2019 CDBG Annual Action Plan

For July 1 2019 - June 30 2020

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Executive Summary (AP-05)

(Include summary of objectives and outcomes identified in the plan.)

(Also include evaluation of past performance, summary from citizen participation, and any public comments you received/considered)

The Consolidated Plan is a five-year planning document required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be submitted by all jurisdictions that directly receive HUD formula funds. The purpose of this document is to provide an Annual Action Plan for HUD dollars for the 2019-2020 program year.

The purpose of the Consolidated Plan. The plan identifies affordable housing, community and economic development needs, and determines priorities, establishes strategic goals, and allocates resources for programs funded by HUD and administered by the state, namely:

- HOME Partnership Investments (HOME)
- Continuum of Care (CoC)
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The required elements of the plan include:

- An assessment of housing and community development needs for the ensuing five year period;
- An analysis of the area’s housing markets;
- A discussion of the area’s strategies, priority needs and objectives for housing and community development activities; and
- An action plan describing the area’s method for distributing 2019-2020 HUD funds to carry out activities in support of the area’s strategic plan.

The Action Plan will cover the administration of the two grant programs for the time period of July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. Depicted in the Action Plan are activities which will address housing needs, homeless needs and the special needs of persons who are not homeless. Activities addressing obstacles to meeting underserved needs, affordable housing, lead-based paint and asbestos hazards, slum and blight, infrastructure improvement, anti-poverty strategies, citizen participation, sustainable communities, institutional structure, coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies and public housing are also described.
Planning was conducted in accordance with the Consolidated Plan Final Rule, 24 CFR Part 91. Participation from citizens, agencies, advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations, businesses and others concerned with housing and community development was encouraged throughout the planning process. Highlights of the process of developing the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan include:

- Updating data on affordable housing and community development needs;
- Reviewing studies, reports and strategic plans related to affordable housing and community/economic development recently published by state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations;
- Meeting with affordable housing stakeholders, including community action agencies, fair housing agencies, advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations and for-profit housing developers to determine priority needs;
- Meeting with local governments eligible for state CDBG program funding to determine priority community and economic development needs.

To meet the community needs, the Plan is guided by three goals:

- Provide decent housing by preserving and increasing the affordable housing stock, by increasing the supply of supportive services to people with special needs, by assisting homeless persons and families with emergency shelter especially with transitional and permanent housing using the homeless prevention and/or the rapid re-housing activities.
- Provide a suitable living environment through safer and livable neighborhoods such as Code Enforcement and Crime Prevention activities; increased housing opportunities such as First Time Homebuyer Down payment Assistance, and Homeowner Rehabilitation activities; and continued improvements with infrastructure reconstruction and public facilities rehabilitation; and,
- To expand economic opportunities through homeownership opportunities, development activities that provide long term community stability and the empowerment of LMI persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

The Uintah Basin Association of Governments (UBAOG) is the lead agency in charge of the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) for the Uintah Basin located in Eastern Utah. Its service area covers three counties: Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah and 13 incorporated cities and towns within those counties. This Annual Action Plan is developed with help from citizen participation as well as input from community leaders in the area of Housing and Community Development from the region.
This Action Plan includes goals and objectives for the upcoming year with descriptions of resources available to help achieve those goals. It will include information about the specific activities that will be used to help achieve the following goals for the region:

1. Increase and improve the supply of decent, affordable housing in the region. Especially for low and very-low income families, individuals with special needs, elderly, disabled and homeless.
2. Provide a way for moderate, low and very low income families to improve and sustain current living conditions to avoid having to find other means of housing.
3. Expand economic opportunities in order to improve living conditions for moderate, low and very low income individuals and families in the region.
4. Look for ways to improve the availability of services; those essential to low and very low income families within the community.
5. To prevent homelessness, chronic or other forms, through developing and expanding the services available in the region.

The primary objective of the CDBG Program is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing; a suitable living environment; and expanding economic opportunities that principally benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons. Low and moderate income persons are identified as those individuals living at or below 80 percent of the area median income. The CDBG program will assist communities to expand affordable housing and economic opportunities, provide necessary infrastructure, and improve public facilities. With the participation of citizens, communities can devote funds to a wide range of activities that best serve their own particular community development needs and priorities.

