



**Homes and
Community Renewal**

Office of Community Renewal

CDBG-CV Program: CARES Act *(Community Development Block Grant)*

Charlie Philion, Program Director, Community Development

January 13, 2022

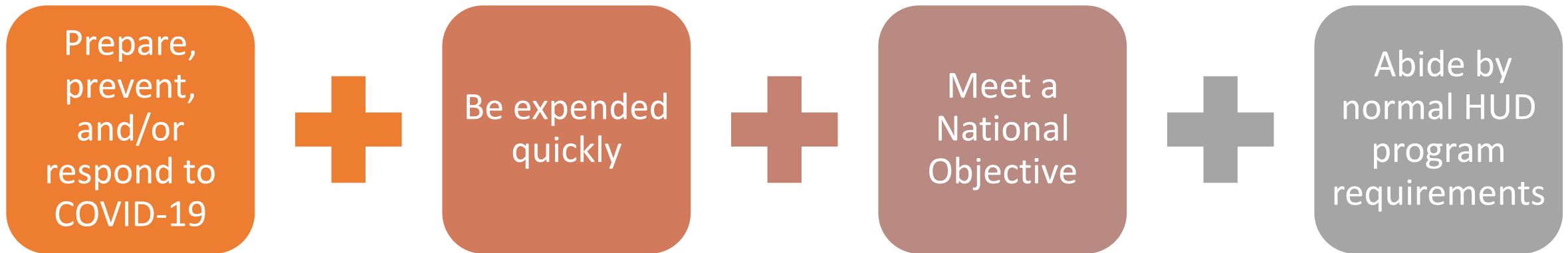
Scott LaMountain, Program Director, Economic Development

Overview

- What is CDBG-CV Funding?
- Who can apply?
- Program Administration Requirements
- Funding Availability and Limits
- What's different about CDBG-CV funds?
- General Categories, Eligible Activities, & National Objective Compliance
- Application Process
- Question and Answer
- Contact Information

What is CDBG-CV Funding?

- Funding made available through the 2020 CARES Act
- CDBG-CV funds must:



Who Can Apply for CDBG-CV funding?

1. Non-Entitlements

- Units of local government, usually small Cities, Towns, Villages and Counties that are typically eligible to apply directly to NYS for CDBG funds
- i.e., Livingston County, Village of Endicott, Town of Victor

2. Entitlements

- Units of local government, usually large urban counties and larger Cities and Towns, HUD provides annual funding directly to these areas
- i.e., New York City, Erie County, Town of Hamburg

3. Not-for-Profits

- Proposed activities work across municipal borders or to serve larger geographic regions
- Must be highly experienced with CDBG requirements
- Demonstrate exceptional financial and administrative capacity

Funding Availability and Limits

- Approximately \$78 million dollars is still available as of updated NOFA

	<i>MINIMUM</i>	<i>MAXIMUM</i>
<i>Towns, Cities, and Villages</i>	\$300,000	\$2,000,000
<i>Counties and New York City</i>	\$300,000	\$3,000,000
<i>All Municipalities – Combined Activities</i>	\$300,000	\$5,000,000

**Non-Profits will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis*

Funding requests above the maximum will be considered on a case-by-case basis by demonstrating need and capacity to delivery activities.

- Documentation of need and demand for funds must be provided to justify additional funding request
- CDBG-CV funds are available until exhausted on a first come, first serve basis **or** until June 30, 2022

Program Administration Requirements

Duplication of Benefits

- Grantees must have policies and procedures to prevent using CDBG-CV funds for costs already fully covered by other sources

Procurement

- An applicant may choose a third-party consultant and/or non-profit subrecipient to help administer the project
- For professional service contracts, federal procurement rules will apply
- [Chapter 1](#) "Getting Started" and [Chapter 4](#) "Procurement"

Environmental Review

- ALL CDBG-CV projects are required to undergo a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) review
- The length and time for the NEPA review depends on the type of activities that are undertaken
- [Chapter 2](#) "Environmental Review"

Timeliness Requirements



- CDBG-CV contracts have a special condition tied to timeliness in project development.
- Grant award may be canceled at any time if it becomes apparent the Recipient has not initiated the administrative activities necessary to allow project to proceed.
- The HTFC considers “timely fashion” to be the local commitment and expenditure of grant funds within 6 months.

CDBG-CV General Categories , Eligible Activities, & National Objective Compliance

CDBG-CV CARES General Categories



Supporting Small Business



Public Facilities



Housing for Safe Shelter



Public Services



Farmworker Housing



Special Projects

Supporting Small Business



- Available to businesses with less than 25 employees
- CV funds can be used to help small businesses recover from the pandemic or increase resiliency from future outbreaks
- Offered on a programmatic basis. Applicant must demonstrate there is pipeline of businesses ready to implement funding.
- There must be a clear connection on how proposed funds will enable the business to respond to and prevent impacts of COVID-19.

