



**Toni Preckwinkle**  
**President**  
Cook County Board of Commissioners

# Cook County Bureau of Economic Development

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

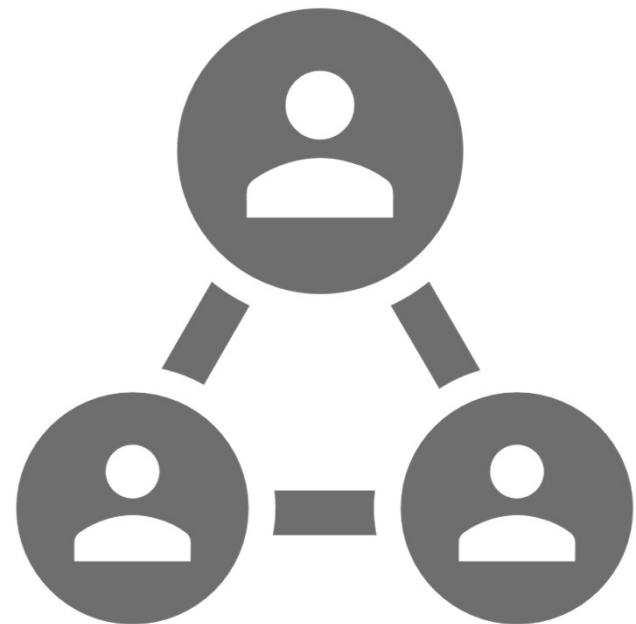
2021 CDBG Capital Improvement

Application WEBINAR - January 27, 2021

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# Nature of the CDBG Program

COOK COUNTY BUREAU OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT -  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, IN  
COLLABORATION WITH HUD, AWARD GRANTS TO CARRY OUT  
A WIDE RANGE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES  
DIRECTED TOWARD REVITALIZING NEIGHBORHOODS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND PROVIDING IMPROVED  
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.



# 2021 CDBG Application Webinar Content

- National Objectives
- Administrative Requirements
- Eligible Activities (Projects)
- Eligible Project Types
- Capital Improvement Project Priorities
- Prohibited Activities (Projects)
- Threshold Requirements
- Application Evaluation Criteria
- Application Highlights
- Funding Cycle Updates
- Program Funding Cycle/Timeline
- Application Review



# National Objectives

## Primary Objective:

- Benefit to Low- and Moderate-Income Persons (*Must expend 70% of CDBG funds to LMI persons.*)
  - 1) Low-Mod Area Benefit Activities
  - 2) Low-Mod Limited Clientele Activities
  - 3) Low-Mod Housing Activities
  - 4) Low-Mod Job Creation or Retention Activities

## Secondary Objective:

- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight
  - 1) Prevent or eliminate slum and blight on an **Area Basis**
  - 2) Eliminate specific conditions of blight or physical decay on a **Spot Basis**
  - 3) Be in an Urban Renew Area

## Third Objective:



- Meet a need having a particular urgency (Demolition Projects)
  - 1) Urgent need activities must pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community
  - 2) Existing conditions are recently urgent (within the past 18 months)
  - 3) Grantee is unable to finance the activity and other sources of funding are not available





# Eligible Activities (Projects)

CDBG Funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- Construction of public facilities and improvements,
  - Rehabilitation or residential and non-residential structures;
  - Relocation and demolition;
  - Provision of assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities;
  - Acquisition of real property;
  - Public services; and
  - Activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources.
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# Prohibited Activities (Projects)

The following may not be assisted w/CDBG funds:

- Buildings or portions thereof, used for the general conduct of government
- General government expenses
- Political

The following generally may not be assisted w/CDBG funds:

- Purchase of equipment
- Operating/maintenance expenses
- New housing construction
- Income payments



# Capital Improvement Eligible Project types:

## Infrastructure:

- Street/Alley Resurfacing
- Water Main Value/Sewer Line Replacement
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements
- Transit Accessibility

