

City of Rochester
Community Development Block Grant Program
Citizen Participation Information

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

July 29, 2023

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is the federal government’s (Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)) primary program for promoting community revitalization throughout the country. HUD provides CDBG annual grants on a formula basis to approximately 1,100 metropolitan cities and urban counties (entitlement communities – which includes the City of Rochester, MN). CDBG funds are used for a wide range of community development activities directed toward housing /neighborhood revitalization, economic development and improvement community facilities and services.

1. The amount of funds expected to be available:

This year the City of Rochester received \$728,552. It is anticipated that the City of Rochester will receive funding in 2024 in the range of \$728,000 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, with 15% or \$109,200 available to be allocated to public service activities through a competitive application process.

The amount of funding is determined by federal legislation in Washington, DC and usually decided during January 2024. *The City of Rochester anticipates it will receive the CDBG funding anywhere between January - September of 2024.*

In addition to the CDBG funding received from HUD, the City of Rochester receives monies from previous activities identified as program income. It is anticipated that the City of Rochester will receive approximately \$100,000 from program income. This income is received from repayable loans.

2. Application Scoring Criteria:

The City of Rochester CDBG Program is a competitive application process. Applications will be scored based on the following method:

Timeliness -	15 Points
• Ability to be completed by end of program year	10 points
• Detailed budget provided	5 points
Project Effectiveness -	35 Points
• Yields outcomes which can be measured	5 points
• The extent in which the dollars have the most direct impact to service delivery including work to remove systematic barriers and address seeded social constructs to further diversity, equity, and inclusion	5 points
• Leverages other sources of funding by matching up to 100% of requested amount:	5 points
• 81% and Up (5 points)	
• 61%-80% (4 points)	
• 21%-40% (2 points)	
• 1%-20% (1 point)	

- Equitable Impact – majority of clients benefitting are underrepresented persons. (such as persons with disabilities, 55 years old and older, unhoused households, BIPOC households, immigrants, migrants and LGBTQ+). 10 points
 - 51% and Up (10 points)
 - 1% - 50% (5 points)
- Socioeconomic Impact – portion of those benefitting who have limited resources such as extremely low income households, households below the poverty level and households receiving public assistance 10 points
 - 51% and Up (10 points)
 - 1% - 50% (5 points)

Priorities

25 points

- Activity meets City Council Priorities 10 points
 - Meets 3 priorities (10 points)
 - Meets 2 priorities (6 points)
 - Meets 1 priority (2 points)
- Meets Five Year Consolidated Plan Priority 15 points
 - Priority 1 (15 points)
 - Priority 2 (13 points)
 - Priority 3 (11 points)
 - Priority 4 (9 points)
 - Priority 5 (7 points)
 - Priority 6 (5 point)
 - Priority 7 (3 point)
- **highest priority met will be counted if more than one priority apply*

Previously funded activity

10 points

- Preference given to new activities and when they were funded last:
 - Never funded (10 points)
 - Last funded 5+ years ago (8 points)
 - Last funded 4 years ago (6 points)
 - Last funded 3 years ago (4 points)
 - Last funded 2 years ago (2 points)
 - Last funded 1 year ago (1 point)

3. The range of public service activities in which may be proposed using CDBG Funds:

Provisions of public services, including those concerned with employment, crime prevention, childcare, health, drug abuse, education and fair housing counseling (cannot exceed 15% of the City’s CDBG allocation). Other eligible activities, but not limited to include:

- Child care
- Health care

- Job training (including training a qualified pool of candidates for unspecified jobs)
- Recreation programs
- Education programs
- Public safety services
- Fair housing activities (also eligible under Program Administration category)
- Services for senior citizens
- Services for homeless persons
- Drug abuse counseling and treatment
- Energy conservation counseling and testing
- Homebuyer down payment assistance
- Emergency assistance payments (for example, to keep tenants from losing housing).

A handout is available, upon request, explaining eligibility requirements for public service activities.

3. Estimated amount of funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit low-moderate income persons:

HUD requires that 70% of the CDBG funds be used to assist activities benefiting low-moderate income persons. In the past, the City of Rochester has spent 99% of its CDBG funding benefiting low-moderate income persons.

4. Five Year Consolidated Plan Priorities: As reported in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for the City of Rochester, **HIGH** priority needs for activities identified are: affordable housing, youth programs, transportation services, infrastructure improvements, services for persons with disabilities, planning, and public facilities. The City Council is required to address the five-year consolidated plan priorities during the CDBG allocation process.