Small Business Assistance



Project Examples

- City requests \$1,000,000 in CDBG-CV funds to assist at least 40 businesses with reopening expenses such as marketing to announce reopening/new hours and increase in payroll to bring staff back or increase hours, and an increase in inventory. This will help improve business resiliency and create or retain 30 jobs.
- County requests \$350,000 in CDBG-CV funds to provide grants to assist 15 businesses with costs related to accessing the services of a consultant to establish a digital marketing strategy. This will help prepare businesses for new pandemic realities and help to retain 20 jobs.
- The Town requests \$500,000 in CDBG-CV funds to establish a Small Business Assistance Program to provide grants to eligible businesses to purchase point of sale equipment and provide on-line capability to decrease crowding, increase safety, and improve business efficiency.

Public Facilities

- Activities generally involve acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or installation of eligible buildings.



Eligible buildings include:

- Municipal public facilities
- Nursing homes
- Libraries
- Homeless shelters
- Senior centers
- Supportive and public housing developments
- ...and other critical institutions.

Ineligible buildings include:

- Buildings for the general conduct of government
 - Includes City or Town Halls
- Facilities that have large 'regional draws'
- Facilities that do not serve LMI persons
- Facilities that are not open to the general public

Public Facilities

Project Examples



- County requests \$800,000 in CDBG-CV funds to upgrade the HVAC system and improve Wi-Fi connectivity at a senior center. The improvements will reduce transmission of air borne pathogens to vulnerable populations.
- City requests \$303,500 to purchase and install mobile hotspots and solar charging stations in public spaces. This project will ensure communities have access to critical resources and services during the pandemic.
- Village will use \$500,000 to assist a local non-profit in renovating and equipping the new facility the organization operates their food pantry from. This project will enable the organization to increase capacity to meet the increased need for food services due to the pandemic.

Housing for Safe Shelter



- Assist rental and single-family homeowners with repairs or upgrades critical to improving the overall health and safety of the housing.

Eligible improvements include:

- Environmental hazard improvements
- Conversion of underutilized buildings for affordable housing

Ineligible improvements include:

- New construction of housing
- Owner occupied multi-unit rehabilitation

- Applicants expected to prioritize assistance to vulnerable populations such as senior and families that lost income as a result of COVID

Housing for Safe Shelter



Project Examples

- City requests \$1,000,000 in CDBG-CV funds to make improvements to low-income rental housing units to remediate health hazards. The activities will improve substandard housing conditions that endanger tenants from sheltering in place during future pandemics.
- City requests \$2,000,000 to rehabilitate three residential properties that are currently unsafe for occupancy into affordable homeownership opportunities in partnership with a regional Land Bank. This project involves demolition and rehabilitation. This project will provide LMI persons opportunities to shelter in owner occupied units.
- County requests \$580,000 to rehabilitate single-family rental housing occupied by seniors and persons with disabilities to improve air quality. These changes will improve substandard housing conditions that endanger tenants from airborne illnesses.

Public Services



- Activity must support community-based efforts to ensure LMI, vulnerable, or underserved persons have access to critical resources and services
- A public service must be either a new service or a quantifiable increase in the level of the service
 - CANNOT support activities already funded by other parties
- Cannot substitute existing funds for operating expenses
- Demonstrate sustainability of services beyond grant contract

Eligible activities include:

- Vaccine Outreach and Awareness
- Support for Mental Health Services
- Wi-fi Connectivity for Underserved Communities
- Housing Instability
- Addressing Food Insecurity

Public Services

Project Examples



- County requests CDBG-CV funds to purchase a vehicle and PPE equipment to conduct mobile vaccine outreach. This will ensure low to moderate income communities have access to critical resources and services in response to the pandemic
- Recipients will use \$800,000 in CDBG-CV funds to purchase and provide broadband equipment to low-to-moderate income eligible households. Increasing Wi-Fi accessibility to low-to-moderate income persons will ensure those individuals have access to critical virtual services for future pandemics.
- Recipient will use \$300,000 in CDBG-CV funds to purchase a new walk-in refrigerator and pay for staff time to increase the reach of free meals deliveries to low- and moderate-income households.

Farmworker Safety Housing

- Up to \$10 million in CDBG-CV funds are dedicated to improve the overall quality of farmworker housing.
- Applicants may request up to \$1 million
- Two eligible activities include:



Housing Activities

- Improve housing conditions contributing to the spread of COVID-19, variants, or other future emergencies

Equipment or other non-capital activities

- Provide equipment to increase the safety of farmworkers and prevent the spread of COVID-19

Farmworker Safety Housing

Project Examples



- County applies for \$1,000,000 to support rehabilitation of existing farmworker housing. County identifies and contracts with four farms with on-site housing in need of rehabilitation to improve farmworker safety.
- County applies for \$500,000 to develop a program to improve COVID-safety protocols among farmworkers. The County Department of Health purchases and packages kits of PPE to be distributed to farmworkers for a season.

