

**Cumberland County Community Development Program
Year #4 Program - 2010**

It is anticipated the year #4 Cumberland County CDBG grant program will distribute approximately \$800,000 for community and regional activities.

Pre-Applications Due – Thursday, December 10, 2009 – 4:00PM

Final Applications Due – Friday, January 22, 2010 – 4:00PM

- 1) The program will have two categories: General Program Applications; and Planning Grant Applications. These applications will be reviewed separately.
- 2) General Program applications must demonstrate a 20% local match.
- 3) General Program applicants must submit “pre-applications” by December 10, 2009. Applicants will receive approval to submit a final application by December 18, 2009, *at the latest*.
- 4) Community applicants will be limited to **two** individual General Program final applications and **one** Planning Grant application. Cumberland County is limited to **five** General Program final applications and **two** Planning Grant applications. The number of “pre-applications” is not limited.
- 5) New for 2010: Communities joining with other communities to submit joint applications may submit up to two individual General Program applications from their own community **and** any number of multi-community applications.
- 6) New for 2010: Each community is assigned a community distress score from 0 – 10. The score incorporates two factors: 1) the percent of low/moderate income people in your community; 2) your community’s low/moderate income population as a percentage of the county’s low/moderate income population.
- 7) Planning Grant applicants will not submit pre-applications, will not require a local match contribution and review will not include the community distress score.
- 8) All final applications must be endorsed by local elected officials prior to submission.
- 9) Two forms are provided for multi-community applicants: 1) 2 additional questions specific to multi-community projects/activities; 2) signature page for all communities to endorse the application.
- 10) There are no minimum or maximum grant award limits. Over the past 3 years grant awards have ranged from \$10,000 to \$200,000 with most between \$30,000 and \$60,000.

Program Priorities:

The following were adopted as program priorities as part of the program's Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Not listed in priority order:

Access to post-secondary education – particularly in outlying areas
Access to public services
Affordable housing – homeownership, housing for elders, housing rehabilitation,
& development of a regional affordable housing strategy
Child care – early childhood & after school care
Downtown revitalization
Economic development – living wage jobs
Public facilities & Infrastructure
Sewer, septic & solid waste
Transportation – Rt. 302, Rt. 1, commercial transport to islands
Understanding & preventing homelessness

The “Exception Rule” List:

The Cumberland County CDBG Program falls under a special rule allowing more locations to qualify for “area-wide” activities beyond the standard “51%” low/moderate income requirement. One quarter of census block groups in our 25 member communities qualify for area-wide activities. The list of these block groups for the 2010 program is provided.

Review of Applications:

Applications will be reviewed by an eight member team to include:

A community development staff member from South Portland or Bridgton
1 staff member from either GPCOG or Cumberland County
5 members of the Municipal Oversight Committee (MOC) appointed by the MOC Chair

The team will recommend projects for funding to the entire MOC for endorsement by the County Commissioners.

Selection Criteria for General Program Applications

General Program applications will be rated based upon nine elements

- 1) Project description: 10 points
- 2) Project management: 10 points
- 3) Implementation schedule: 10 points
- 4) Readiness to proceed: 10 points
- 5) Need for the project: 20 points
- 6) Demonstration of need for CDBG funds: 15 points
- 7) Project budget: 10 points

- 8) Community distress score: 0 – 10 points
- 9) Multi-community bonus: 5 points

Selection Criteria for Planning Grants

Planning Grant applications will be rated based upon four elements

- 1) Description of community problem/need to be addressed: 35 points
- 2) Strategy to complete the planning project: 30 points
- 3) Readiness to proceed: 30 points
- 4) Multi-community bonus: 5 points

Contact the Cumberland County Community Development program with any questions. We are available to assist.

Aaron Shapiro: tel. 699-1905 shapiro@cumberlandcounty.org
Elizabeth Trice: tel. 871-8380 trice@cumberlandcounty.org