

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT UPDATE

2010 Program Year Recommended Changes



The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) is a federally funded pass through grant program from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Wyoming Business Council administers the program. Wyoming has received an annual funding allocation ranging from a low of \$2.2 million to a high of \$3.75 million. Wyoming is given broad authority to design and structure a program that meets the community and economic development needs of Wyoming communities. The State of Wyoming is working under Five Year Consolidated Plan (January 1, 2008-December 31, 2012). The purpose of the Consolidated Plan is to provide a collaborative process whereby the State establishes a unified five year vision for housing and community development actions and a one year Action Plan for each of the five years.

A “Substantial Amendment” to the State’s 5 Year Consolidated Plan and 2010 Annual Action Plan is proposed. Public meetings are scheduled for June 22-June 25 in Rock Springs, Riverton, Cody and Gillette. A compressed video public hearing will also be held on June 26. More information about these meeting dates is summarized on the Wyoming Business Council website, www.wyomingbusiness.org.

Changes to the plans are summarized here:

- Increase maximum grant awards for Public Infrastructure Grants, Public Facility Grants, Economic Development Infrastructure Grants and Downtown Development Grants from \$300,000 to \$500,000.
- Change the maximum cost per job for Economic Development grants from \$20,000 per job to \$35,000 per job.
- Create different tiers of planning grants with differing maximum awards and matches:
 - Community Development and Economic Development plans, \$50,000 maximum award with 20% required match. Preference will be given to communities with current plans seven years old or older.
 - Housing plans, assessments or development codes which will benefit low and moderate income people, \$20,000 maximum award with a 25% cash match
 - Feasibility studies and site specific development studies that may create job opportunities for low and moderate income people or otherwise benefit low and moderate income people, \$15,000 maximum award with a 25% cash match
- Create a \$22,000 set-aside for competitive grants for non-profits planning activities. Individual grant awards will not exceed \$7,500 and can be used for organizational and strategic planning, organizational structure and program design, evaluation, cultural diversity issues, marketing/communications; leadership development, strategic partnerships and collaborations.
- Use 1% of the state’s allocation, as allowable by the CDBG regulations, to provide technical assistance to public or non-profit entities to increase the capacity of such entities to carry out eligible neighborhood revitalization or economic development activities.
- Create a pool of \$150,000 for CDBG Child Care Facility Loan Program for non-profit and for profit child care operators to improve their facilities, increase their capacity, and create jobs. The Child Care Facility Loan Program will be a project of the WBC administered by the Wyoming Women’s Business Center under contract.

Any questions or comments, please contact:

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