



Santa Rosa County

Board of County Commissioners

Sheila Fitzgerald, Special Projects/Grants Director

6495 Caroline Street, Milton, FL. 32570-4978, Phone (850) 983-1848 / Fax (850) 983-1944

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tony Gomillion
FROM: Sheila Fitzgerald
DATE: March 16, 2016
SUBJECT: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Cycle – First Public Hearing

RECOMMENDATION:

That the board consider citizen views and public comment concerning the community's housing and community development needs at 9:30 am on Thursday, March 24, 2016. This public hearing was advertised on March 10th and March 12th.

BACKGROUND

Santa Rosa County is eligible to apply for FFY 2015 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding of up to \$750,000.00. These funds must be used for one of the following purposes:

1. To benefit low and moderate income persons; or
2. To aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or
3. To meet 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 where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

The categories for which these funds may be used are in the areas of housing or neighborhood revitalization, commercial revitalization, and economic development. Applications are due April 25, 2016.

NEXT STEPS

Upon consideration of the views of citizens on community development needs, and after closing the first public hearing, the board should provide direction to staff regarding development of a CDBG grant application.

Notice of Bid/Request for Proposal

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY Division of Community Development

RULE NO.: RULE TITLE:

73C-23.0041 Application Process - General Information

Notice of Funding Availability

The Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) announces the availability of funding for non-entitlement units of local government under the Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Department will make Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 funding available for the Neighborhood Revitalization (\$8.59 million), Housing Rehabilitation (\$5.65 million) and Commercial Revitalization (\$1.49 million) program areas. Units of local government are not eligible to apply for funding in one of the three program areas if they have an open CDBG subgrant in any of the three areas.

The Department also has approximately \$6.87 million available in the Economic Development (ED) program area for job creation/retention activities. Non-entitlement units of local government that have an open Neighborhood Revitalization, Housing Rehabilitation, Commercial Revitalization or Economic Development subgrant are eligible to apply for Economic Development funding if the open subgrant is “on time” and “on schedule” as defined in Rule 73C-23.0031, Florida Administrative Code.

A total of \$22.6 million in FFY 2015 funding will be available to eligible applicants in the four program areas. The FFY 2015 list of non-entitlement units of local government is available on the Department’s website at www.FloridaJobs.org/CDBGApplicantInfo. The application process is conducted in accordance with Sections 290.0401 – 290.048, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 73C-23, Florida Administrative Code.

The Federal Fiscal Year 2015 application cycle for all of the above-mentioned categories of funding will begin (“open”) on March 12, 2016, and end (“close”) at 5:00 p.m. ET on April 25, 2016, (“the deadline date”). Funding requests must be submitted on the Florida Small Cities CDBG Application for Funding, Form SC-60 (February, 2016), which is available on the Department’s website listed above, must be received by 5:00 p.m. ET on April 25, 2016. Mailing address: Florida Small Cities CDBG Program, Department of Economic Opportunity, 107 East Madison Street – MSC 400, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6508. Hand-delivered applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. ET on April 25, 2016, at the Small Cities CDBG Program office in the Caldwell Building, 107 East Madison Street, Tallahassee. Two copies of the Application for Funding must be submitted, including at least one complete hard copy with original signatures. An electronic copy of the Application for Funding (in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format on a CD or USB drive) can be submitted as the second required copy of the application.

In the event that funds remain available in the Economic Development category after the application deadline date, ED applications submitted after the deadline date will be reviewed, and eligible applications will be awarded funding on a first-come, first-served basis.

An additional \$600,483 has been designated as Emergency Set-Aside funding for state-declared emergencies that occurred between April 1, 2015, and March 31, 2016. A separate Notice of Funding Availability will be published for these funds.

If you have questions, please contact Roger Doherty, Small Cities CDBG Planning Manager, (850)717-8417, roger.doherty@deo.myflorida.com.

FIRST PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Santa Rosa County is considering applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for a FFY 2015 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of up to \$750,000.00. These funds must be used for one of the following purposes:

1. To benefit low and moderate income persons; or
2. To aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or
3. To meet 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 where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

The categories for which these funds may be used are in the areas of housing or neighborhood revitalization, commercial revitalization, and economic development and include a variety of activities including:

Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization: housing rehabilitation, demolition of dilapidated housing and relocation of residents, weatherization and energy- efficiency improvements, code enforcement, land assembly or site preparation for new construction, physical improvements activities such as water and sewer improvements, street improvements, drainage and neighborhood facilities.

Commercial Revitalization: rehabilitation and demolition of dilapidated buildings, relocation of residents, physical improvement activities such as water and sewer improvements, street improvements, drainage and neighborhood facilities.

Economic Development: infrastructure improvements, acquisition of real property loans to private-for-profit business, purchase of machinery and equipment or energy conservation.

For each activity that is proposed, at least 70% of the funds must benefit low and moderate income persons.

In developing an application for submission to DEO, Santa Rosa County must plan to minimize displacement of persons as a result of planned CDBG activities. In addition, Santa Rosa County is required to develop a plan to assist displaced persons.

The public hearing to receive citizen views concerning the community's housing and community development needs will be held at the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, located at 6495 Caroline Street, Milton, FL on Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 9:30 A.M. To obtain additional information concerning the public hearing, contact Emily Spencer at (850) 983-1855. The Public Hearing is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Any handicapped person requiring an interpreter for the hearing impaired or visually impaired should contact Emily Spencer by March 22, 2016, and an interpreter will be provided. Any non-English speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Emily Spencer by March 22, 2016 and a language interpreter will be provided. To access a Telecommunications Device for Deaf Persons (TDD) please call 1-800-455-8770 and ask for relay to Santa Rosa County.

Legal Line ad

1 issue –Press Gazette – March 12, 2016
1 issue –Gulf Breeze News – March 10, 2016
1 issue – Navarre Press – March 10, 2016

Bill and proof of publication to:
Santa Rosa County Administrator's Office
6495 Caroline Street, Suite D
Milton, Florida 32570

Attn: Emily Spencer, Office Manager