



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: March 4, 2014

Prepared By/Phone Number: Christy Moffett / 854-3460

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: Sherri E. Fleming, County Executive of Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service

Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Receive input from the public related to the Community Development Block Grant available from HUD regarding the community needs and project ideas for the unincorporated areas of Travis County for Program Year 2014 and funding priorities for Program Years 2014-2018.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Under the provisions of Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 USC 5301), the Federal government through the U.S Department of Housing sponsors a program that provides Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and by expanding economic opportunities for low and moderate income persons. Since 2006, Travis County has received CDBG funds from HUD on an annual basis.

Each year HUD requires each grantee to develop an Action Plan specifying the activities to be undertaken with CDBG funds. For the program year 2014, which spans from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015, Travis County is expected to receive an estimated \$909,925 in CDBG funds. Travis County must determine how the funds will be allocated, and to do so CDBG staff will work with the public, Travis County departments, and social service agencies to receive input on the community needs and proposed projects.

Consolidated Plans are completed every 3, 5 or 6 years (based on the County's interest) and include data on community needs and strategic goals. The County is currently working under a three year Consolidated Plan spanning from program years 2011-2013. The next Consolidated Plan will span 5 years, taking effect on October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2018.

To be compliant with 24 Congressional Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 91.105 and the approved Travis County Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), Travis County must hold two public hearings at the Travis County Commissioners Court, and one public hearing in each of the four County precincts. On Tuesday, January 21, 2014, the Travis County Commissioners Court approved the public hearing dates and advertisements for the spring public hearings. This is the last public hearing of this series. During these

hearings the public will have an opportunity to learn the objective, eligible activities, available funds, and CDBG project history among other areas of the grant. This information is available through power point presentations (in English and Spanish, see Attachments A and B.)

Notice of the public hearings was provided in newspapers of general circulation, through postal and electronic mailings, on the County’s website, and the seven Travis County Community Centers.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends the public hearing. See attached PowerPoint for the presentation.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Additional public hearings were held on:

Locations of Hearings		Dates/Times of Public hearings
Community-Wide	Travis County Commissioners Court, 700 Lavaca	Tuesday February 18, 2014 9:00 am
Precinct 1	Travis County Community Center at Manor	Wednesday, February 19, 2014 6:30 pm
Precinct 2	Westside Meeting Hall, Austin	Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:30 pm
Precinct 3	Travis County Community Center at Oak Hill	Wednesday, March 5, 2014 6:30 pm
Precinct 4	Travis County Community Center at Del Valle	Thursday, March 6, 2014 6:30 pm

After reviewing the data from the Community Needs meetings and other sources, staff will come back to the Commissioners Court in April for approval of a proposed strategic direction and project selection criteria so that projects for the next program year can be identified in May 2014.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

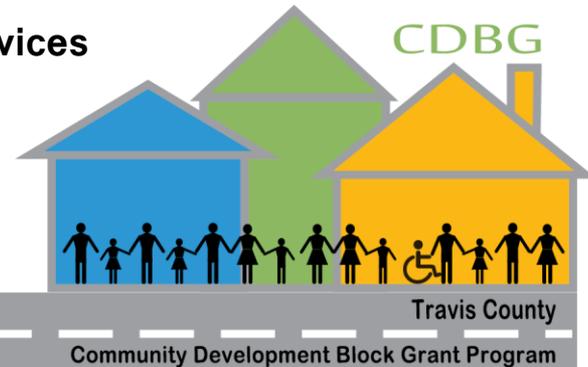
None.

Travis County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Consolidated Planning: Funding Priorities for PY2014-2018 (October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2019)

Health & Human Services and Veteran Services
(HHS&VS) Department

Spring 2014 Presentation





- ▣ Covers a five-year period from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2019
- ▣ Assesses community needs in areas such as housing, homelessness, and infrastructure
- ▣ Establishes funding priorities and objectives
- ▣ Sets goals and performance indicators



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Six public hearings will be conducted to help the County determine how to spend an estimated \$909,925 in CDBG funds for Program Year 2014 and establish priorities for the next five program years.

Location	Time & Date
Travis County Commissioners Court 700 Lavaca St	Tues., February 18, 2014 at 9:00 am Tues., March 11, 2014 at 9:00 am
Travis County Community Center at Manor	Wed., February 19, 2014 at 6:30 pm
Westside Meeting Hall In Austin	Thur., February 20, 2014 at 6:30 pm
Travis County Community Center at Oak Hill	Wed., March 5, 2014 at 6:30 pm
Travis County Community Center at Del Valle	Thur., March 6, 2014 at 6:30 pm



During the meetings, the public will have the opportunity to:

- ❑ Prioritize funding areas and propose specific projects for Program Year 2014
- ❑ Determine funding areas for PY2014-2018



Participation Form:

Available to the public that cannot attend the public hearings to identify needs

Project Proposal Form:

Available to individuals, agencies, or county departments that have specific project ideas

Both forms can be found on the CDBG website (www.co.travis.tx/cdbg) and at any of the seven Travis County Community Centers and are available February 18, 2014 through March 31, 2014.

