Projects, Programs & Activity Funding

“Cumberland County CDBG”

CDBG funds awarded: $708,940

2015 Program Funds $677,081
Re-allocated Funds $ 31,859

Regional vs. community projects:

Regional projects: $ 237,270
Community projects: $ 471,670

Funding by project type:

Social Service $ 122,421
Public Facilities $ 145,849
Public Infrastructure $ 119,000
Housing Rehabilitation $ 299,670
Planning $ 22,000

County Administration $ 142,000

Project & Funding Recommendations

CDBG General Program Grants

Public Service

Freeport (Lead) – METRO Bus Passes Request - $ 4,080
Award - $ 4,080

Subsidized bus passes for the newly expanded Portland METRO bus service in Freeport and Yarmouth, for low-income and elderly residents.

Harpstown – School Backpack Food Distribution Program Request - $ 6,000
Award - $ 6,000

30 students in the Harpswell Community School whose families are food-insecure will receive a backpack of non-perishable food to bring home on weekends and school breaks.

Opportunity Alliance – Homelessness Prevention Request - $37,600
Award - $37,600

Case management and one-time financial assistance to support clients who are at-risk of homelessness or are experiencing homelessness.
Domestic Violence Prevention: Standish (Lead Community) Request - $32,741 Award - $32,741

Family Crisis Services proposes enhancing domestic violence prevention outreach efforts in four rural communities: Windham, Standish, Casco, and Raymond. Services would include assistance filing protective orders, safety planning, court and individual advocacy, support groups, public awareness events, and referrals to service providers.

Westbrook – Community Policing Coordinator Request - $42,000 Award - $42,000

The City will hire a civilian community policing coordinator dedicated to the Brown Street neighborhood. The coordinator will be a neighborhood oriented resource and liaison to the police department.

Housing

Freeport – Home Insulation/Weatherization Program Request - $112,000 Award - $100,000

Basement and attic insulation for 20 low-income households in Freeport.

Opportunity Alliance – Heating Improvement Program Request - $200,000 Award - $199,670

Since 2007, Cumberland County Community Development has provided funds to Opportunity Alliance (formerly PROP) to operate a housing rehabilitation program. This year’s application would direct funds primarily to the repair and replacement of malfunctioning heating systems and secondarily to address serious safety and code violations. It is anticipated that 25 households will be assisted. County-sponsored application.

Public Facilities

Harpstown – Community Hall Renovations Request - $60,000 Award - $60,000

Rehabilitation of the historic Bailey Island Library Hall, including repair/replacement of windows and doors, a new water heater and furnace, outdoor lighting, walkway repairs, upgrading ADA accessibility, painting the exterior, and repairing the roof and chimney.

Pownal – Mallett Hall Accessible Ramp Construction Request - $32,025 Award - $ 5,849

The Town will reconstruct its handicap access ramp to the Town Office and community hall.
Westbrook – City Hall Accessibility Upgrades Request - $80,000  
Award - $80,000  

Reconfiguration of the Westbrook City Hall to allow for handicap accessibility, including ADA-compliant public bathrooms, and installation of an elevator to second-floor public meeting rooms.

Public Infrastructure

Scarborough – Sewer Line Extension Request - $119,000  
Award - $119,000  

Construction of public sewer infrastructure to facilitate a 13 lot Habitat for Humanity affordable housing development on Town-owned land at 75 Broadturn Road in Dunstan Corner neighborhood.

Planning

New Gloucester – Study for Public Works Facility Request - $20,000  
Award – $16,000  

This study would assess potential locations for a new Public Works facility to replace the current deficient and outdated facility that is located in a revitalization area.

Yarmouth (Lead) – Senior Services Planning Request - $7,300  
Award - $6,000  

This project would evaluate Aging in Place models of senior living for communities with large senior populations. Activities would include establishing committees, evaluating community needs, developing programs, and holding a town forum.

Bridgton & South Portland Programs

The program and activities conducted in the two set-aside communities of Bridgton and South Portland are integral components of the Cumberland County Community Development program. While not participants in the County application competition, their projects, activities, funds, planning, administration and regulatory compliance are integral components of the County’s program.

Town of Bridgton:

2015 Set-Aside Allocation $185,375  
Reprogrammed Funds $375  
Total Funds $185,750  

Program Administration $30,000  

The funds pay salaries, benefits and other administrative expenses for Community Development staff.
Public Facilities

Community Center Façade  $  5,000
Highland Beach Bathrooms  $  68,000
Main Hill Parking Lot  $  30,000
Depot Street  $  24,950

Public Services

Emergency Fuel Assistance  $5,000
Community Kettle Dinners Program  $2,000
Community Center Navigator Program  $6,100
Youth Recreation Scholarships  $9,700
School Backpack Food Program  $5,000

City of South Portland:

2015 Set-Aside Allocation  $411,945
Reprogrammed Funds  $  22,809
Total Funds  $434,754

The City of South Portland continues to operate their CDBG program much as they did prior to relinquishing HUD Entitlement status in 2007. Coordination between South Portland and the County, particularly on administrative matters occurs on a regular and on-going basis. Maeve Pistrang serves as the Community Development Assistant in both Cumberland County and South Portland. South Portland finalized its selection of CDBG funded programs, projects and activities at a City Council meeting on March 16, 2015.

Housing  $ 15,000

South Portland anticipates completing between 2 and 3 housing rehabilitation activities in the coming year.

Public Facilities/Infrastructure  $325,431

South Portland will provide funds for 7 activities: Redbank/Brickhill Neighborhood Improvements, Target Area Streetscapes, Clark Pond Trail Upgrades, Ferry Village Waterfront Access, Redbank Community Center Engineering, Redbank Park Phase II, and Redbank Community Garden.

Public Services  $ 61,792

Funds will be provided to 7 programs: Family Crisis Services; Bus Passes; Emergency Heating Assistance; Recreation Scholarships; Redbank Resource Hub Personnel; Meals-on-Wheels; and the South Portland Food Cupboard.
Program Administration $ 65,000

The funds pay salaries, benefits and basic office supplies, phone and technology required for the activities of South Portland’s Community Development Office.

**HOME Program Consortium**

All the communities of Cumberland County including Portland, Brunswick and the 25 members of our Community Development program have formed the City of Portland/Cumberland County HOME Consortium. Portland serves as the lead entity for the Consortium. All administrative and program delivery services are conducted by the City.

The non-Portland members of the Consortium will receive an allocation of funds of $347,236 plus $10,000 collected in program income for a total of $347,236. Unlike CDBG, HOME funds can only be used for four housing activities, housing rehabilitation, home ownership assistance, tenant based rental assistance and new construction of rental or ownership housing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed allocations</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>$</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing rehabilitation</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>$235,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affordable housing development</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$ 64,363</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required CHDO set-aside</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$ 57,873</td>
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The CHDO (Community Housing Development Organization) set-aside is a special requirement of the program. Funds must be distributed to specialized non-profit organizations to develop or rehabilitate rental or ownership housing. In 2014 the HOME Consortium provided $174,000 to Avesta Housing to complete renovations at the 73-unit Steeple Square family apartments in Westbrook.