Cumberland County Community Development Program
2013 CDBG General Program Application
Community Cover Page

Project Title          Gray Village Pedestrian Improvements
Lead Community        Gray
Additional Communities

Contact Information   Name    Elizabeth Humphrey
Address               24 Main St, Gray, ME 04039
Email                 ehumphrey@graymaine.org Tel 657-3112

Program Category
Public Infrastructure/Facility  X Downtown Revitalization ___
Public Service ___ Housing ___ Economic Development ___

CDBG "National Objective"
Low/Moderate Income: Area-Wide X Limited Clientele ___

Direct Benefit: Presumed Group (Identify Group)
Slum/Blight: Area-Wide Spot Basis ___

Amount of CDBG Funds Requested $55,200

Total Estimated Project Cost $69,000

Name of Authorized Official Deborah Cabana
Signature of Authorized Official [Signature]

1. Provide a **brief summary** (400 words maximum) of the proposed project. - **10 points**

**Focus your answer on issues such as:** What will be built? What will happen? Where will it happen? Who's in charge? Who will be served?

The project will include a Streetprint crosswalk, a pedestrian activated rapid flashing beacon, curbing and an accessible ramp to improve the crosswalk on Route 26 (Shaker Rd) between Gray Park (access to Russell Elementary School) and Fiddleheads Arts Center. Currently this crossing in the Village relies primarily on paint and small signs to warn vehicles to yield to pedestrians needing to cross.

![Image of street view](image)

This project will allow pedestrian traffic to safely cross a busy state road to get to and from school, home, after school programs, sporting events, and other areas in the Gray Village and is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and the Gray Village Master Plan.

This area is in Census Block Group 5 and qualifies for project funding on an area wide basis with 45 percent LMI households.

2. Provide a response to the four questions below defining and justifying the **need for the activity.** - **20 points**

   a. **Convey the magnitude and severity of the issue to be addressed.**

   Fiddleheads Art Center and Russell School are directly across the street from each other, separated by Route 26. This busy arterial inhibits safe pedestrian access between these locations. Fiddleheads Art Center provides before/after school care, preschool and kindergarten. Russell School serves Gray's K-2 students.
The bus picks up and drops off children at both locations. Children attending Fiddlehead's before school care program are picked up by the bus and driven across the street to Russell School for class. This is deemed safer than allowing the kids to walk across the busy street.

When it rains in the morning, Fiddlehead's staff has been known to walk the children across the street instead of having them wait for the bus to pick them up. Children frequently need to cross the street between Fiddleheads and Russell School to attend after school activities, including sports activities at Russell field.

Fiddleheads Art Center is currently applying to become a charter school. If accepted, there will be an increase in both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The Town of Gray has also been experiencing increased enrollment of Pre-K and Kindergarten children.

The 26A bypass has helped to reduce the flow of traffic through the Village entering Gray from the Turnpike, the west and Rt. 26 southbound. However, commuter traffic entering the Village from Routes 100, 202 and 115 still pass through this point to get to and from work, and/or to and from the Gray-New Gloucester Middle School and High Schools further down the road.

b. Identify the total number of people affected by the issue.
   i. Out of the total number of people affected, identify the number of people from low/moderate income households.

   Located in the Gray Village, Russell School is the primary K-2 provider for all the residents of Gray, with Fiddleheads Art Center also providing Pre-K and K classes across the street.

   Gray Village has a high percentage of households with low to moderate income. The two census block groups that make up the Village contain a population of about 2500 people of which just over 1000 meet the HUD guidelines for low to moderate income (LMI) households.

   This project will allow pedestrian traffic to safely cross a busy state road to get to and from school, home, after school programs, sporting events, restaurants and retail shops located in Gray Village.

c. Describe to what extent the project makes in the long-term measurable difference in the economic and social health of the region.

   For a small project such as this, it may be difficult to make claims of measurable regional benefits. However, Gray is committed to
revitalization efforts in the Village and this project has the support of the Council and the community, including Fiddleheads, Russell School and Wilson’s Funeral Home (all of which share parking).

Gray’s Village Master Plan, Monument Square Master Plan and Hancock Block Master Plan (in process) is an integral part of an overall economic development strategy designed to attract new businesses and activity centers to the community, and to encourage the expansion of existing ones, creating jobs for LMI households.

Gray Plaza, Gray Library, Town Hall and various local businesses are other Village activity centers clustered within a 5-10 minute walk.

d. **Construction related activities:** Convey how the project relates to the community’s long-range planning and capital improvement needs.

Both the Comprehensive Plan and the Gray Village Master Plan identify that Gray Village’s street layout and traffic flow is dangerous to pedestrians and motorists.