The purpose of the HOME Program is to expand the supply of affordable housing for low- and very low-income households (persons at or below 80 percent of the area median income). The HOME Program distributes funds to communities, public housing authorities (PHAs), and nonprofit community housing development organizations (CHDOs) around the state for acquisition, rental rehabilitation, new construction of multi- and single-family housing, homeowner rehabilitation, and homebuyer assistance.

Continuum of Care (CoC), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds are used to stabilize households that are literally homeless or in danger of being evicted and becoming homeless by providing some short term rental assistance to help families get back on their feet.

**Housing:**

The Consolidated Plan can help in these efforts by following guidelines set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. This includes having eligible entities for CDBG funding to remove barriers to affordable housing, undertaking fair housing enforcement, ensure that local laws and ordinances are meeting Fair Housing Law requirements, conducting a local Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, provide outreach and education of Fair Housing Laws, provide services for those with limited English skills, and assisting in the development of housing for persons with disabilities.
The focus of this year’s housing update is on the Barriers to Affordable Housing and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. These two issues, and what is being done to alleviate them, are important to our communities.

The region’s housing efforts over the past year has tried to address the issues listed above. The following is a list of completed projects of the past year.

- 24 Housing Rehabilitation Projects Completed
- 0 Mutual Self Help Homes Completed
- 1 Replacement Homes Completed
- 8 Acquisition Rehabilitation Project
- 2 Families Housed through transitional housing
- 11 families received homebuyer assistance through CDBG
- 0 Single Family Homes Improvement Loans (Olene Walker)

The future focus of the housing efforts in the Basin will be to continue educating local officials on ways to remove barriers to affordable housing and make sure that Fair Housing choices are available to all protected groups.

The following will be areas of focus for the upcoming year:

**Improvement of Existing Housing Stock**
The UBAOG will continue to use available funds, including CDBG, to improve existing housing for moderate, low and very low families. The UBAOG works closely with the following agencies to achieve this objective:

- USDA Rural Development
- The Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund
- Northeastern Housing Partnership
- Myton Housing Authority
- Roosevelt City Housing Authority
- Uintah Basin Assistance Council
- Turning Point Shelter
- Counties and Municipalities

By improving and maintaining existing housing for moderate, low and very low income families, it allows those families to extend the useful life of their homes. It provides a way to improve sub-standard homes so that they become safe and affordable and the families or individuals do not have to seek other affordable housing which can be difficult to obtain.

**Increase of New Housing Stock**
The UBAOG, counties and cities in the region have all recognized a need for more affordable and work force housing. Because of the unique economics of the region, which booms and busts with the fluctuations in the energy industry, affordable housing isn’t always a priority. However, the agencies have worked hard to ensure that affordable housing has become a priority in the
region. In the past, the CDBG program has been utilized to purchase lots for affordable housing units. From those purchases, there are still existing lots that the UBAOG will work hard with the grantees to make sure affordable housing is installed on those lots quickly. The UBAOG will utilize all available partners and resources to complete these projects.

Currently, there is a plan in place to build Self Help Housing, in partnership with USDA Rural Development on several of those lots in the upcoming year.

Some of the counties and cities in the region have also seen the need to keep affordable housing in the forefront. They have written housing plans that provide a way to make sure developers build some affordable housing units in new developments. The UBAOG will work with its partners and other available resources to help the counties and cities that do not have adequate affordable housing plans to update those plans to help continue the awareness for the need of affordable housing in the region.

**Infrastructure Development**
One of the difficulties of finding affordable lots is the ability to develop infrastructure raw land. It is important that entities have a plan when they purchase raw land for how they will provide infrastructure so that housing can be constructed.

The UBAOG Regional Review Committee (RRC) has determined that critical infrastructure development is a high priority for CDBG funding. This is due to the aging infrastructure that exists in many areas. Much of this aging infrastructure is found in low and moderate income areas of the region. By upgrading and improving this aging infrastructure, it provides a more stable system for these areas. Many entities will be seeking funding from the Department of Environmental Quality, the Utah Division of Drinking Water, USDA and the Community Impact Board as well as using CDBG funding for these improvements.

