

Augusta-Richmond County
Housing & Community Development (AHCD)
Federal Grant Application & Information Session



 RESTORE. CONNECT. TRANSFORM.

AGENDA

- Welcome and Purpose
- Review of Past Performance Outcomes
- Application Process Timeline
- Housing Sector
- Support Services Sector
- Applicant Requirements
- Application Review / Breakout Sessions
 - Chris Behm, Neighborly Software and HCD Staff

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Denver, showing a river in the upper left, a highway interchange, and various urban buildings and green spaces. The image is used as a background for text overlays.

Mission: To create positive change by promoting self-sufficiency through partnership in economic development, quality housing, and neighborhood reinvestment

Vision: Excellence through Transparency, Innovation, & Relevancy

2020 Theme: Building Healthy Communities

Five (5) Sectors of Functionality

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- Administration
- Housing
- Redevelopment
- Finance
- Support Services

FY2021 Estimated CDBG, HOME, HOPWA & ESG Allocations

\$1,649,350	Community Development Block Grant
\$ 708,217	HOME (Home Investment Partnership)
\$ 150,876	Emergency Solutions Grant
\$1,058,968	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
<u>\$ 385,000</u>	Estimated Program Income (CDBG & HOME)
\$3,952,411	Total 2021 Estimated Revenue

