

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING #1 – CANCELLED

The 1st Community Development Block Grant public hearing originally scheduled for March 25th, 2020, in the Crawford County Commissioners Conference Room has been cancelled.

Crawford County 1st Community Development Block Grant Public Comment Period
Public Comment Period will be open until Friday April 3rd, 2020

Crawford County and the Cities of Bucyrus and Galion intend to apply to the Ohio Development Services Agency for program year 2020 under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, a federally funded program administered by the State. CDBG programs can fund a broad range of planning, community improvement and housing related activities that must be designed to primarily benefit low-moderate income persons, aid in the prevention of elimination of slum and blight or meet an urgent need within the community. The County is eligible for the following PY 2020 Community Development programs, providing the County meets the applicable requirements:

- Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program (CHIP): biennial up to \$400,000 alone or up to \$1,000,000 in partnership with the Cities of Bucyrus and Galion, designed to improve housing conditions and strengthen neighborhoods.
 - Neighborhood Revitalization Program: biennial up to \$750,000 – designed to improve the quality of life, livability and functionality of distressed areas through public infrastructure projects.
 - Residential Public Infrastructure Program: open cycle up to \$600,000 - designed to create safe and reliable drinking water and properly disposed of sanitary waste.
 - Critical Infrastructure Program: open cycle up to \$500,000 – designed to fund public infrastructure improvements with a significant community impact.
 - Economic Development and Public Infrastructure Program: open cycle up to \$500,000 – grants and loans designed to improve infrastructure directly and primarily related to creating, expanding or retaining a business in the community.
 - Target of Opportunity Program: open cycle up to \$250,000 - designed to provide a means to fund worthwhile "targets of opportunity" projects and activities that do not fit within existing program structures and to provide supplemental resources to resolve immediate and unforeseen needs.
- A. **Community Development Allocation Funding Program** - – not eligible in PY20. Crawford County will be eligible to apply for two years of funding in 2021.
- B. **Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program**: The County intends to request funds from the Community Housing Impact & Preservation Program (CHIP) which includes HOME and CDBG funding. Under the current CHIP, the State of Ohio is encouraging cities and counties to partner on CHIP applications. The County may apply alone for a base grant of up to \$400,000 for CHIP activities. The state encourages communities to partner with other local jurisdictions. Crawford County is eligible to partner with the Cities of Bucyrus and Galion in PY20. Together, they may request up to \$1,000,000 in CHIP funds.

Crawford County, and the Cities of Bucyrus and Galion are discussing an agreement to partner for PY20, with the County to serve as lead applicant and grantee. County commissioners and city councils will have to formally approve this partnership.

A second public hearing will be held to cover the details of the CHIP application. Specific activities and funding requests will be based on recommendations from the results of the Housing Needs Assessment that is in the process of gathering information from local stakeholders.

CHIP eligible activities include financing residential rehabilitation or repairs for low and moderate income homeowners, rehab and repair loans for rental properties where tenants are low and

moderate income, homeownership assistance including financial support for new construction in partnership with Habitat for humanity, and tenant rental assistance. CHIP is a competitive grant program - not all applicants will receive funds.

Application Timing: Submission: May 20, 2020 // Grant Award: September 1, 2020

- C. **Neighborhood Revitalization Program** - Not eligible in PY20. Crawford County will be eligible to apply for funding in 2020.
- D. **Critical Infrastructure** - Up to \$500,000 – designed to fund public infrastructure improvements with a significant community impact.

Eligible Applicants: PY20 and PY21 Community Development Program Counties and Direct Cities. Counties may apply on behalf of non-direct cities, villages, and unincorporated areas.

The Critical Infrastructure Program was created to assist communities with funding for high priority, single-component, projects, such as roads, flood and drainage, and other public facilities projects with high community-wide impact and that benefit primarily residential areas.

Eligible activities include constructing, reconstructing or rehabilitating infrastructure components. Eligible infrastructure components include streets and bridges; sidewalks; flood and drainage; water and sanitary sewer; and fire protection facilities. Applicants must submit a map of the proposed service area indicating the proposed infrastructure project's boundaries and location. Applicants are expected to explain how the service area and project beneficiaries were determined. Communities will be required to complete an Infrastructure Condition Certification to catalog the targeted infrastructure's existing condition, and the degree to which the proposed Critical Infrastructure program will improve the identified conditions.

Communities must qualify activities under the HUD Ohio State Administered CDBG program national objectives of low- and moderate-income (LMI) area-wide benefit or the prevention/elimination of slum or blight.

- E. **Economic Development Loan and Public Infrastructure Grant Program** - Total Funds: Approximately \$10 million in CDBG funds will be made available.

Eligible applicants may submit applications for one or more of the following categories of funding: Residential Public Infrastructure Program, Economic Development Public Infrastructure Program, and/or Economic Development Loan Program.

Local Program Benefit/National Objective: Communities must qualify activities under the HUD Ohio State CDBG program national objective of low- and moderate-income benefit.

Economic Development and Public Infrastructure: up to \$500,000 – grants and loans designed to improve infrastructure directly and primarily related to creating, expanding or retaining a business in the community.

Residential Public Infrastructure: up to \$750,000 - designed to create safe and reliable drinking water and properly disposed of sanitary waste.

- F. **Target of Opportunity Program**

Up to an amount to be determined - designed to provide a means to fund worthwhile "targets of opportunity" projects and activities that do not fit within existing program structures and to provide supplemental resources to resolve immediate and unforeseen needs - includes Downtown

Revitalization, up to \$250,000, designed to improve central business districts, aiding in the elimination of slum and blight structures.

This posting is designed provide citizens with pertinent information about all of these programs, including an explanation of eligible activities, program requirements and application due dates. Citizens are encouraged to provide input on the County's programs.

Citizens may submit public comment to Tiffaney Shaver of Great Lakes Community Action Partnership at tlshaver@glcap.org. Public comments will be received until Friday April 3rd, 2020.