**CDBG:**
The UBAOG continuously revises the CDBG Rating and Ranking process to reflect local community development priorities, as well as HUD and State mandates. The UBAOG Board of directors, made up of all elected officials in Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah Counties as well as the towns and cities within those counties, reviews rating and ranking priorities on an annual basis before the Community Development Block Grant application process begins in July. Those projects that have the highest rating and ranking are selected for funding. The fixed criteria address percent of moderate, low and very low income, quality growth principals, providing decent safe and affordable housing, creating suitable living environments, creating economic opportunities, impact, strategic planning, project maturity, collaboration, and additional funds leveraged. Due to a loss of key senior staff, and the housing needs in the region, the RRC elected this funding year to set aside the entire allocation to the Uintah Basin Association of Governments.
HUD Section 8:

In addition to HUD’s requirement that low and moderate income families should not spend more than 30% of their income on housing, the Uintah Basin Assistance Council, the Myton City Housing Authority and the Roosevelt City Housing authority administer this program for the region. They have established the priorities in order to facilitate family success. These priorities address the need for families in the region.

Transitional Housing for Victims of Domestic Violence:

The UBAOG receives funds from a local Foundational Grant for the purpose of providing transitional housing for families who are victims of domestic violence. Families that have been referred by Community Abuse Prevention Services Agency (CAPSA) and have third party verification of violent situations will be served on a first come, first served basis. The UBAOG owns two housing units used for this program. Once qualified for the program, clients have up to two years in the home to help make the transition into permanent housing. During these two years, the client must either be working or gain meaningful employment. During these two years, the UBAOG staff helps with budgeting and other training to help in the transition process.

UBOAG Single Family Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program:

This program is funded by the CDBG program, USDA Rural Development and the Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund. This program provides housing rehabilitation to qualified applicants in the UBAOG region. This program provides much needed improvements to housing to allow individuals and families to be able to remain in their homes. By doing this, it also improves the affordable housing stock in the area. The UBAOG also partners with the Uintah Basin Applied Technology College (UBATC) and the Duchesne County Jail to construct homes for the Northeastern Utah Housing Partnership. This partnership provides a way to build new, affordable housing to those who qualify. The Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund provides the construction and long term funding for these projects. The UBAOG administers the project, the homes are built at the Duchesne County Jail, and the UBATC provides the building trades’ instructor to oversee the construction.

OLENE WALKER HOUSING LOAN FUND

http://community.utah.gov/housing_and_community_development/OWHLF/programs.html

The Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund was established to support quality affordable housing options that meet the needs of Utah's individuals and families, while maximizing all resources. Utahans’ served by the fund include those with low-incomes, first-time home buyers, residents with special needs such as the elderly, developmentally disabled, physically disabled, victims of abuse, and Native Americans. Money from the fund is generally loaned to first time homebuyers, builders, and developers. This is a revolving loan fund that is administered by the State Division of Housing and Community Development. Guidelines for administering the programs are
developed and administered by the OWHLF Board and Division of Housing and Community Development Staff.

UBAOG Homebuyer Assistance Program
The UBAOG Homebuyer Assistance Program is funded by the CDBG program. This program provides one time grants to qualified homebuyers to provide financial assistance in purchasing a home.

One Time 50 % Rent Match Program
Funded through local county funds and a local foundation grant, and fed off of the Community Services Block Grant, this program can provide a one-time rental/mortgage or first month’s deposit assistance to prevent the client from becoming evicted and eventually homeless. These funds are provided to families in crisis when the family can demonstrate that rental arrears was caused by circumstances beyond the family’s control, which significantly affected the family’s ability to pay. This circumstance must have made them unable to resolve the delinquency within a reasonable time, or unable to make a full payment. Priority is given to special targeted homeless groups such as senior citizens, disabled and households with children. All funds must be matched by the client dollar for dollar and bring them current. The client must be able to resume full monthly payments and the burden of proof of this requirement will rest with the client.

LIHEAP and Weatherization are two programs operated by UBAOG that provide financial assistance to cover utility costs and to perform actual weatherization on homes owned by low income persons. These programs are not funded by HUD and are not included in this Consolidated Plan.

Community Development:
Community Development projects in the Uintah Basin are major focuses because of the impact of the oil and gas industry. The boom and bust cycle of the industry can put a strain on area infrastructure. Many of the areas Community Development projects are funded through the Permanent Community Impact Board Fund. Because of the impact the oil and gas industry has on the area’s infrastructure, it makes sense that communities would use this funding source to help mitigate some of this impact.