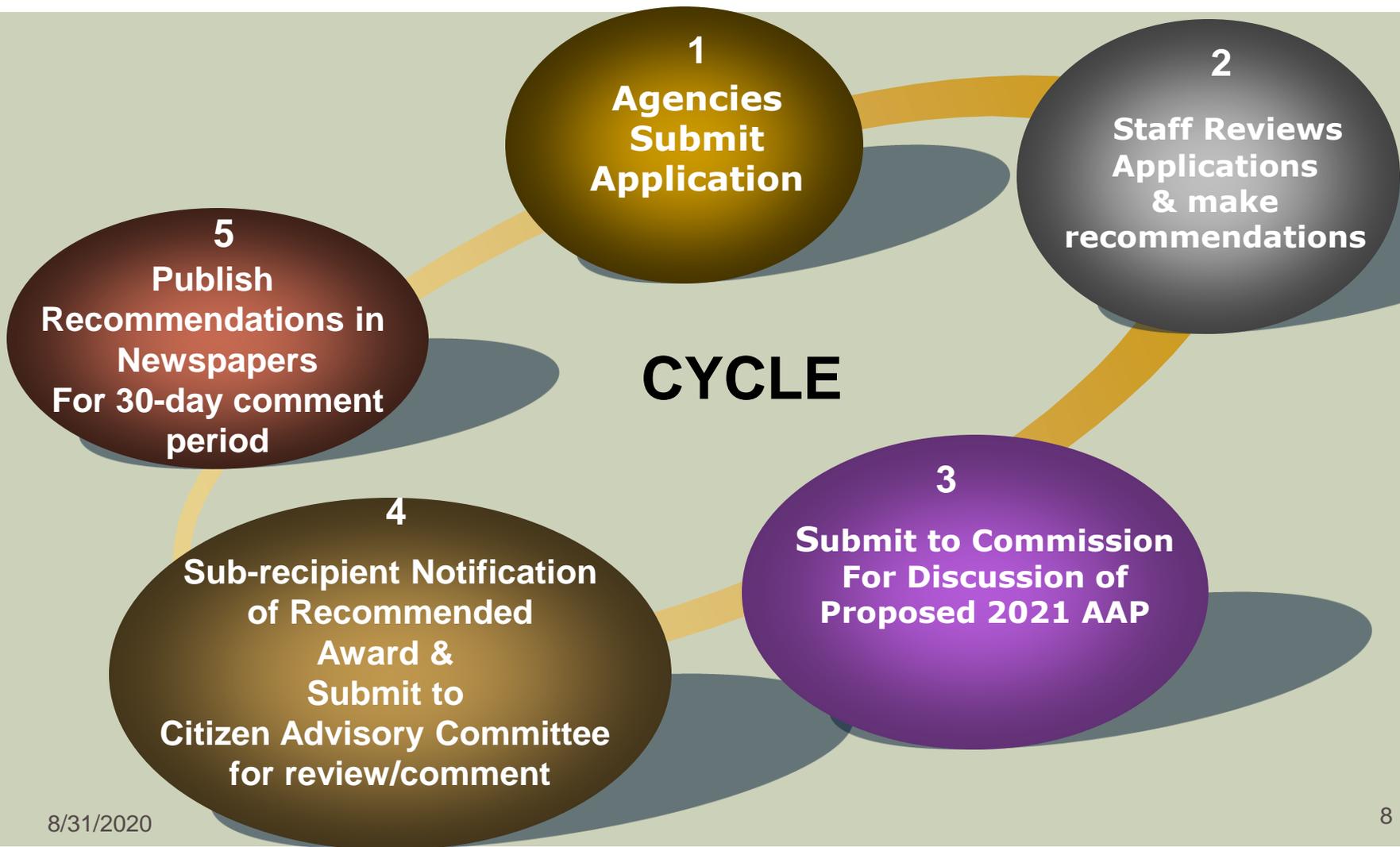
CURRENT TRENDS

- Access to funds continues to trend toward mid-year (August/September)
- Unable to fund new programs due to budget reductions
- Agreements run from January 1st to December 31st