Special Projects

- A critical need that falls outside of the activities mentioned, but are within the five categories
- **MUST** meet the HUD mandated nexus to COVID-19 **AND** a CDBG National Objective
- Submit project consultation form to initiate conversation



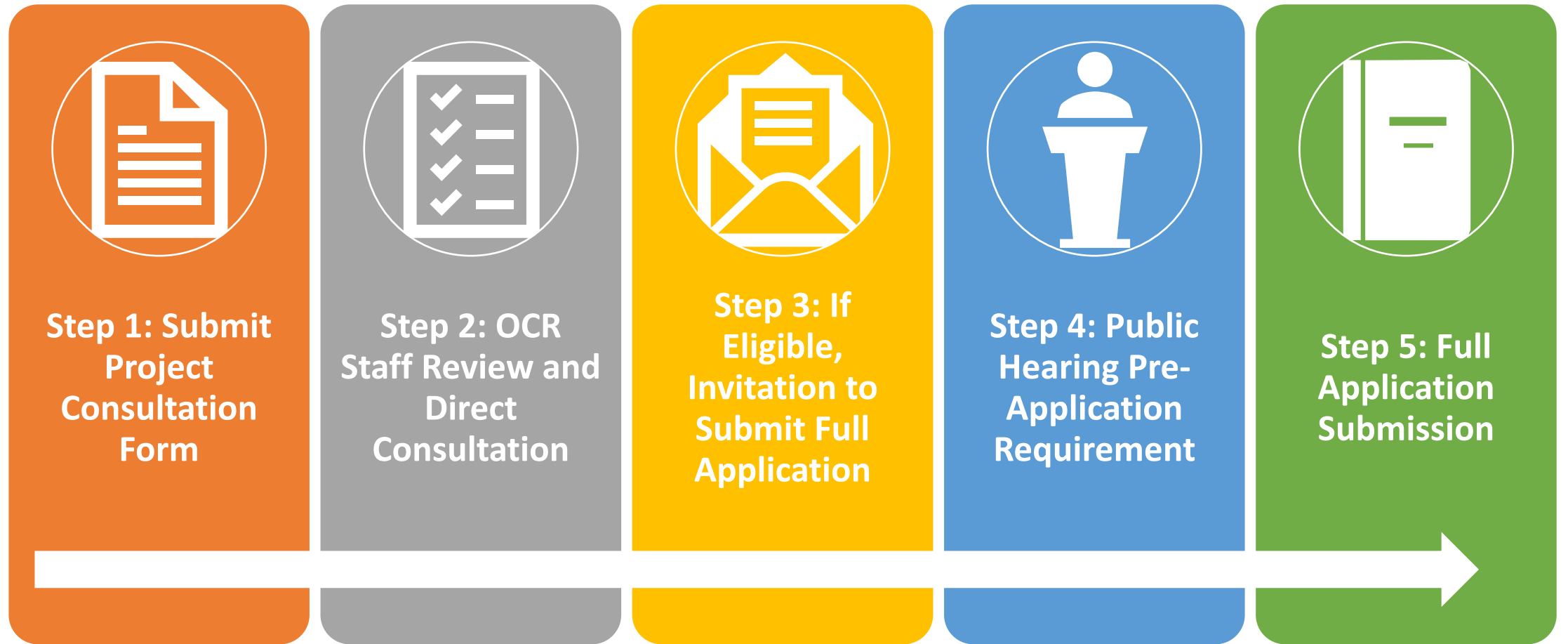
Ineligible Activities

- No tie to COVID-19
- Cannot start quickly and be completed within 12 months
- Projects that do not meet a National Objective
- New construction of housing
- Activities caused by deferred maintenance
- Buildings for the general conduct of government
- General government expenses



CDBG-CV Application Process

Application Process

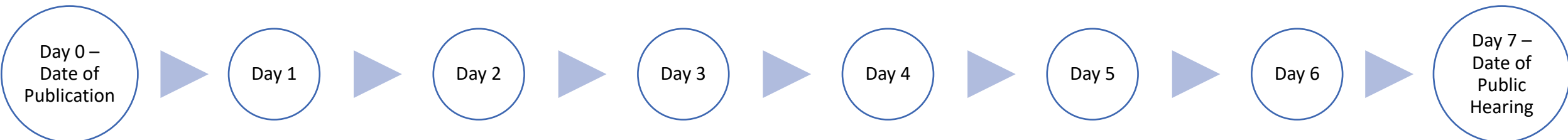



May Require Additional Documentation

Public Hearing Pre-Application Requirement



- Only required for municipal applicants. Not-for-profit applicants must provide evidence of municipal support
- Must be conducted before a quorum of the legislative body
- Current guidance allows for virtual hearings
- The municipality must provide a minimum seven (7) day period between the publication of the hearing notice and the hearing itself. Note that the date of publication is day "zero".
- The hearing notice must be conspicuously posted in one or more public locations at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the actual hearing.





Ready to Apply? ...What's the Next Step?

- First, applicants must submit a project consultation form
- Once the form is received and reviewed, a call with OCR may be scheduled to discuss more detailed project pieces
- Email CDBG CARES@hcr.ny.gov
- [Website link](#) for consultation form, RFA, application, etc.
- Applications will be received until **Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 4pm EST**

Question and Answer



Thank you for attending!

Submit all inquiries to CDBGCARES@hcr.ny.gov

Go to <https://hcr.ny.gov/communityrecovery> for additional information and resources