



FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

VOLUME XI NUMBER 5

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 2011

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program FY 2012

Once again it is time to start planning for the next application cycle of the Utah Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. The 2012 program year will be the thirty-first year in which the small cities CDBG program has been administered in the state of Utah. The purpose of Community Development Block Grants is *"To assist in developing viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income (LMI)"*.

This program funnels allocations of federal Housing and Urban Development funds through the Utah State Division of Housing and Community Development to communities of less than 50,000 and counties of less than 200,000 in population. Since the program's inception in 1982, the CDBG program has injected over \$17 million into the region's local infrastructure, community facilities, and urgent health and safety needs.

Local projects have included water system improvements, fire stations, sewer systems, senior citizen centers, housing projects, ambulance garages, etc. Approximately \$5.4 million in CDBG funds has also been used to foster the region's economic growth by capitalizing the regional Revolving Loan Fund, which provides supplemental financing to growing businesses; allowed the AOG to provide extensive planning and technical assistance to eligible local governments trying to cope with community planning and zoning challenges; and finally to construct the Five County AOG office building located in St. George, UT.

The Steering Committee reviews and approves the rating and ranking matrix for the upcoming funding cycle on an annual basis during their August meeting. The application cycle, which begins with two "How to Apply Workshops" in early November, will cover the 18-month contract period of June 2012 through December 2013. Applications will be due February 2, 2012, and will be submitted through the state of Utah Webgrants system. Application Policies and Procedures will be distributed at the workshops.

As you begin the process, please remember some important points:

- * Projects must meet one of three "national objectives" - 1) Benefit to individuals with low or moderate incomes; 2) The alleviation of slums or blight; or 3) Urgent health and safety needs.
- * Capital Improvement projects must be included in your community's capital improvement list to be submitted to the AOG.
- * Applicants other than local governments must be sponsored by a local government entity.
- * Communities that are not included on the HUD pre-approved LMI list should contact the AOG as soon as possible to determine if an income survey of residents is necessary.
- * AOG staff is available to assist in the preparation of applications.

Each year the Five County region receives an allocation based upon a statewide formula utilizing a base amount and a per capita population distribution. Last year's total regional CDBG allocation of \$695,643 was awarded to the following projects: **1) Five County Association of Governments, \$140,000--** Consolidated plan planning, administration, direct planning assistance to income eligible communities, economic development technical assistance, and housing/RLF program delivery; **2) Cedar City on behalf of Cedar Housing Authority, \$116,727--** Construction of 18-20 units of LMI housing for elderly and disabled persons (year 2 of multi-year project) **3) Beaver City on behalf of Beaver Housing Authority, \$150,000--** Procurement and rehabilitation of existing facility for 15 LMI housing units (year 2 of multi-year project); **4) Washington City on behalf of Color Country Community Housing Inc., \$150,000--** Rehabilitation of 24-unit apartment complex for LMI housing (year 2 of multi-year project); and **5) Cedar City on behalf of the Iron County Care & Share, 138,916--** Expansion of the Homeless Shelter to finish the upper level, expand the dining area and add a commercial laundry facility.

Projects must be mature - ready for timely implementation within the contract program year with secured funding commitments from other sources. In addition to the above, projects must be prioritized by local elected officials and the region Rating and Ranking system.

(Continued on Next Page)

Important!! See the back page of this newsletter for "How to Apply Workshop" dates & locations.

(Continued from Previous Page)

Examples of some of the types of eligible CDBG project activities:

Affordable Housing Projects:

- Acquisition of Property
- New Construction
- Rehabilitation
- Relocation Expenses
- Demolition
- Site Improvements
- Development Hard Costs
- Multi-family, single-family, transitional, special needs housing and homeless shelters

Community Development Projects:

- Culinary Water Improvements
- Waste Water Improvements
- Natural Gas Line Accessibility/Expansions
- Road, Street & Emergency Equipment
- ADA Accessibility for Public Buildings
- Flood Control Systems
- Rehabilitation of Slums & Blighted Areas
- Historic Preservation
- Acquisition of Property/Land
- Community & Senior Centers
- Parks, Recreation & Beautification Projects
- Public Services

Economic Development Projects:

- Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program
- Interim/Short-term Financing Program
- Industrial Parks & Commercial Centers
- Stimulate Private Investments

The CDBG “How-to-Apply Workshops” held for any town, city, county, special service district or non-profit agency in the Five County region that is considering applying for CDBG funding. Attendance at the workshop is required to be eligible to apply. (Note: all special service districts and non-profit agencies must arrange to have a city or county sponsor their project in order to be eligible to receive CDBG funding).

Jurisdictions may formally designate a third party representative (i.e., other city/county staff, consultant, engineer, or architect) to attend the workshop on their behalf. However, said designation by the jurisdiction must be in writing. The letter of designation must be provided to the Five County Association no later than at the beginning of the “How-to-Apply Workshop”.

Examples of Previous CDBG Projects



Hatch Community Center



Beaver County Ambulance Garage



Parowan Senior Citizens Center



Alton Town Fire Station



Hurricane City Fire Station Brentwood Area

Staff Spotlight



Debbie Adams, RN

Debbie Adams was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but has lived in 8 different states. The last ten years have been in lovely St. George, UT. She has been a registered nurse for 16 years and also has a degree in Nutrition. Her work as a nurse has been varied, from hospital, home health and hospice, to school nurse and instructor.