Infrastructure has also become a high priority for the CDBG program in the Uintah Basin. Last year the Regional Review Committee elected to make housing and infrastructure equal priority for CDBG funding in our area. When it comes to community development in the Uintah Basin, water will always be the top priority. The future of the Basin has new water systems being planned for several communities and enhancement for those communities with established systems. Leveraging funds from any and all sources that are available to the communities will be critical to efforts to build these projects.
Economic Development:

The economic climate in the Uintah Basin improved, but still is recovering from the bust of 2016. With declining oil prices, many jobs were cut in all industries. The goal for the Uintah Basin continues to be diversity of the economy. The region’s Economic Development professionals are always looking for ways to help build the economy and achieve that diversification.

Daggett County has lost many key jobs in the past year. The county’s unemployment rate has continued to moderately increase in recent months.

The Duchesne County job market faces significant challenges caused by the commodity cycle. The county’s jobless has remained stagnant, but has improved from the previous year.

Currently, Uintah County’s labor market shows the effects of a better energy market as jobs are coming back in the mining industry. However, the loss of employment in the last bust of the energy cycle has caused unemployment rate higher than most of the state of Utah.
Outreach

Consultation (AP-10)
(Please list your plan to involve the organizations you work with in the creation of the Annual Action Plan)

(Please list the organizations you consulted and the result of the consultation)

(Please specifically describe cooperation and coordination with local governments)

Citizen Participation (AP-12)
(Please summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted the creation of the Annual Action Plan)

(Please list all public outreach efforts include outreach through newspaper ads, internet outreach, public meetings and public hearings. Especially include how you advertise the 30 day public comment period and public comment meeting. Include specific dates and the text of the outreach/ads)

The UBAOG’s Regional Review Committee (RRC) is composed of the three county commissioners from each of Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah Counties as well as the mayors from each of the 13 incorporated towns and cities in those counties. The RRC is consulted throughout the year during compilation of the Consolidated Plan and the One Year Action Plan.

The RRC holds three to five meetings throughout the year. These are open public meetings and participation from the public is invited. During these meetings, the regional priorities are set for the ranking of the Community Development Block Grant applications for the region for each year. The RRC also ranks the applications each year. The RRC is also consulted on the Consolidated Plan and the One Year Action Plan. These meetings will continue through 2019-2020 to get input on the upcoming Consolidate Plan.

The Local Homeless Coordinating Committee (LHCC) consists of representatives with ties to housing and community development throughout the area. These representatives consist of experts from housing, health care, communications, financial institutions, service industries, shelters, domestic violence agencies and government agencies. The LHCC meets quarterly and discuss different ways to combat Homelessness and other housing issues in the region. The LHCC is consulted on the Consolidated Plan and the One Year Action Plan during their quarterly meetings.

The UBAOG will continue to consult with these committees and will continue to look for others that can represent different areas to help provide the most comprehensive feedback possible in updating and rewriting the Consolidated Plan.

During the past year, individual trainings and consultations were given to Duchesne County, Roosevelt City, Uintah County, and nonprofits within the region.
Public Participation

CDBG funds are allocated through a competitive application process. Applications are solicited from area non-profit agencies and private for-profit entities. The UBAOG continues to improve on its efforts in outreach efforts to minorities, persons with disabilities and other underserved populations. Notices of funds availability, committee meetings and public hearings are widely distributed to area social service agencies and housing providers, including agencies that serve minorities and persons with physical and developmental disabilities. These include the Turning Point Shelter, Uintah Basin Assistance Council, The Department of Workforce Services, Northeastern Counseling Services, Active Re-Entry and through each county and city/town staff. The public hearings to receive input for the annual action plans have not been well attended. The UBAOG will continue to encourage better attendance, especially through agencies that serve persons with physical and developmental disabilities.

Technical Assistance is provided individually to applicants during a required pre-submittal meeting with CDBG staff. Applicants are informed of local and federal rules and requirements that govern the CDBG program. These include Davis-Bacon wage rates, environmental requirements, zoning and land use issues and program eligibility. Eligible applications are forwarded to the RRC for review.