Pedestrian crossing in Gray Village is difficult because of the widened roadways in the Village Center. Although there have been sidewalk and pedestrian signal improvements, pedestrian islands remain limited and insufficient. An improved crosswalk at the proposed location will provide a safer option for children and adults to cross the road and have access to other activity centers in the Village.

The Town is not only committed to pedestrian safety in the Village, but has also allocated in the CIP $30,000 for sidewalk construction further down Rt. 26 by Hannaford, across from street from the Gray-New Gloucester Middle School and High School. This construction, in addition to traffic light improvements, will improve safety at another busy intersection of Rt. 26 for students, parents and teachers walking to and from school and home.

3. Provide a response to the three questions concerning **management of the proposed activity** – 10 points

a. Define **who** will manage the grant funded project and **how** they will manage it.

The Town Engineer will provide design services and construction oversight of the project. The Town’s Director Economic of Development and accounting staff will provide administrative support for the grant funding.

b. Explain the experience of the applicant in undertaking projects of similar complexity.
The Town of Gray successfully completed a sidewalk project on Main Street which also included a similar crosswalk on Rt. 100 across from the Pennell Municipal Complex under a previous CDBG application.

c. Demonstrate that an ongoing commitment exists to continue the maintenance and operation of the activity or facility.

This will be the third revitalization project involving maintenance and upgrading of pedestrian facilities in the Village. Gray has been pursuing implementation of the Gray Village Master Plan and other future projects of this nature are anticipated.

4. Demonstrate that the project is ready to proceed  – 20 points

For construction related projects:

• Describe the steps that have been completed or must be completed to bring the project to construction start. These may include: site control, design, engineering, cost estimates, procurement of permits, testing, consultations concerning life safety, ADA, or other special requirements, traffic studies, zoning, Planning Board approval.

The Town Engineer has reviewed the Rt. 26 crossing project goals and has designed conceptual improvements to achieve them with engineering cost estimates. Once funding is approved by the County, taxpayers will be asked in the June election to appropriate $13,800 in local matching funds.

Upon approvals of all necessary funding, the Town Engineer will prepare survey and construction design plans and bid documents and will apply for necessary approvals from the Maine Department of Transportation. No local permits are required for the construction.

• Describe any existing and/or potential impediments to project initiation. None.

5. Budget for project. See the attached schedule form (Appendix IV).  - 5 points

6. Implementation schedule for project: See the attached schedule form (Appendix III).  - 5 points

7. NON-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ONLY – 15 points (N/A)

8. Distress Score

The distress score for Gray is 3 points.

9. Multi-Jurisdictional Bonus - 5 points (N/A)
## Project Implementation Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Q #1</th>
<th>Q #2</th>
<th>Q #3</th>
<th>Q #4</th>
<th>Q #5</th>
<th>Q #6</th>
<th>Q #7</th>
<th>Q #8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contract/Environmental Review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Design</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release Project for Bid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive Bids</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Award of Contract</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Completed:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix IV: Budget

### Construction Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Category</th>
<th>CDBG Funds</th>
<th>Municipal Funds</th>
<th>Other Funds</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design/Engineering</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials/Supplies</td>
<td>$36,800</td>
<td>$9,200</td>
<td></td>
<td>$46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Costs</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Management</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Costs</strong></td>
<td>$55,200</td>
<td>$13,800</td>
<td></td>
<td>$69,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provide the basis for determination of budget amounts:

Engineering cost estimates provided by Gorrill-Palmer Consulting Engineers based on conceptual design study.
CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF GRAY

I, Deborah S. Cabana, do hereby certify that I am the Town Clerk of the Town of Gray, Maine and that a duly called meeting of the Gray Town Council held January 15, 2013, at which all members of the Town Council were present and voting throughout, Order #88-13 regarding the 2013 CDBG application was approved, as follows:

#88-13 To Review and Act Upon a Proposed Application to the Cumberland County Community Development Block Grant Program for a Funding Grant to Continue the Gray Village with Pedestrian Improvements at Route 26 (Shaker Rd) Between Gray Park (Access to Russell Elementary School) and Fiddleheads Arts Center.

Councilor Doughty moved, Councilor Barter seconded

Ordered the Gray Town Council approves submission of a CDBG application to Cumberland County for a $55,200 project grant to continue the revitalization of Gray Village by doing pedestrian improvements at Route 26 (Shaker Road) between Gray Park (Access to Russell Elementary School) and Fiddleheads Arts Center. Project funding will include $13,800 in local funds.

5 Yes

Deborah S. Cabana
Town Clerk
Dated at Gray, Maine
This 15th day of January, 2013