



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Charles D. Baker, Governor ♦ Karyn E. Polito, Lt. Governor ♦ Chrystal Kornegay, Undersecretary

CDBG One-Year Action Plan FY 2017 Preliminary Proposed Changes

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is contemplating several changes to the MA CDBG program for FY 2017. DHCD is proposing these changes, in order to simplify the application process and increase access to the program among eligible communities.

After consideration of these and other previously identified issues, the Department is proposing the following specific changes to the method of distribution for CDBG funds:

- Elimination of Community Development Funds I and II and the Economic Development Fund
- Consolidate Economic Development, Planning and Reserves into a single rolling fund
- Communities will apply to activity specific funds, i.e. Housing, Infrastructure, Public Services
- Projects will compete against each other within the activity specific funds
- Communities may apply for one year of funding with a two year implementation period
- Funded communities may not apply in consecutive years
- Increased maximum grant amounts
- Bonus points - Multiple activity and non-CDBG funded project bonus points will be eliminated
- Communities may apply for a single activity only
- The Mini Entitlement program will have a minimum and maximum award amount available based on prior year's performance

ALLOCATION OF CDBG FUNDS

Proposed Maximum Grant Amounts:

- Single Community \$1,000,000
- Two or Three Communities \$1,100,000
- Four or more Communities \$1,300,000
- Mini Entitlement \$600,000 to \$825,000

Proposed Activity Funding (percentage of available annual allocation) (\$'s based on FY 2016 allocation for example)

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-----|-------------|
| • Housing Activities | 40% | \$7,779,504 |
| • Public Facilities and Infrastructure | 30% | 5,834,629 |
| • Public Social Services | 15% | 2,917,314 |
| • Rolling Fund | 5% | 972,438 |
| • Local Administration | 10% | 1,944,876 |
| • Mini Entitlements | | 9,075,000 |

Other proposed changes:

- For FY 2017, all municipalities participating in an application for CDBG funds will submit as part of the application, a copy of the municipalities Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self Evaluation Survey and Transition Plan (Plan). If a municipality does not have a Plan, it will submit as part of the application a statement to this effect. All municipalities that do not have a Plan will be referred to Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD) for execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOA) toward the development of a Plan.
- DHCD will utilize a revised Community Wide Needs (CWN) score beginning with the FY 2017 CDBG program
- DHCD will maintain the same 11 Mini Entitlement communities for the FY 2017 program as participated in the FY 2016 program. DHCD will conduct a recalculation of the Mini Entitlement communities prior to the FY 2018 program.

AVAILABILITY OF CDBG PROGRAM FUNDS

Application Due Dates for CDBG FY 2017 Program:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Activity Funds: | February 10, 2017 |
| Mini-Entitlement Program: | February 10, 2017 |
| “Other” Rolling Fund: | Applications accepted on an ongoing basis |
- EXHIBIT 2**

MUNICIPAL ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR CDBG PROGRAM FUNDS IN FY 2017

Based on the FY 2016 One Year Action Plan, a single Community Development Fund I community may receive no more than \$1.35 million from two successive years. Economic Development Fund and Reserves awards are not subject to the \$1.35 million cap per community.

As a result, FY 2017 award limits apply to the following FY 2016 grantees, in the following amounts:

Amesbury - \$639,297	Oak Bluffs - \$960,650
Athol - \$756,978	Palmer - \$542,138
Buckland - \$600,669	Rowe - \$971,134
Clinton - \$600,365	Sheffield - \$834,000
Fairhaven - \$654,449	Ware - \$464,948
Hardwick - \$468,112	Warren - \$909,878
Huntington - \$384,414	Winchendon - \$557,336
Methuen - \$537,175	
Montague - \$533,737	

Based on the FY 2016 One Year Action Plan, a Community Development Fund II community that receives an award from the Community Development Fund is precluded from applying to the CDBG Program for the following federal fiscal year, except that a community previously awarded funds solely for an architectural/engineering design or planning project may apply in the next federal fiscal year for funding to implement the project. However, the maximum grant award for implementation will be reduced by the amount of the previous design or planning grant.

DHCD has identified the following communities as ineligible applicants (except as noted) for Federal Fiscal Year 2017; each may apply again in the fiscal year noted in parentheses:

Abington	(2018)	Rockland	(2018)
Easthampton	(2018)	Southwick	(2018)
Gill	(2018)	Westhampton	(2018)
Granville	(2018)	Whitman	(2018)
Merrimac	(2018)		

DHCD will hold public sessions and a hearing to receive comments on the proposed FY 2017 One-Year Action Plan prior to its submission to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Times and locations will be distributed in the coming months. Interested parties are encouraged to submit comments, in writing or via email, in advance of the public sessions and by September 2, 2016. Comments will continue to be accepted directly to DHCD any time prior to, or at the scheduled hearing. Comments may be directed to: Mark Southard, Community Development Manager, DHCD, 100 Cambridge St, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114 or mark.southard@state.ma.us.