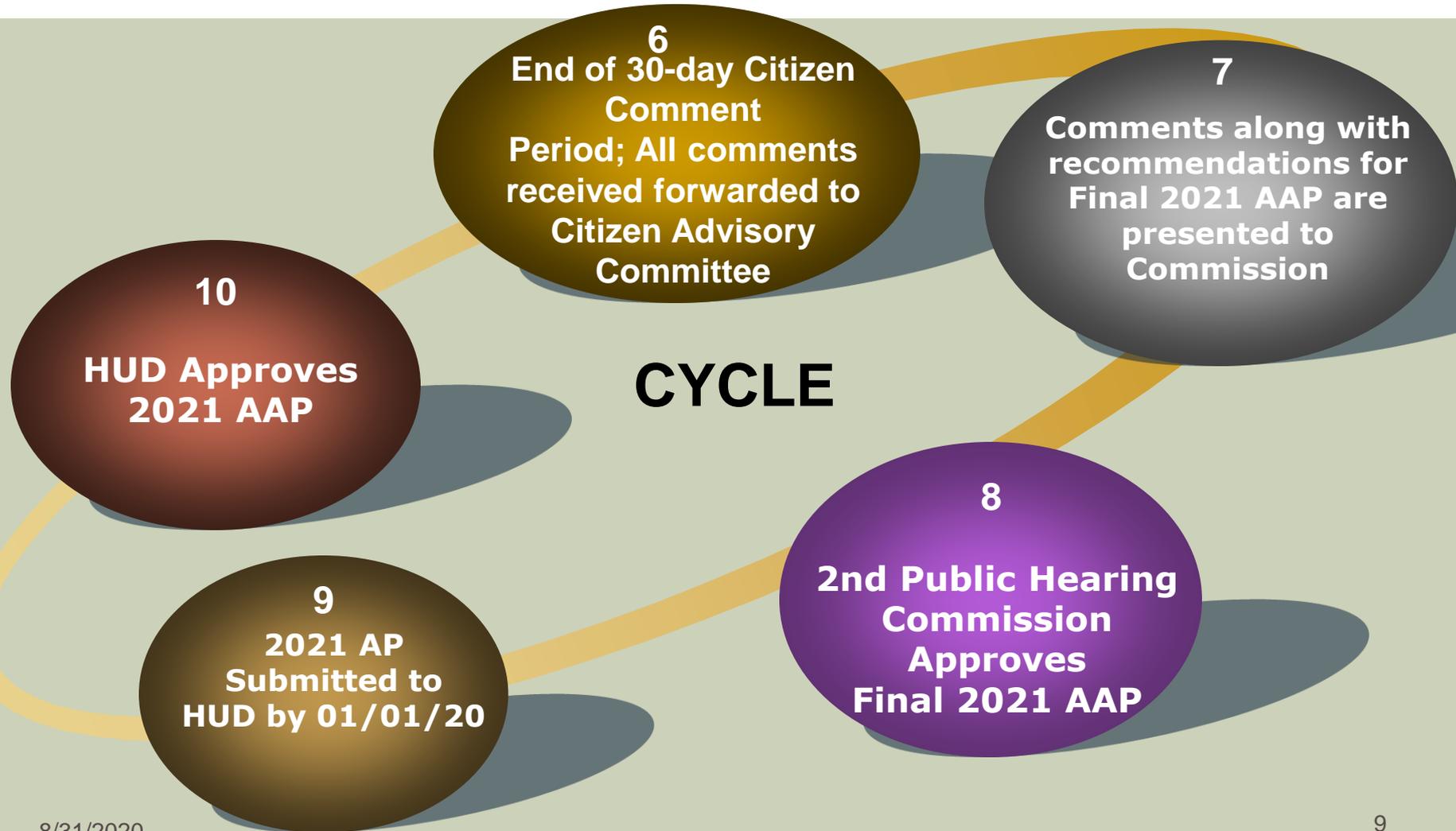
QUESTIONS TO AGENCIES

- Is your agency willing & able to consolidate services with fellow agencies, with one agency operating in the lead?
- Can your agency document a dollar-for-dollar match in funds from other sources?
- Does your agency have adequate funds to carry the program to at least mid-year?
- Can your agency meet new and more stringent local and federal requirements?
- If not funded, does your agency have a contingency plan for how you will move forward?