In seeking input for the consolidated plan, the UBAOG posted on several websites and public information sites on January 23, 2018. These were advertised on www.ubaog.org, the UBAOG Facebook page, Twitter, Instagram, and on the Utah Public Notice Website for one month after being published. Comments were also accepted to the Uintah Basin Association of Governments physical address, as well as by phone.
**Expected Resources (AP-15)**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Allocation</td>
<td>572,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Income</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior Years Resources</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>572,537</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Narrative Description of the funds)

(Plan to leverage funds with private, other state, and local funds, including any matching requirements)

The local RRC has made it a priority to ensure that entities are rewarded for securing outside funds. If funds are contributed from an outside source, points will be awarded based on the amount of funds contributed.
Goals & Objectives (AP-20)
(Include narrative, and do not change the goal indicators or units of measurement) Also if including outputs which are the result of other programs and activities then include two tables. One showing overall goals and one showing only the goals/outputs which result from CDBG funded activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal Outcome Indicator</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit of Measurement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Facility or Infrastructure Activity other than low/moderate income housing benefit</td>
<td></td>
<td>Persons Assisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for low/moderate income housing benefit</td>
<td></td>
<td>Households Assisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public service activities other than low/moderate income housing benefit</td>
<td></td>
<td>Persons Assisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public service activities for low/moderate income housing benefit</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Persons Assisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facade treatment/Business building rehabilitation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Businesses Assisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental units constructed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Housing Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental units rehabilitated</td>
<td></td>
<td>Housing Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeowner housing added</td>
<td></td>
<td>Housing Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeowner housing rehabilitated</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Housing Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct financial assistance to homebuyers</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Households Assisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness prevention (emergency rental assistance)</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>Persons Assisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Businesses assisted (AOG’s only)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Businesses Assisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Affordable Housing (AP-55)

One year goals for the number of households supported through:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rental assistance</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The production of new units</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehab of existing units</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition of existing units</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Allocation priorities (AP-25)**

(Describe the reasons for the allocation priorities. How will the proposed rating and ranking system address the needs and objectives described in the Consolidated Plan?)

(Describe the criteria for selecting applications and the relative importance of these criteria)

(How can potential applicants access application manuals or other materials describing the application criteria?)

(What is the process for awarding funds?)

(Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories)

The goals of the CDBG program in the Uintah Basin will continue to be keeping the costs low for individuals and households that are in need of affordable services and housing. The following will be some of the objectives in the upcoming year.

**Improved Infrastructure** - By finding funding sources that will provide grants and low interest loans to improve infrastructure, communities can keep utility and service costs low for the consumer. By utilizing leveraging, the communities can do more improvement projects. The communities of the Uintah Basin have done a good job of this in the past, and will continue to try to improve the aging infrastructure.

**Increase the supply of affordable housing** – The increase of available affordable housing in the Uintah Basin continues to be priority. The goal of UBAOG is to increase the availability of affordable housing for individuals and families and ensure that residents receive the services they need to remain affordably housed.

Lower-wage earners face considerable challenges finding housing in the Uintah Basin that's affordable and located close to work, school, and transportation. The high cost of housing leaves many families with less to spend on food, childcare, and healthcare, and less to invest in savings. Seniors are priced out of the neighborhoods in which they have spent their lives. Healthcare workers, farm workers, bank tellers, and teachers cannot afford to live in the community where they work.

The UBAOG will continue to work with local agencies to create housing that is more affordable and accessible to families and individuals with lower incomes. To support this goal, the UBAOG will make targeted three strategic areas: housing policy, affordable housing development, and homelessness prevention.

**Conserve and improve existing affordable owner and renter housing stock** - In addition to adding units, continued efforts are necessary to preserve existing rental and ownership housing for low-income persons. The UBAOG works closely with the counties to provide rental and
mortgage assistance to qualified applicants to help preserve housing for low and moderate income families and individuals.

**Increase opportunities for low- and moderate-income households to become and remain homeowners** - Homebuyer assistance programs play a critical role in enabling low-income persons to become homeowners. As part of this assistance, there will be a continued effort to provide homebuyer education as well as monetary assistance programs to help qualified homebuyers obtain and maintain housing.

The UBAOG partners with the Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund, USDA Rural Development, the Northeastern Utah Housing Partnership, the Uintah Basin Assistance Council, the Myton Housing Authority, the Roosevelt Housing Authority, as well as the counties and cities to provide opportunities for homeowners to improve existing housing to ensure they can safely remain in their existing homes.

