City of Little Rock Department of Housing & Neighborhood Programs Community Development Division

Project Application Form 2023 Program Year

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 24 CFR PART 570

SUMMARY

The City of Little Rock Department of Housing & Neighborhood Programs, Community Development Division, is now accepting CDBG applications for the 2023 funding cycle.

OBJECTIVES

Funding projects and services that benefit low to moderate income people that are consistent with the Five-Year Consolidated Plan which identifies public service needs.

PLEASE NOTE

Only organizations with 501(c)(3) nonprofit status and minimum of two (2) years' experience at the time of application for providing a CDBG eligible activity are qualified to apply.

If you are a startup organization or program, the City is unable to fund an activity until it shows viability and capacity. Activity should not be dependent solely on CDBG funding. Must have other funding sources and be financially stable without CDBG funding. Funds will be paid on a reimbursement basis upon submittal of documentation of expenses eligibility.

Available funding for all nonprofit applications combined was roughly \$260,000 for program year 2022.

DO NOT SUBMIT APPLICATIONS THAT ARE OVER THE FUNDING AMOUNT. THE CITY WILL NOT FUND ANY MORE THAN WHAT IS AVAILABLE UNDER THE 2023 FUNDING CYCLE.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT PROJECTS SELECTED WILL BE SUBJECT TO FUNDING AVAILIABILITY.

You may access this NOFA (CDBG Project Application FY 2023) by visiting our website at https://www.littlerock.gov/city-administration/city-departments/housing-and-neighborhood/. You may also call our office at 501-371-6825 to request an application or email Beverly Arbor at barbor@littlerock.gov. Also if you need additional information about Community Development Block Grant you can review the Code of Federal Regulations 24 CFR Part 570.

DATES

Project Application Form will be available on October 3, 2022. It must be received by 2:00 p.m., Thursday, November 7, 2022 via email (<u>barbor@littlerock.gov</u>) or mailed to the attention of Beverly Arbor, Community Development Planner, Department of Housing and Neighborhood Programs, 500 West Markham, Suite 120W, Little Rock, AR 72201. If applications are mailed, the application must be received in the Community Development Division office by the time and date above. <u>There will be absolutely no exceptions</u>.

DISCLAIMER

All proposals submitted become the property of the City of Little Rock. Submission of a proposal does not commit the City of Little Rock to award a contract or to pay for any costs incurred in the preparation of a proposal. The City reserves the right to request additional information pursuant to this application. The City has the right to extend the submission deadline should such extension be in the interest of the City. Applicants have the right to revise their proposals in the event the deadline is extended. The City of Little Rock reserves the right to reject any proposal.

The City of Little Rock Assures Equal Opportunity in Employment and Housing.



ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The **CDBG** regulations allow the use of grant funds for a wide range of **public service activities** (24 CFR 570.201e), including, but not limited to: Employment services (e.g., job training); Crime prevention and public safety; Child care; Youth services, Health services; Substance abuse services (e.g., counseling and treatment); Fair housing counseling; Education programs; Energy conservation; Services for senior citizens; Services for homeless persons;

HUD NATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

All activities funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) must demonstrate that the activity meets at least one of the following HUD CDBG national objectives (24 CFR 570.208):

- Activities benefiting low and moderate income persons;
- Activities which aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; and
- Activities designed to meet community development needs having a particular urgency (referred to as urgent need).

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT:

HUD has implemented a mandated system of reporting performance measurements in a precise and timely manner. All of the activities funded must identify one of the three performance measurements primary objectives and outcomes. Directly below are the primary objectives:

- <u>Creating suitable living environment</u> (in general, this objective relates to activities that are designed to benefit communities, families, or individuals by addressing issues in their living environment);
- <u>Creating decent housing</u> (this objective covers the wide range of housing activities that are general undertaken with CDBG, HOME, or HOPWA funds)
- <u>Creating economic opportunities</u> (this objective applies to the types of activities related to economic development, commercial revitalization, or job creation)

There are three outcome under each objective. They are:

- <u>Availability/Accessibility</u> applies to activities that make services, infrastructure, housing, or shelter
 available or accessible to low and moderate income people, including persons with disabilities.
 Accessibility does not refer only to physical barriers, but also to making the affordable basics of daily
 living available and accessible to low and moderate income people.
- <u>Affordability</u> applies to activities that provide affordability in a variety of ways in the lives of low and moderate income people. It can include the creation or maintenance of affordable housing, basic infrastructure hook-up, or services such as transportation or daycare.
- <u>Sustainability</u> applies to projects where the activity or activities are aimed at improving communities or neighborhoods, helping to make them livable or viable by providing benefits to persons or low and moderate income people or by removing or eliminating slums or blighted areas, through multiple activities or services that sustain communities or neighborhoods.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Funded activities must benefit persons whose annual income does not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD. The current income limits are listed below, but limits are updated annually.

2022 HUD Income Limits (Effective Date: June 15, 2022)

Family Size	Very Low (50%)	Low (80%)
1	\$27,550.00	\$44,100.00
2	\$31,500.00	\$50,400.00
3	\$35,450.00	\$56,700.00
4	\$39,350.00	\$62,950.00
5	\$42,500.00	\$68,000.00
6	\$45,650.00	\$73,050.00
7	\$48,800.00	\$78,100.00
8	\$51,950.00	\$83,100.00

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS AND FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Notice is hereby given that the City of Little Rock anticipates applying for three categories of funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for Fiscal Year 2023, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). The City will prepare a Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Action Plan.

In accordance with its Citizen Participation Plan, the City will conduct four community-wide public meetings to address housing and community development needs for the Annual Action Plan. The purpose of the meetings is to obtain the views and comments of individuals and organizations relative to the needs that may be addressed by CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA funds. With the announcement of Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) under CDBG, the public meetings are also scheduled to give citizens an opportunity to provide suggestions for proposed projects that may be eligible for funding under 2023 CDBG Program.

If a non-profit organization plans to submit a request for a project, an application form with all required information must be completed. The Project Application Form may be obtained October 3, 2022 at the Department of Housing and Neighborhood Programs, 500 West Markham, Suite 120W, Little Rock, AR 72201 or at the City's website https://www.littlerock.gov/city-administration/city-departments/housing-and-neighborhood/. You may also call our office at 501-371-6825 to request an application or email Beverly Arbor at barbor@littlerock.gov.

If you have questions or need additional information, do not hesitate to contact Beverly Arbor.

Completed Project Application Forms must be received at the above address no later than 2:00 p.m. on Monday, November 7, 2022.

All interested citizens are invited to attend the public meetings. The schedule for the public meetings is as follows:

Thursday, October 6, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. Willie Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center 3805 W 12th Street, Little Rock

Thursday, October 13, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. Dunbar Community Center 1001 West 16th Street, Little Rock

Thursday, October 20, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. Southwest Community Center 6401 Baseline Road, Little Rock

Thursday, November 3, 2022 – 6:30 p.m. West Central Community Center 4521 John Barrow Road, Little Rock

For special accommodations for non-English speaking or disabled residents for the public meeting, contact Beverly Arbor at 501-371-6825 or barbor@littlerock.gov at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.



All interested persons are encouraged to attend and participate.