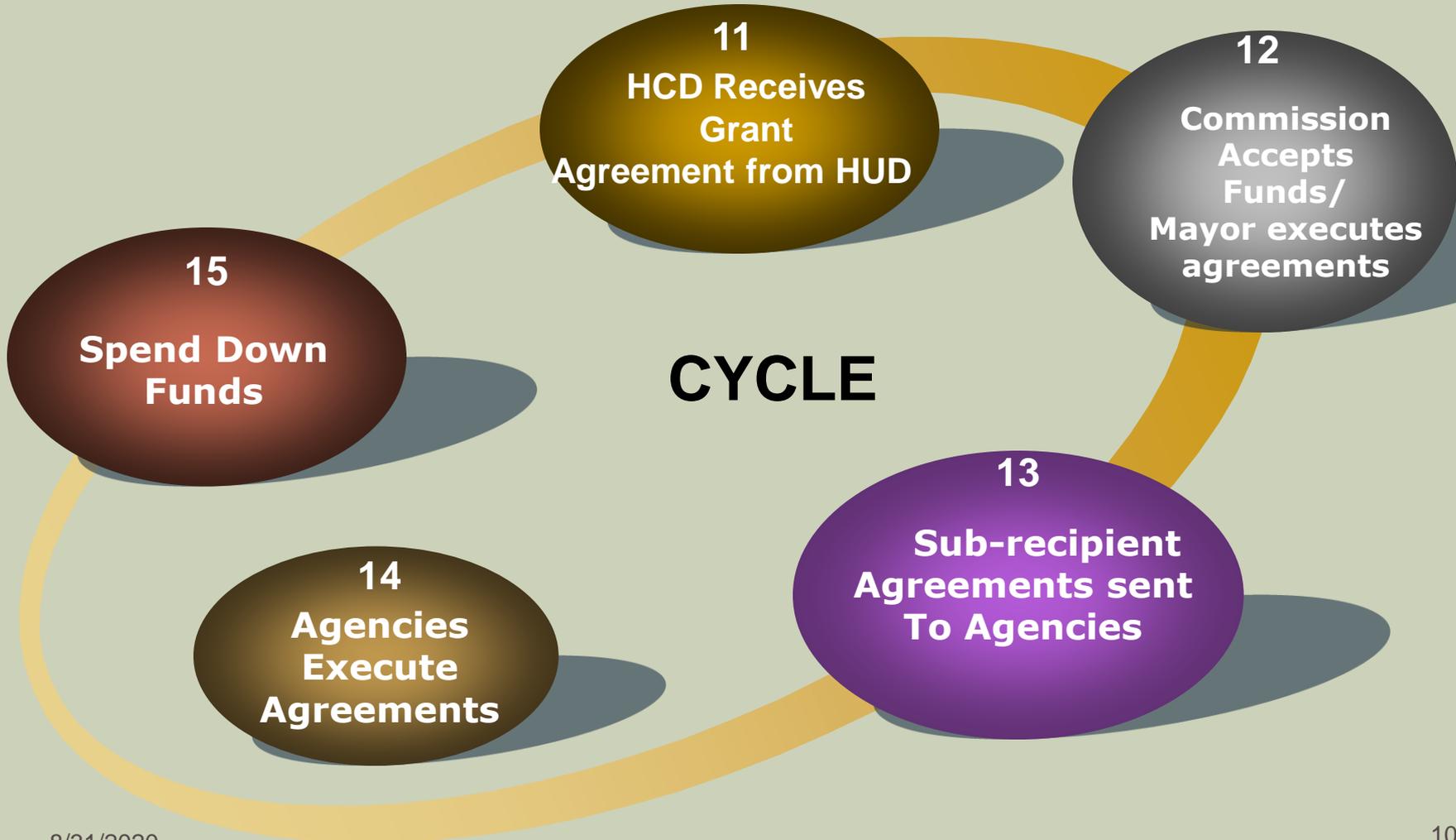
HANDLING OF APPLICATIONS



APPLICATION CYCLE



APPLICATION CYCLE



IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, August 19	2PM	First Public Hearing and First Public Meeting Virtual – Zoom and Facebook Live
Wednesday, August 26th	2 PM	Federal Grants Application Workshop Virtual – Zoom and Facebook Live
Monday, August 31st	9 AM	FY2021 AAP Applications available on-line at HCD Website
Thursday, October 1st	5 PM	APPLICATIONS DEADLINE
October 19– October 30,		Scoring and Recommendation Committee Applicant Interviews

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, November 6th*

**Funding Recommendations
Announced**

Friday, November 13th* -

**30 Day Comment Period of
FY2021 AAP**

Monday, December 14th*

Tuesday, December 15th*

5:00 PM

Second Public Hearing

To Be Determined

TBD

**Admin Services Committee and
Commission Presentation of
FY2021 AAP**

*** Dates subject to change**

Applications

Available at the City's web site:

- **Wednesday, August 26, 2020** **2:00 PM**
Application Workshop
Virtual Zoom

DEADLINE:

- **Submitted on or before Thursday, October 1st, 2020 by 5:00pm**
 - **No Hand-delivered or emailed applications will be accepted**

Applications

- <https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/augusta/Participant/Login>
- or-
- <http://augustaga.gov/68/Housing-Development>

At the bottom of the HCD page in the URL above is the link to the Neighborly login portal here



Important Information

- [HCD Applications Portal](#)
- [HCD Lender Guide](#)

NEIGHBORLY SOFTWARE

❖ TAMMIE
ABRAMS,
HCD



❖ CHRIS BEHM,
NEIGHBORLY
SOFTWARE

❖ CHRIS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR T/A
THIS THURSDAY, APRIL 19TH FROM
10 AM- NOON AND 1 PM TO 3 PM
AT HCD 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE
ROOM (925 LW BLVD., 2ND FLOOR)

HOME PROGRAM

PURPOSE

- Expand the supply of decent & affordable housing for LM income families
- Provide financial & technical assistance to government & non-government entities.
- Increase homeownership opportunities for LM income households.