## Public Facility:

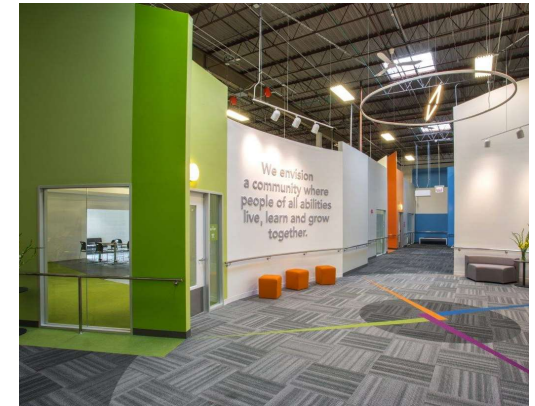
- Recreational Facilities
- Public Parks – ADA Compliance (Playgrounds)
- Energy Efficiency Improvements
- Disabled Accessibility Improvements

## Demolition:

- Residential Structures/Vacant Buildings
- Debris/Asbestos Removal

## Economic Development:

- Special ED/Social Service
- Microenterprise



# Demolition:

## Slum Blight Spot Basis

- Eliminate specific conditions of blight
- Physical decay on a spot basis
- Demolition of dilapidated properties

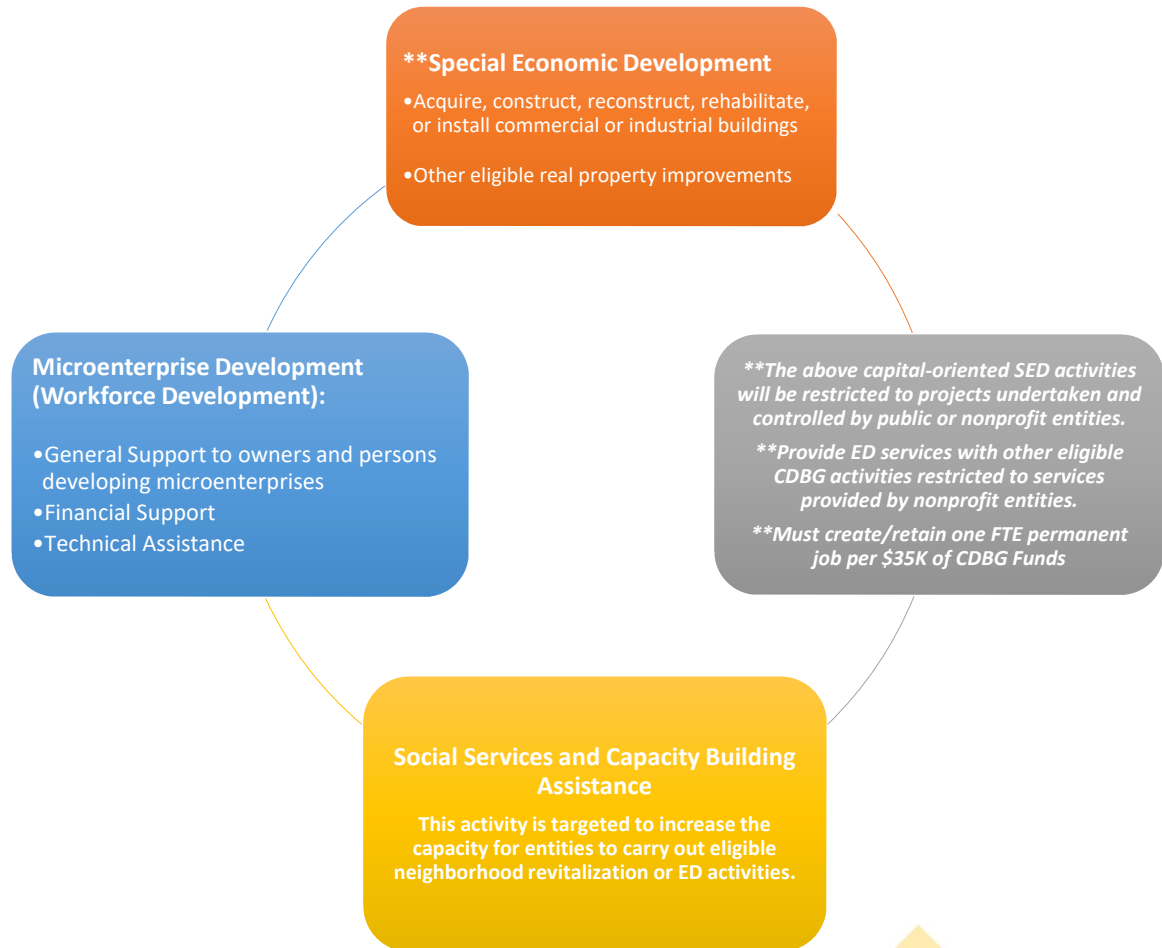
## Urgent Need

- Designed only for activities that alleviate emergency conditions
