilities and Equipment
• Solid Waste Disposal Facilities	• Clearance and/or Demolition of Buildings or Sites
• Curbs and Sidewalks	• Removal of barriers preventing ADA Compliance
• Water and Sewer Facilities	• Street paving or milling of 1+ layer and rebuilding of the driving surface with new asphalt
• Flood and Drainage Facilities	• Parking Facilities (chip & seal/gravel-based road improvements are not eligible).

Award Process

The County is the applicant and grantee of all projects funded under the Community Development Program. The project **must be** selected by the County. Grant funds *cannot* be committed or obligated prior to the execution of a grant agreement and the completion of an environmental review. If a project is started before grant agreements are signed and prior to the completion and approval of an environmental review by the state, grants *will* be terminated. Attention and abiding to the detailed guidelines pertaining to the grant are *required* for the entirety of the grant funded project. **If awarded, communities cannot begin procurement or construction until notified to do so by MVPO.**

Cost Estimates

Provide a signed and sealed, certified cost estimate by a qualified professional such as an engineer or architect. Funds are allocated to projects based on the cost estimate provided. It is very important that the estimate is as accurate as possible and **includes Davis Bacon Federal Prevailing Wages.** The estimate must outline the cost of the project, the basis for the estimate in terms of quantities and other unit costs. If the cost estimate includes costs for professional services, the cost for such services must be included in estimate as a separate line item from the construction costs. **CDBG funds are not eligible to cover the cost of engineering or architectural fees. However, engineering, and architectural fees can be considered leveraged funds.**

The following should be considered when completing an estimate:

- Project construction may not begin until the **2025 or 2026** construction season.
- Davis Bacon Federal Prevailing Wages **must** be used for projects with an estimated cost of \$2,000 or more.
- The cost estimate *must* state the following:
 - **“Costs estimated with Federal Prevailing Wages.”**
 - **“The useful life of this project is X years.”** (A useful life statement must be included for all infrastructure projects (minimum 8 years).
- All non-residential construction and improvements **must** meet or exceed State Building Codes and all applicable ADA requirements.
- The estimate *must* contain a qualified professional seal.

Program Year 2024 Anticipated CDBG Program Timeline

January 2024	Applications will be made available at CDBG First Public Hearing and on mvpo.org
March 22, 2024	Project Applications Due to MVPO by email: plannerem@mvpo.org
April 2024	Second Public Hearing – Present projects to county commissioners
Beginning of May 2024	Commissioners to select projects
End of May 2024	Potential Pre-Applications due to State
June 2024	Full Application due to State
June - August 2024	State reviews submitted applications
Fall 2024	County receives and executes Grant Agreement from the State
Following Award	MVPO begins Environmental Review (ER) Process on behalf of County
Jan 2025	MVPO sends notification of ER Completion and requests release of funds
Jan 2025 to Aug 2026	MVPO works with grantees to start the bidding process. Release of Funds must be on file at MVPO prior to the procurement process.
Aug 31 st 2026	All projects must be complete

CDBG Overview: Program Year 2024				
Program	Description	To express interest:	Funding Ceiling	# of Applications
Community Development Programs				
Allocation	Non-competitive grant – every other year cycle with half of the counties in Ohio	Submit Application to plannerem@mvpo.org	\$150,000.00 Total - <i>Split between 2 projects</i>	Defiance: 0 Fulton: 0 Henry: 2 Paulding: 2 Williams: 0
Critical Infrastructure	Competitive grant designed to assist communities with funding for high priority, single purpose projects such as roads, flood and drainage and other public facilities projects with high community wide impact that benefit primarily residential areas.	Submit Application to plannerem@mvpo.org	\$500,000.00 - <i>Per application</i>	Defiance: 3 Fulton: 3 Henry: 0 Paulding: 1 Williams: 1
Neighborhood Revitalization	Competitive grant focused on improving multiple areas of a neighborhood. Must have three activities on one application. Focus on public facilities improvements such as construction/ rehabilitating infrastructure in a targeted residential area of distress.	Submit Application to plannerem@mvpo.org	\$750,000.00 - <i>Per application</i>	Defiance: 0 Fulton: 0 Henry: 2 Paulding: 2 Williams: 0
FLEX program (Formerly Target of Opportunity)				
FLEX - Downtown	Competitive grant focusing on structural rehabilitation, façade improvements, code compliance corrections and historic preservation activities	Submit Application to plannerem@mvpo.org	\$250,000.00 - <i>Limit of 3 buildings per application</i>	Unlimited
FLEX- Economic and Community Development	Provides funding for “opportunity” projects related to ED and CD. Focus on projects that have no other funding available.	Submit Application to plannerem@mvpo.org	\$250,000.00	Unlimited
Economic Development Program				
Residential Public Infrastructure	Provides funding for projects that will provide clean and reliable drinking water and proper sanitary waste disposal. Minimum of \$100,000.00.	Submit Application to plannerem@mvpo.org	\$750,000.00	Defiance: 2 Fulton: 2 Henry: 1 Paulding: 2 Williams: 2
Loan Program	Provides low interest fixed asset financing for businesses.	Private business owner contacts Will Burns, Economic Development Coordinator at MVPO at 419-784-3882 or wburns@mvpo.org - PAULDING COUNTY - contact Tim Copsey	Capped at \$500,000	Varies - Contact Will Burns (Tim Copsey if Paulding)
Public Infrastructure Grants	Provides funding for public infrastructure improvements directly related to job creation or retention by a for profit business.		Capped at \$500,000	
Revolving Loan Fund	Provides low interest fixed asset financing for businesses from the locally controlled CDBG RLF.		Varies	
Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program				
Community Housing Impact & Preservation (CHIP)	Provides funding to improve and provide affordable housing for low-and moderate-income citizens by addressing systems: plumbing, HVAC, electrical, roof, Lead Paint, Accessibility and more. Private Owner Rehabilitation, Private Owner Home Repair and Rental Home Repair.	Contact Dottie Vollmar, Housing Support Specialist at MVPO - 419-784-3882 to submit an application	County - \$400,000 City - \$350,000 under 14,000 City - \$300,000 - Over 15,000 population	1 application per Housing Consortium MVEast MVNorth MVSouth
Homeless and Supporting Housing Programs and Fair Housing Assistance Programs				
Contact the Northwest Ohio Community Action Commission (NOCAC) for more information at 419-784-5136				