Forms can also be requested by calling 512-854-3460.



PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

**Interests identified
by Travis County
Commissioners
Court**

Suggestions made
by the public via
public hearings and
participation forms

**Proposals submitted
by non-profit
agencies, County
departments, or
resident groups**

**List of
possible
projects
identified**

Feasibility of
expenditures:
HUD national
objectives,
regulations,
and eligible
activities

Scoring Matrix
Meets Travis County's
investment strategies

**Meets CDBG
2014-18 priorities**

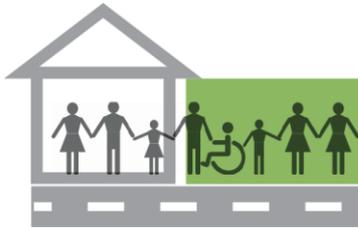
**Benefits low- to
moderate-income
residents**

**Project impact (# of
families benefitting)**

**Leverages other
funding**

Project feasibility

**PROJECTS
SELECTED**



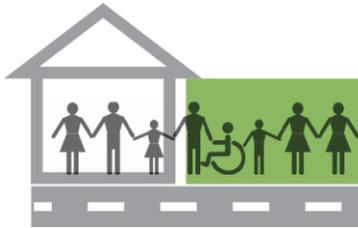
CDBG BASICS

Purpose

- ▣ Improve affordable housing options
- ▣ Improve community facilities and services
- ▣ Revitalize neighborhoods

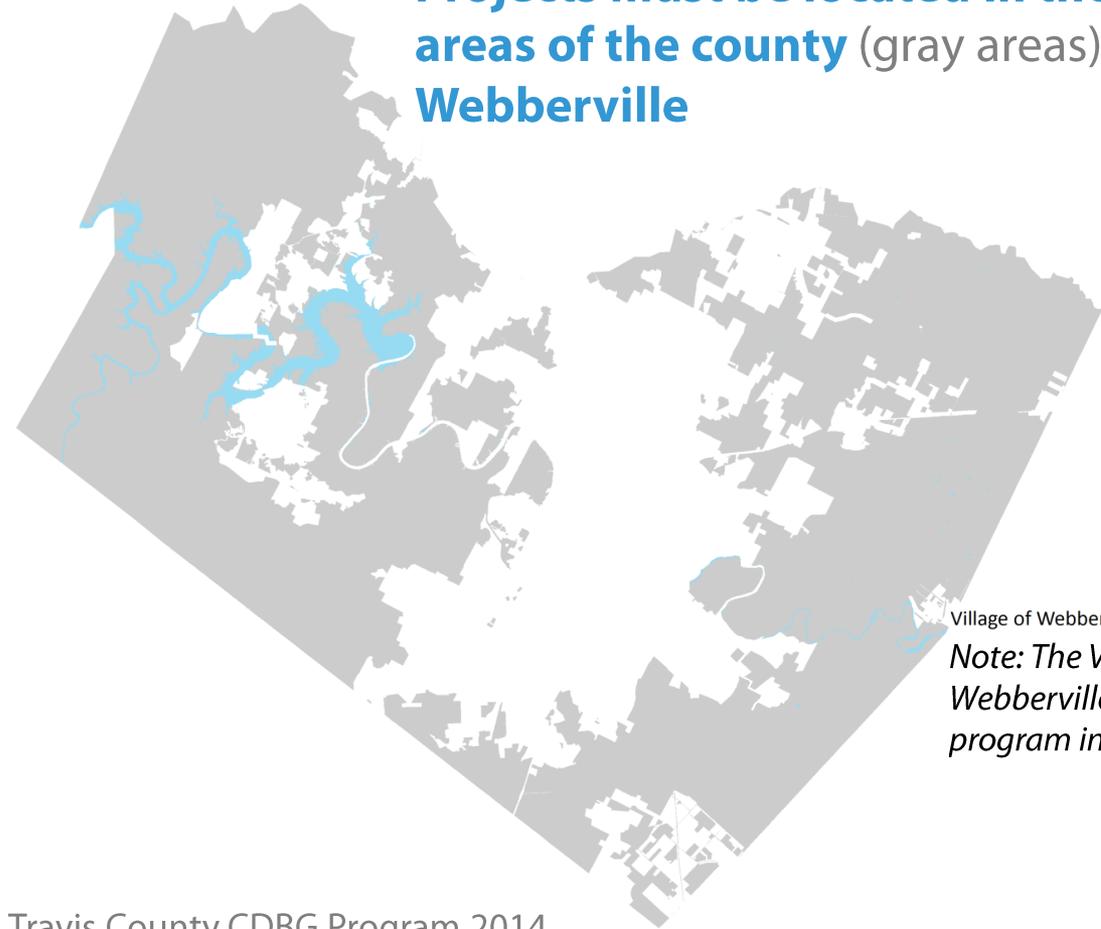
Who Benefits?

