

CITY OF CUMBERLAND

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

2024-2025 ACTION PLAN/PROJECT REQUEST PUBLIC HEARINGS

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the public that beginning on January 2, 2024 the City of Cumberland is soliciting for Community Development Block Grant Project Requests for the 2024 Annual Action Plan which begins July 1, 2024. The City will be receiving an estimated \$800,000 in CDBG funds this coming year. Project requests for funding consideration *must* be developed to meet one of the following national objectives: 1) primarily benefit low-income persons, 2) be of an urgent and otherwise non-fundable need, or 3) address slum/blight. In addition, the City's Consolidated Plan has prioritized identified needs for the area's low-income and special needs populations and projects must also address at least one of those priority goals/objectives described in the 5-year plan. Potentially eligible activities may include acquisition, blight removal, housing/commercial/facility rehabilitation, neighborhood improvements, recreation, beautification, job creation activities, public facilities, public services, and infrastructure improvements. Special consideration applies this year to potential projects providing access to affordable housing opportunity.

The City of Cumberland will be holding its first Public Hearing to receive community needs and project requests on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 6:15 p.m. during the regular Mayor & City Council Meeting at City Hall. Please see the agenda posted on the city website for exact times and details if you wish to attend. The Council Chambers is wheelchair accessible. Persons who require additional accommodations should contact Lee Borrer at the Department of Community Development, Lower Level, City Hall at least 3 days prior to the meeting to make necessary arrangements.

The deadline to submit a project request is Friday, February 16, 2024. Project requests are rated and ranked based on initial eligibility, ability to address an identified goal in the Consolidated Plan, agency capacity/experience, project complexity, matching funds, and funding availability.

Please submit project requests by February 16, 2024 to the City of Cumberland Department of Community Development, City Hall, 57 N. Liberty Street - Lower Level, Cumberland, Maryland 21502. Contact Ms. Lee Borrer within the Department of Community Development at 301-759-6437 or TDD # 1-800-735-2258 to address questions. You can also e-mail a project request, comments, and questions to lee.borrer@cumberlandmd.gov.

MANDATORY*

**TWO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024 AT 10 A.M. AND AT 2:00 P.M.**

*ATTENDANCE AT **ONE** OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEETINGS IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL FOR 2024-2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING. PLEASE RSVP, TO LEE.BORROR@CUMBERLANDMD.GOV FOR **ONE** OF THE MEETINGS LISTED.

Technical assistance meetings consist of a brief overview of the CDBG application/proposal process, guidance on new requirements within the CDBG program, and answers to questions related to goals or projects. Each meeting will be held within City Hall, Mayor and City Council Chambers (2nd floor of City Hall). Visit cumberlandmd.gov for details regarding live vs virtual meeting should unexpected COVID 19 pandemic requirements be re-instated.

The 30-day comment period will begin on March 28, 2024 when recommended projects are posted to the official City of Cumberland website and end on April 29, 2024 affording the public the opportunity to comment on the projects proposed for funding and on the draft 2024-2025 CDBG Annual Action Plan. Written comments may be submitted to Ms. Lee Borrer.

A second Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2024 (see agenda for final date confirmation) at 6:15 p.m. during the regular Mayor & City Council meeting at City Hall or official Zoom virtual meeting should unexpected COVID 19 provisions affect this date, to provide a forum for participation and comments on the draft Annual Action Plan recommended projects. Final adoption of the Annual Action Plan will occur at the end of the comment period, at the regular Mayor & Council meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 (see www.ci.cumberland.md.us under Community Development for confirmation.)

Community Betterment project proposals for neighborhoods with active community groups will be accepted through February 16, 2024. All questions and comments should be forwarded to Ms. Lee Borrer at 301-759-6437.