This funding year, the Uintah Basin Regional Review Committee (UBRRC) has elected to set aside a total set aside of $285,000 to the Uintah Basin Association of Governments for single family rehab, program delivery, home buyers assistance, and administration.

The Uintah Basin Association of Governments is the host of the UBRRC. All mayors and county commissioners in the region are on the committee and are made aware of how CDBG would allocate and use the funds in the upcoming program year. The UBRRC voted unanimously to focus on single family rehabilitation and paratransit services.

Potential applicants can access application manuals and other materials describing the application process through the UBAOG offices or at the How to Apply Workshops. The UBAOG is responsible for making all eligible applicants aware of the availability of funds.

For applicants to be eligible for future funds, the eligible applicants must first attend the How to Apply Workshop. At the workshop, the entire application process is covered by local and state staff members. Eligible applicants must hold public hearings to get input on potential projects in their specific areas. Applicants must then submit an online application to the state staff. Once the application is received, the local Rating and Ranking Committees must score the applications based on area priorities listed above. Once the committee has reviewed and prioritized the applications, funds are awarded and the applicant works with local and state staff members to finish the application process, be awarded the contract and receive guidance through project completion.
Regional Review Committee (RRC)
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Rating and Ranking Criteria
Program Year 2019

Policy and Procedures

1. The Uintah Basin Association of Governments (UBAOG) will provide assistance in completion of the CDBG application. All applications for CDBG funds will be made and processed in accordance with Utah State and Federal Regulations.

2. Applicants that do not attend the UBAOG CDBG “How to Apply Workshop” will not be eligible to apply for funding. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered for funding.

3. All applications will be scored by the UBAOG staff using criteria approved by the Rating and Ranking Committee (RRC). The RRC is comprised of 19 members: three County Commissioners in each county, Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah Counties, as well as the Mayors of Altamont, Duchesne, Tabiona, Roosevelt, Myton, Ballard, Vernal, Naples, Dutch John, and Manila. Committee members serve on the RRC as long as they retain their elected position of the respective county or city. Staff will make recommendations to the RRC on each application. Staff will present the applications to the RRC for final rating and ranking and approval. State CDBG staff must review/approve all applications as being “threshold eligible” prior to rating and ranking.

4. Timeline for rating and ranking criteria
   - June 2018 - rating and ranking distributed to all committee members
   - July 2018 - final approval of rating and ranking criteria by committee members
   - August 2018 - submittal to the State Community Block Grant Program staff

5. Eligible applicants are cities, towns and counties. Applications on behalf of sub-recipients (i.e., special service districts, non-profit organizations, etc.) are allowed. City and county sponsors will be responsible for sub-recipient’s project viability and program compliance. They must maintain active oversight of the project and sub-recipient’s performance. An inter-local agreement between the sub-recipient and the sponsoring city or county must accompany the application. This inter-local agreement must state the details of the coordination between the sponsor and the sub-recipient and how the sponsor will monitor the sub-recipient.

6. All projects must be consistent with the region’s Consolidated Plan. All projects applied for must be on the prioritized one-year capital improvement’s list. Projects not on the one-year list will not be considered for funding.

7. The minimum project size for CDBG funding is $30,000 as per state policy. Projects less than $30,000 will not be considered.

8. As per state policy, grantees with open grants from previous years that have not yet spent 50 percent of their previous funding are not eligible to apply for new CDBG funds.
9. Applicants must provide written documentation of the availability and status of any matching funds for the project at the time of application. Changes in funding after this time may result in a modified rating and ranking.

10. In case of scoring ties the project with the most LMI beneficiaries will get funded. In a case of a tie, the project with the most leveraged funds will have priority.

11. After all projects have been fully funded in the order of their Rating and Ranking prioritization and a balance remains insufficient for the next project in priority to complete a project, the funds will be first applied to the highest scoring project. An amount, determined by the RRC, will be used for construction contingency. Any remaining balance not allocated to the highest scoring project will be allocated to the region’s single family housing rehab program.