At least 70% of the funds must benefit low- to moderate- income residents in the unincorporated areas of Travis County or the Village of Webberville.



SERVICE AREA

Projects must be located in the unincorporated areas of the county (gray areas) or in the Village of Webberville



Village of Webberville
Note: The Village of Webberville joined the program in October 2012.



ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

CDBG programs implement a variety of community development activities including, but not limited to:

PLANNING

HOUSING

PUBLIC SERVICES

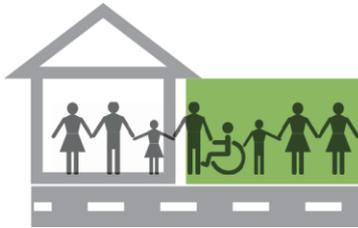
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REDEVELOPMENT



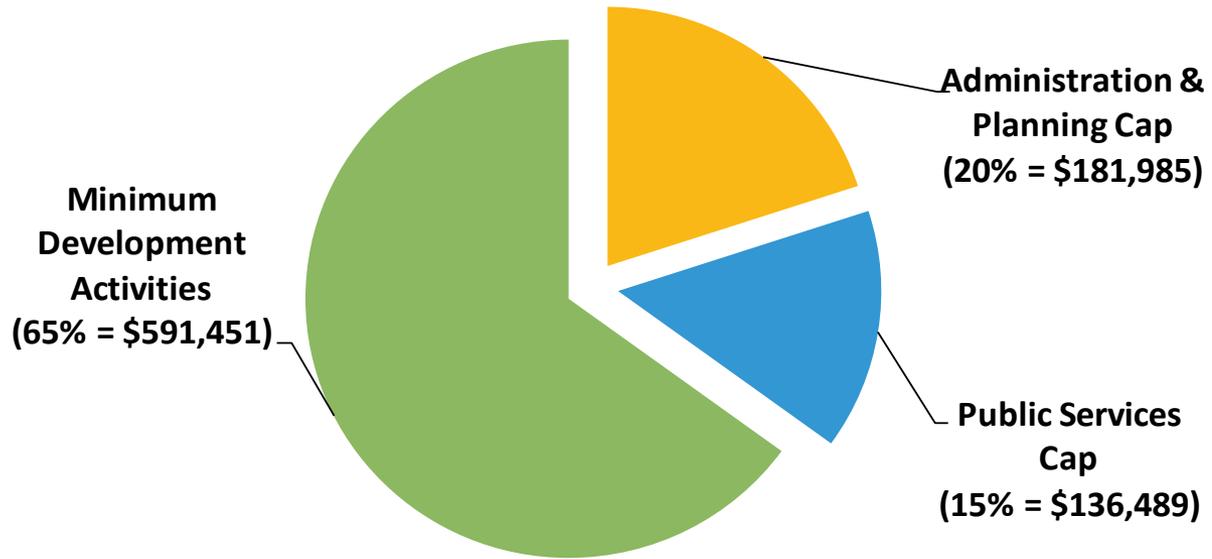
Generally, the following types of activities are ineligible:

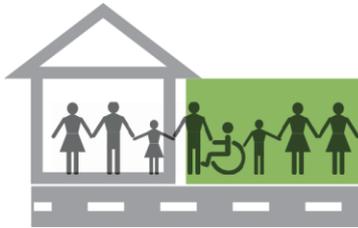
- ❑ Acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of buildings for the general conduct of government
- ❑ Construction of new housing by units of general local government
- ❑ Certain income payments
- ❑ Political activities



PY14 ESTIMATED GRANT: \$909,925

CDBG Activities





PROJECT HISTORY

Over the last 8 years, the CDBG program has funded:

LAND ACQUISITION

HOME REHABILITATION

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

PLANNING AND
ADMINISTRATION

HOMEBUYER ASSISTANCE

WATER IMPROVEMENTS
AND CONNECTIONS

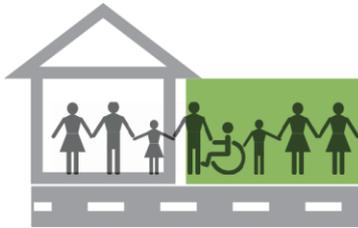
SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM
EXPANSIONS

FAIR HOUSING
COUNSELING



NEXT STEPS

FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
SIX (6) Public Hearings seeking input on community needs and uses of funds	Solicitation of Project Ideas (deadline for submission of project proposals: March 31 st)	TCCC approves Strategic Direction and evaluation of Project Ideas		TCCC Approves Projects for PY14	Two (2) Public Hearings	Final approval of Consolidated Plan and Action Plan by TCCC and Submission to HUD by August 15th
				30-day Comment Period to comment on proposed CDBG uses		



CDBG CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG

Contact Person: Christy Moffett, LMSW, CDBG Manager

E-mail: Christy.Moffett@co.travis.tx.us

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Fax: 512-854-7140

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