5. National Objective:

HUD requires that each activity proposed for CDBG funding meet one of the following criteria:

- Principally benefit low-moderate income persons;
- Aid in the prevention of elimination of slums or blight; or
- Meet other community development needs that present a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of a community. The needs must be of recent origin and the recipient must be unable to finance the needs on its own
- Economic Development – Job Creation (hiring of low-moderate income persons or start-up for small business)

6. Outcome Performance Measurement

HUD requires all recipients of federal funding to assess the outcome of each program, including the CDBG program. All approved applicants are required to complete and comply with the Performance Measurement System indicated below:

- **Objectives** Creates a suitable living environment;
Provide decent housing; or
Creates economic opportunities
- **Outcomes** Improve availability/accessibility
Improve affordability
Improve sustainability
- **Indicators** Objectives and outcomes of proposed activity.

When gathering data to measure impact, a brief testimony may be requested from specific individuals benefitting from the activity.

7. Any proposed CDBG Activity likely to result in displacement and the plan for minimizing such displacement:

The City of Rochester will not consider any projects that will result in displacement.

8. Procedure for submitting a request for CDBG funding:

The City of Rochester will publish a notice in the Rochester Post Bulletin, July 29, 2023 that applications are being accepted for the 2024 Community Development Block Grant Program (see attached notice). The notice explains the application procedure and when the City Council will hold a public hearing regarding the CDBG requests.

9. Mid-Year Requests. Mid-year requests are discouraged and usually cannot be accommodated due to no CDBG funding being available. Applications for the 2024 CDBG program year will be accepted until **August 28, 2023 - 5:00 pm.** The City Council allocates the maximum amount of funds anticipated to be received for the CDBG Program each year.

10. Time Table for the 2024 CDBG Funding Program:

July 28, 2023 (Friday)	Send out applications via email
July 29, 2023 (Saturday)	Notice in Post Bulletin for Requests
August 7, 2023 (Monday)	Open House to answer questions on application and funding
August 28, 2023 (Monday)	Deadline date for submitted CDBG requests
September 11, 2023 (Monday)	Steering Committee Application Review and Recommendation to Council
October 2, 2023 (Monday)	Council – Public Hearing / CDBG Appropriations
November 15, 2023	Submit Annual Plan (CDBG application) to HUD (Annual Plan available for 30 day public review/comment period prior to submittal to HUD.
January to July, 2024	Receive Contract/ Allocation from HUD
January to July, 2024	Execute CDBG Agreement with local agencies that were allocated funding

11. Contact Person:

Brent Svenby, CDBG Administrator
 4001 W River Pkwy NW, Suite 100
 Rochester, MN 55901
 507-328-2003
 Fax Number: 507-328-2401
bsvenby@rochestermn.gov

City of Rochester
Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
2024 Requests and Public Hearing Notice

The City of Rochester is anticipating to receive approximately \$728,000 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, with 15% or \$109,200 available to be allocated to public service activities through a competitive application process, and \$100,000 from program income through the Community Development Block Grant Program, beginning January, 2024.

REQUESTS: All individuals, groups, organizations are invited to submit an application for CDBG funding for public service activities / projects benefiting low-moderate income Rochester residents. All application requests must be submitted by **Monday, August 28, 2023 no later than 5:00 p.m.** Non-profits submitting an application must include their latest available IRS 990 Form.

An open house will be held on Monday, August 7, 2023 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. to answer questions pertaining to the application and the funding. The open house will be held in classroom B164 at the Development Service and Infrastructure Center Building, 4001 West River Parkway SW, Rochester, MN 55901.

As reported in the Five Year Consolidated Plan for the City of Rochester, priority needs identified are: affordable housing, youth programs, transportation services, infrastructure improvements, services for persons with disabilities, planning, and public facilities. The City Council is required to address the five-year consolidated plan priorities during the CDBG allocation process.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: The Rochester City Council will hold one public hearings. This public hearing will be held on **Monday, October 2, 2023, 7:00 p.m.** in the Council/Board Chambers at the Government Center, 151 SE 4th Street, Rochester, MN. The City Council will announce the appropriations at this meeting. All persons are invited to attend.

To obtain an application or to obtain additional information, please contact:

Brent Svenby, CDBG Administrator
City of Rochester Community Development Department
4001 W River Pkwy NW, Suite 100
Rochester, MN 55901
507.328.2003
bsvenby@rochestermn.gov
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(rochestermn.gov)

La información antedicha disponible en español – entre en contacto con Brent Svenby en 328-2003