HOME – ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Housing Rehabilitation
- New Construction & Reconstruction
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
- Assistance to first-time homebuyers



USE OF FUNDS



HOME

- Majority of funds targeted to eligible housing rehabilitation & development
- 15% reserved for Community Housing Development organizations (CHDOs)
- Up to 5% can be used for CHDO operating costs
- Up to 10% can be used by the City for administrative costs





HOPWA PROGRAM

- Created through the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 & authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act of 1992.
- To address the specific needs of low income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families
- (For Richmond, Columbia, McDuffie, Burke, Lincoln, Aiken & Edgefield counties)



HOPWA ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Acquisition & Rehabilitation
- Operational Costs
- Case Management
- Supportive Services
- Resource Identification
- Housing Information
- Administration
- Nutritional Services
- Rental Assistance
- Short-term Rent, Mortgage & Utility (STRMU)



FAIR HOUSING

The Fair Housing Act is a federal act in the United States intended to protect the buyer or renter of a dwelling from seller or landlord discrimination. Its primary prohibition makes it unlawful to refuse to sell, rent to, or negotiate with any person because of that person's inclusion in a protected class.

FUNDAMENTAL GOAL OF THE FAIR HOUSING POLICY:



**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**

To make housing choice a reality!!

HOW DO YOU RECOGNIZE HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

- Refuse to rent to you or sell you housing
- Tell you housing is unavailable when it fact it is available
- Show you apartments or homes only in certain neighborhood
- Refuse to make a mortgage loan or impose different terms
- Refuse to provide you with information regarding mortgage loans, deny you a mortgage loan, or impose different terms or conditions on a mortgage loan
- Refuse to make reasonable accommodations for persons with a disability if the accommodation may be necessary to afford such a person and equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling.

ARE YOU A VICTIM OF HOUSING DISCRIMINATION?

**Augusta Housing and Community Development
(706) 821 - 1797**



**U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
(404) 331-5140 or 1-800-440-8091**

Under our Fair Housing laws, every citizen is assured the opportunity to build a better life in the home or apartment of their choice – regardless of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, family status or disability.



Alphonso Jackson
Former Secretary - HUD

CDBG

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT



The CDBG entitlement program allocates funding to local communities to develop viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and opportunities to expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.



CDBG SERVICE PROVISION

AGENCIES MUST DIRECTLY PROVIDE SERVICES! Programs that simply refer clients to other agencies to provide the actual services will not be recommended.



HUD'S CDBG NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

HUD program rules state that, in order to be eligible for funding, every CDBG-funded activity must qualify as meeting one of the three national objectives of the program. This requires that each activity, meet specific tests for either:

1. Benefiting low- and moderate-income persons,
2. Preventing or eliminating slums or blight, or
3. Meeting other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

An activity that fails to meet one or more of the applicable tests for meeting a national objective is in noncompliance with CDBG rules.

For additional information on HUD's National Objectives and Eligible Activities, visit:

https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CDBG_Guide_National_0bjectives_Eligible_Activities.pdf

CDBG ELIGIBLE PROGRAM COSTS

- **Personnel Costs:**
 - Program Staff (salary only)
- **Overhead:**
 - Office rental, lease costs, utilities, postage, phones, etc.
- **Program Operating Costs:**
 - Direct client costs (training, fees, uniforms, etc.)
 - Program materials, supplies or equipment
 - Program staff training

CDBG INELIGIBLE COSTS

(INCOMPLETE LIST)

- Programs that do not serve primarily low-and-moderate income persons and families
- Unrelated agency costs (funds are meant for clients)
- Services that promote religion
- Political activities
- Marketing, incentives, or fundraising
- Payment of debt or expenses incurred prior to agreement date
- Entertainment (including food costs), furnishings, or personal property

ESG EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT

The purpose of the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program is to assist individuals and families quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness.