Debbie is the mother of four great kids, and grandmother to ten grandchildren. She is happily married to Tom Adams, and they will have a first great grandchild in October.

Debbie enjoys snow skiing, hiking, theater, reading, teaching, and always loves a great movie. She and Tom have just recently learned to play Pickle Ball. She is very excited about getting to know and working with the Five County's AOG team.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Volunteers Needed

Five County Community Action program is recruiting volunteers for the 2012 tax season. Volunteers will help tax payers submit for their tax returns from January–April 2012. We need Tax Preparers, Greeters and Intake Specialists in all five counties.

VITA preparers use income tax software to prepare basic tax returns for low- to moderate-income households. Using an intake and interview process ensures the taxpayer receives all the tax credits eligible to the family. Tax preparers receive free training and must pass an IRS certification test. The IRS certification process is an on-line application that is self-paced and open book.

Greeters and Intake Specialists welcome tax filers to the free tax area and begin the intake process. Greeters also work with the Site Coordinator to ensure the site runs smoothly and the taxpayer has a positive experience. This is a very important role for a successful VITA Site. Training may be required at some sites.

JOIN THE TEAM! Work directly with local families in need and help them receive thousands of dollars in tax credits.

- ◆ No accounting or prior tax experience needed
- ◆ FREE IRS Certification training provided
- ◆ Minimum 3-hour commitment per week during tax time
- ◆ Register online at: <http://www.utahtaxvolunteer.org>

For more information call Jane Lewis or Sherri Dial at 435-673-3548.

CIB 101 Workshop Announcement



A workshop for an important source of funding for community facilities, infrastructure and equipment in your jurisdiction will be held at the Five County Association of Governments office located at 1070 West 1600 South, Building B; St. George.

This "CIB-101" tutorial workshop will be conducted by staff of the Utah Permanent Community Impact Fund Board, known to most as the "CIB" and will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 starting at 9:30 a.m. and concluding by 11:30 a.m. The tutorial will give important information on 'who can apply', 'when you can apply', 'how you apply' and 'what comes next' after you are funded.

The Association's staff will also discuss the Capital Improvement Lists that we solicit each year from your jurisdiction and later collectively, with your representatives, prioritize in your county so that applications on the list can be made in the following three CIB funding cycles. A separate invitation to this workshop is being mailed to all eligible entities and engineering firms. Entities anticipating applying for CIB funding in 2012 are strongly encouraged to have a representative in attendance at this workshop.

Please note that this CIB workshop is *not* the same as the CDBG workshops in early November mentioned in this newsletter's front page story. CIB and CDBG are two separate funding sources. (Gary Zabriskie, Director of Community & Economic Development)

Garfield County Courthouse Project

Garfield County is currently in the process of a major community development project in Panguitch Utah. Demolition, rehabilitation and construction work at the courthouse site began in May 2011 by Jacobsen Construction, general contractor on the project. CRSA Architects is the designer of the project.



Architect's rendering of front of completed project



Construction site photo mid-September 2011

The cost of the project will be about \$5 million. Key goals of the project include: providing a more secure courtroom system, including separate access for judges and prisoners; providing seismic stabilization to the historic part of the building; providing

additional space and better space utilization; providing a better showcase of the historic part of the building; and providing additional meeting space and new chambers for the County Commission.

The overall building is intended to show a historic-to-modern design. The new portion of the building pays homage to the old historic courthouse, and the intent is to use old brick to morph into the new portion so the connection between the two isn't so abrupt.

The project is hoped to be completed by August 2012, with the historic portion complete by January 2012. A comprehensive story will be presented in our newsletter after the new facility's grand opening. (Gary Zabriskie, Director of Community & Economic Development)



Historic Courthouse under construction mid-September 2011



Architect's rendering overhead view



Architect's rendering of building's rear elevation

CDBG HOW-TO-APPLY WORKSHOPS

Thursday, November 3, 2011 - 3:30 p.m.
Five County AOG Office, Conference Room
1070 West 1600 South, Building B, St. George, UT

Friday, November 4, 2011 - 10:00 a.m.
Panguitch City Fire Station, Training Room
40 North 100 East, Panguitch, UT

Any jurisdiction that is contemplating applying for CDBG funding must assign at least one elected official from their governing body to attend one of the two scheduled workshops, whether you are applying directly, or if you are sponsoring another entity through your jurisdiction. A representative of the "other entity" must also be in attendance with the elected official. A post card will be mailed in October reminding jurisdictions of the upcoming workshops.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions or to obtain further details. Additional information regarding the Community Development Block Grant Program can be found on the Five County website at:
<http://www.fivecounty.utah.gov>

Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail to (dlamoreaux@fivecounty.utah.gov) or in writing to: P.O. Box 1550; St. George, Utah 84771-1550.

For other information or services, please call (435) 673-3548 or visit our website at: <http://fivecounty.utah.gov>

Steering Committee Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday, September 28, 2011 - 1PM
Beaver County Administration Building
Commission Chambers
105 East Center Street; Beaver, UT

Wednesday, October 12, 2011 - 1PM
Parowan Public Library*
16 South Main Street
Parowan, UT
*Location may change to the Heritage Center in Cedar City.

Five County Association of Governments
1070 West 1600 South, Building B
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