- Demolition structures that are severely damaged by a major disaster
- Existing conditions must pose a serious and immediate threat (*health or welfare*)
- Existing conditions are of recent origin (*within 18 months*)

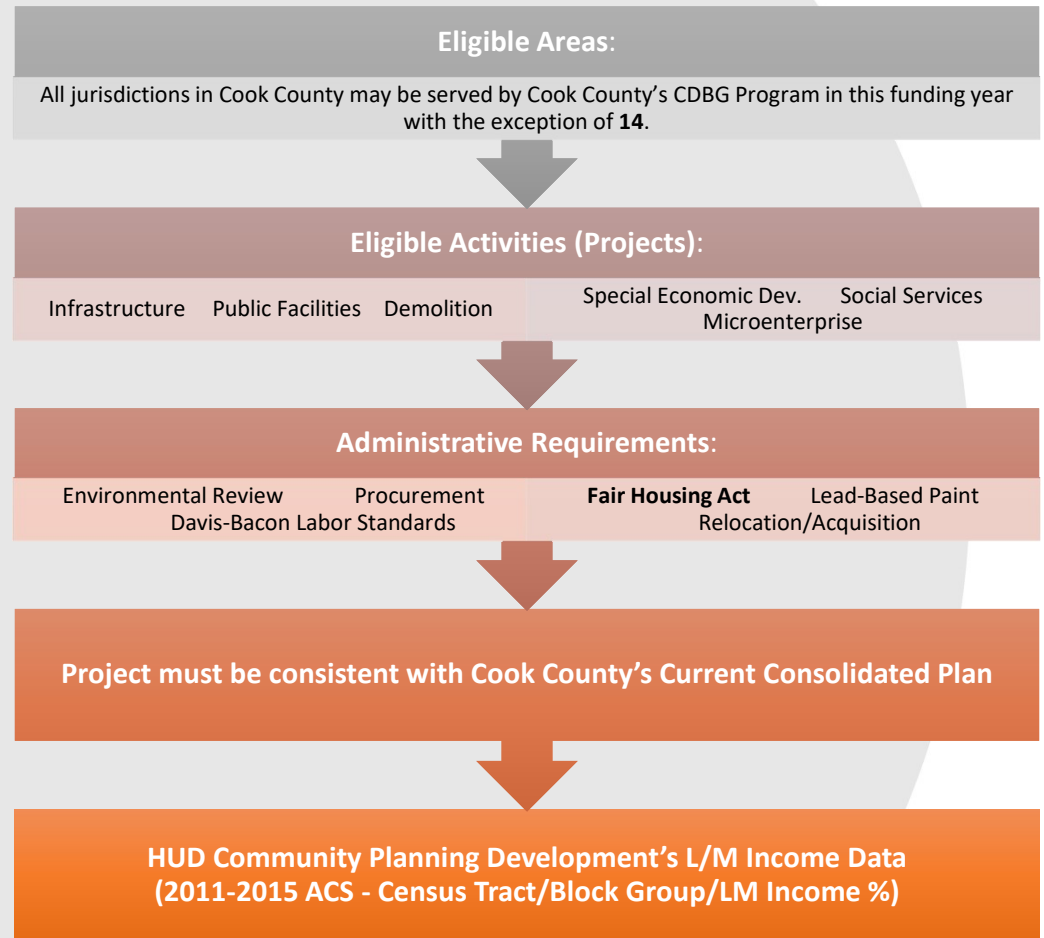




# Economic Development Projects:



# Program Requirements:



# Capital Improvement Project Priorities:

Infrastructure

Public facilities

Demolition

Economic Development



Prioritize multi-jurisdictional funding requests



Coordinate multiple infrastructure improvement into single projects



Prioritize projects and programs that help to address the job-housing disconnect, particularly within the south suburbs