ESG provides grants to support homelessness prevention, emergency shelter and related services.



GENERAL DEFINITION OF HOMELESS



Four possible categories under which individuals and families may qualify as homeless:

- Persons who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- Persons who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence
- Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age and families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless
- Persons who are fleeing, or are attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening circumstances

CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC)

- What Is CoC?
- A Continuum of Care is an approach that helps communities plan for & provide a full range of housing & service resources to address the various needs of homeless persons.
- The Purpose of the CoC is to reduce the incidence of homelessness in communities by assisting homeless individuals and families in quickly transitioning to self-sufficiency and permanent housing.
- It utilizes an electronic program and client management system, commonly known as HMIS

ESG ALLOWABLE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Allowable Programs

- **Emergency Shelter**
 - Essential Services to homeless persons in emergency shelters and operating costs of emergency shelters
- **Homeless Prevention/Rapid Re-housing**
 - Housing relocation, stabilization, and short/medium term rental assistance to keep persons at risk of homelessness from becoming homeless
- **Street Outreach**
 - Outreach, engagement, and provision of essential services for unsheltered homeless persons

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- The renovation, major rehabilitation, or conversion of a building
- The provision of essential services related to emergency shelter or street outreach, including support services.
- Maintenance, operation, insurance, provision of utilities and furnishings related to emergency shelter
- Provision of rental assistance to provide short or medium-term housing to homeless individuals or families at-risk of homelessness
- Housing relocation or stabilization services for homeless individuals or families, including: housing search, mediation or outreach to property owners, legal services, credit repair, provide utility and security deposits

ESG INELIGIBLE COSTS (INCOMPLETE LIST)

- Acquisition of real property
- New construction
- Legal services for immigration and citizenship matters, and issues relating to mortgages
- Inpatient detoxification and other inpatient drug or alcohol treatment
- Payment of temporary storage fees in arrears
- Bad debts/late fees
- Payment or modification of a debt
- Rehabilitation of structures to the extent that those structures are used for inherently religious activities
- Mortgage payments

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS

- Agencies must submit annual audits or reviewed Financial Statements completed by an independent auditor/CPA for the last fiscal year.
- Audits must include any subsidiary reports and management letters
- Contracts will NOT be signed without the required audit or financial statement.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS (CONT.)

- Electronic Monthly Reports Required for Reimbursement Requests
- Quarterly Reviews occur for Poverty Reduction and Home Buyer Education Programs
- A minimum of 2 monitoring visits per year (financial, programmatic)
- End of Year Performance Verification
- Periodic requests throughout program year for additional information
- Agreements run from January 1st to December 31st

GRANTS ARE REIMBURSEMENT ONLY

- Based on local priorities, the City uses its discretion in determining which eligible activities and costs under federal regulations will be allowed locally.
- Payments **WILL** be withheld if reimbursement requests have inadequate documentation, questionable costs, or erroneous figures.

ACCEPTABLE PROOF OF PAYMENT FOR REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS

- **Rent Payments:** Signed lease showing rent amount accompanied by image of cancelled check, copy of check and bank statement showing payment cleared, or stamped “paid” receipt from landlord
- **Payments to Third Party Vendors:** Invoices stamped “paid,” bank statements showing cleared checks or payments, bills showing payments received not “Payment Due”
- **Salaries:** Copies of employee time sheets and corresponding payroll checks with stub or direct deposit payroll statement or cancelled check images with appropriate personnel named

BIDS/ PROCUREMENT

- All bids/procurement must adhere at a minimum to the standards listed in 24 CFR Part 85 (local government standard). Agency procurement policies must meet the City standard for funded programs.
- Agencies must maintain adequate files to substantiate that all requirements have been met.
- Copies of these records can be requested by the City to verify compliance.

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HCD_Feedback@augustaga.gov

APPLICATION OVERVIEW AND SUBMISSION

QUESTIONS

Housing & Community Development Department

Augusta-
Richmond
County