12. The Uintah Basin Regional Review Committee has approved the following set asides:
   
   - $50,000 set aside for administration of region-wide administration and consolidated planning activities of the AOG.
   - $125,000 set aside for Housing Rehabilitation
   - $37,500 set aside for Housing Rehabilitation program delivery
   - $36,000 set aside for Homebuyers assistance
   - $4,000 set aside for Homebuyers assistance administration
   - Total Housing set aside = $202,500

13. Emergency projects may be considered by the Regional Review Committee at any time during the year. Projects that are considered for emergency CDBG funding must still meet a national objective and regional goals set by the committee. Projects may be considered an emergency if the following apply:

   - Funding through a normal CDBG funding cycle time frame would create an unreasonable health and/or safety risk to people or property.
   - A public health and safety crisis experienced by a city or county which could not have been foreseen (i.e. fire, flood, act of God)
   - Alternative funding or temporary solution is not available.

If an applicant deems it necessary to apply for emergency funding, they must contact the Uintah Basin AOG promptly to review the project. Emergency funds are limited on a statewide basis and require approval from the State CDBG Policy Board. The amount of emergency funds awarded will be deducted from the region’s allocation during the next funding cycle.
Public Housing (AP-60)
(Describe actions planned to address the needs of public housing agencies)

(Describe actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership-This section is especially for those who fund Public Housing Agencies)
Barriers to Affordable Housing (AP-75)

(Describe actions to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment)

Local government policies that increase building costs and/or restrict the supply of housing are one of the primary reasons for the lack of affordable housing.

Regulations by cities and counties seem to be one of the biggest barriers to affordable housing. These range from minimum lot sizes that encourage larger and more expensive homes to the prohibition of multifamily dwellings. In some communities, regulations have raised the cost of new development and construction by 35 percent. There have been some instances of this in our region. But, through education of what barriers are and local officials realizing the need for affordable housing, these instances are becoming fewer.

High impact fees can be another barrier that can affect the affordability of housing. Some communities can impose fees on developers and homebuyers that must be paid in advance of new construction. The fees are supposed to recoup the cost of connecting roads and sewer lines. But the fees are often far higher than the new infrastructure costs. I believe that our community leaders try and limit these fees as much as possible. In meeting with several local planners, I have found that the impact fees that are charged are in line with the costs that are being incurred to provide the services to households.

Many communities have tried to increase the supply of affordable housing through inclusionary zoning laws. These laws give builders incentives, or require them, to reserve a portion of new units for low and/or moderate-income households. Uintah County and Vernal City have been especially proactive in making sure that developments include provisions for affordable housing in their affordable housing plans. This will be especially helpful as the area continues to see growth.
Other Actions (AP-85)

(Describe actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing.)

(Describe actions planned to develop Institutional structure.)

(Describe actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards)

(Describes actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social services agencies)
CDBG Annual Action Plan - Appendix 1 Consultation Form

1. AOG: ___________________________ Employee: ___________________________

2. Name of Agency Consulted: _______________________ Date of Consultation: _________

3. Agency/Group/Organization Type (Check all that apply)

   ______ Housing
   ______ PHA
   ______ Services-Persons with Disabilities
   ______ Services-Homeless
   ______ Health Agency
   ______ Publically funded institution/System of Care*
   ______ Other government-County
   ______ Regional Organization
   ______ Community Development
   ______ Financial Institution
   ______ Major Employer

   ______ Services-Children
   ______ Services-Elderly Persons
   ______ Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
   ______ Services-Health
   ______ Child Welfare Agency
   ______ Other government-Federal
   ______ Other government-Local
   ______ Planning organization
   ______ Private Sector
   ______ Banking/Financing
   ______ Foundation

   ______ Services-Education
   ______ Services-Employment
   ______ Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
   ______ Services-Fair Housing
   ______ Civil Leaders
   ______ Other government-State
   ______ Grantee Department
   ______ Business leaders
   ______ Neighborhood
   ______ Organization
   ______ Other:

*Organizations which may discharge persons into homelessness, such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions.

4. What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? (Check all that apply)

   ______ Housing Needs Assessment
   ______ Homeless Needs-Chronically homeless
   ______ Homelessness Needs-Unaccompanied Youth
   ______ HOPWA Strategy
   ______ Lead-based Paint Strategy

   ______ Public Housing Needs
   ______ Homeless Needs-Families with Children
   ______ Homelessness Strategy
   ______ Economic Development
   ______ Other:

   ______ Market Analysis
   ______ Homelessness Needs-Veterans
   ______ Non-Homeless Special Needs
   ______ Anti-Poverty-Strategy

5. Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted?

6. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation of areas for improved coordination?