Target infrastructure projects and programs that will promote economic development efforts



Continue to support capital improvements for public facilities



Coordinate closely with other infrastructure resources



# Capital Improvement Threshold Requirements

## Capital Improvement Projects (Area Benefits):

- Area Benefit Threshold Exception: “No Longer Available”
- Area Benefit Threshold: 51% for infrastructure, water, sewer, or flood control projects

## Capital Improvement Projects (Cap):

- Municipal Funding Request Cap \$400,000.00 (Infrastructure)
- Non-Profit Funding Request Cap \$200,000.00 (Public Facilities)

## Maximum Number of Projects (1)



# Application Evaluation Criteria

*(Review Application Checklist, -15 points for each missing required document.)*



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**SP(aD2** Sylvia Parham (Planning and Development), 1/22/2021

# 2021 Funding Cycle Highlights

- CDBG Applications must be submitted utilizing the online submission page. **(No emails or paper copies will be accepted.)**
- Municipalities may apply for **one** CDBG Capital Improvement, Demolition, Economic Development project.
- Non-profits may apply for one CDBG Capital Improvement project and one CDBG Public Service/Planning project. Otherwise, there is a limit of one funding application per agency.
- Consistency with the current Cook County Consolidated Plan (*Moving to Implementation*) and **Policy Roadmap**, including a focus on racial equity
- **Municipal Fair Housing survey** must be completed by the application due date; penalty (10 points)
- Increased focus on Section 3 and M/WBE performance (see Capacity criterion) and requirements (specific guidelines will be noted during the procurement process)
- A geographic focus on the southern suburbs for the 2021 application cycle and emphasis on connections to the **South Suburban Economic Growth Initiative (SSEGI)**  
<https://www.cookcountyiil.gov/content/south-suburban-economic-growth-initiative-ssegi>
- Emphasis on regional collaboration, consistency with the **ON TO 2050 comprehensive regional plan**, and project implementation within the context of a broader municipal or organizational strategic plan or vision
- Applications due by **5:00pm Central on March 12, 2021**



# Program Funding Cycle/Timeline



CDBG Program Year  
(October 1, 2021 –  
September 30, 2022)



Applications Available  
Online – January 13, 2021



**Webinar**  
January 27, 2021



All Application Due  
**March 12, 2021 (5:00pm)**



Application Review Period  
(March – May 2021)



EDAC Public Hearing/Approval  
of Capital Improvement Projects  
(June 2021)

County Board Review/Approval  
(July 29, 2021)



Issuance of Subrecipient  
Grant Awards  
(August 2021)





# Application Review

(SEE ONLINE APPLICATION)

[Cook County Bureau of Economic Development website](#)

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**SP(aD1** Sylvia Parham (Planning and Development), 1/29/2020

## Things to Remember:

- CDBG Applications must be submitted utilizing the online submission page. **(No emails or paper copies will be accepted.)**
- Municipalities may apply for one CDBG Capital Improvement, Demolition, Economic Development project.
- Non-profits may apply for one CDBG Capital Improvement project and one CDBG Public Service/Planning project. Otherwise, there is a limit of one funding application per agency.
- Project must meet a National Objective and the project selected activity must be eligible. Also, the Area Benefit Threshold must be a minimal of 51% for all capital improvement projects
- The project must be Consistent w/Planning for Progress – Cook County’s Consolidated Plan, *Moving to Implementation*
- **Municipal** Fair Housing survey must be completed by the application due date; penalty (10 points)  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/municipalfairhousingsurvey>
- Double check all Census Tract/Block Group/LM Income Percentage. Please use the following Low- and Moderate-Income Area Data (2011-2015 ACS) website link:  
<https://hud.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ffd0597e8af24f88b501b7e7f326bedd>
- All required documents must be submitted per “**Application Checklist**”
- Application must be submitted online ONLY – Deadline **“MARCH 12, 2021**



# CONTACT INFORMATION

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Questions?



THANK YOU!

Good luck on your 2021 CDBG Application!

