

CITY OF OXNARD HUD ENTITLEMENT GRANTS NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY PROGRAM YEAR 2024

HUD ENTITLEMENT GRANTS

The City of Oxnard, as an entitlement city, annually receives formula grants through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) Division through HUD CPD, the City receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Hearth Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG) and HOME Investment Partnership Grant (HOME) funds. HUD entitlement grants are designed to principally benefit persons of low- and moderate-incomes, as defined in the HUD regulations. The City is dedicated to serving the diverse needs of its residents, and works to address the unmet needs identified through the City's community planning process and the use of these programs.

The procedural framework to receive entitlement grants is mandated in the HUD regulations wherein HUD requires grant recipients to set up a local process to encourage citizen participation. The City of Oxnard's entitlement grants planning process is defined in the <u>Citizen Participation</u> <u>Plan</u>. This plan sets forth the local procedures to receive citizen input regarding the needs and community service gaps that the programs may be able to address. The HUD regulations and local citizen plan requires that at least two public hearings, annually, to receive citizen input. The information collected through the public process assists in the City Council's decisions on how to spend program funds.

To receive the HUD entitlement grants, the City of Oxnard is required to develop a Five-Year Consolidated Plan and subsequent Annual Action Plans within the five-year period. The City of Oxnard participated in the <u>2020-24 Ventura County Regional Consolidated Plan</u>, wherein the City of Oxnard partnered with County of Ventura and the cities of Camarillo, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks and Ventura. The City of Oxnard City Council approved the Regional Consolidated Plan on June 16, 2020.

The City of Oxnard must develop the 2024 Annual Action Plan that includes proposed activities for the forthcoming program year and must be submitted to HUD on or 45 days prior to the start of the new fiscal year. The goals described in the Regional Consolidated Plan serve as the parameters for prioritizing applications for program implementation within each program year.

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

In program year 2023, the City of Oxnard received CDBG grant funding of \$2,213,917, HESG funding of \$207,883 and HOME funding of \$768,867. The City expects to receive HUD funding for program year 2024 that is similar to the amounts stated above. To accomplish the goals set forth in the City's Consolidated Plan and the objectives identified in the 2024 Annual Action Plan, the City will award grant funds to those projects that propose to meet the goals established in the regional consolidated plan. Funds are subject to change based on federal appropriations and any changes to the HUD grant allocation formulas.

Estimated HUD Entitlement Grant Awards for PY 2024-25 CDBG \$2,213,917 HESG \$207,883 HOME \$768,867

CDBG and HESG Applications: The period to submit program applications for CDBG and HESG funding for program year 2024 will be from January 9, 2024 until February 12, 2024. Applications will be available online using the Zoomgrants platform. <u>A link to the Zoomgrants application</u> website will be available from January 9, 2024 through February 12, 2024 on Oxnard Housing Department Grants Management website:

https://www.oxnard.org/city-department/housing/grants-management/.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Applications: For HOME application information, please contact Oxnard Housing Department, Affordable Housing & Rehabilitation Division at 805-385-7400.

Website: <u>https://www.oxnard.org/city-department/housing/affordable-housing/contact-the-affordable-housing-division/</u>

2020-24 REGIONAL VENTURA COUNTY CONSOLIDATED PLAN GOALS OVERVIEW

The Strategic Plan, located in the Regional Consolidated Plan (RCP), outlines each jurisdiction's plan for allocating HUD entitlement grants and identifies local priorities within the regional context. Informed by qualitative and quantitative data gathered through citizen participation and consultation with stakeholders throughout the region, market analysis, and an assessment of U.S. Census and other local data that reflect community needs, the Strategic Plan identifies the highest priority needs toward which to direct grant dollars. The following regional goals were identified to meet high-priority needs (in no particular order or ranking):

Goal 1: Create and preserve stable, safe, and resilient affordable housing opportunities for homeowners and renters including special needs groups such as farmworkers, persons with disabilities, and the elderly throughout Ventura County.

Goal 2: Enhance economic stability and prosperity by increasing economic opportunities for residents through job skills training and promotion of local entrepreneurship.

Goal 3: Increase access to health and wellness services, youth activities, senior activities, and social service activities for residents.

Goal 4: Work alongside the Ventura County Continuum of Care to end homelessness within Ventura County by providing housing, emergency shelter, and social services to homeless persons or those at risk of homelessness.

Goal 5: Enhance access to quality, resilient, and livable neighborhoods by improving publicly owned facilities and infrastructure such as parks, streets, sidewalks, and community buildings, including improving accessibility to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Goal 6: Create and maintain effective housing and community development programs that address the priority needs listed within the Consolidated Plan, comply with all U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements, and achieve the goals and objectives set out by each Ventura County jurisdiction.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION—IMPORTANT DATES

November 17, 2023- March 15, 2024 Survey:

Resident Input of Community Need for programs to address housing, homelessness, public services, community development and economic development needs in the City of Oxnard. The survey will be accepted via Google form submitted online and is available on the Oxnard Housing Department Grants Management website:

https://www.oxnard.org/city-department/housing/grants- management/.

December 12, 2023 - 1st Public Hearing required by Citizen Participation Plan at Community Services, Public Safety, and Housing and Development Committee

Receive Public Input Re: 2024 Annual Action Plan Unmet Needs and Community Goals

January 9, 2024 - Application Open to receive CDBG and HESG applications via Zoomgrants

- **1.** Online applications by organizations and the City of Oxnard department for program and project funding by CDBG and HESG grants will be accepted through Zoomgrants.
- **2. February 12, 2024-** Final dates for submission of applications. City reserves the right to announce interim review dates.

January 10, 2024 - Application Workshop:

10:00am - 12:00pm CDBG Application Workshop 1:30pm - 3:30pm HESG Application Workshop

January 17, 2024 – Application Workshop:

10:00am - 12:00pm CDBG Application Workshop 1:30pm - 3:30pm HESG Application Workshop

> Location: Oxnard Public Library, Room B 251 South 'A' Street Oxnard, CA 93030

The meetings will be designed for the purpose of providing and receiving information related to HUD entitlement grants: 1) applications process, 2) program overview and 3) Zoomgrants training and related topics.

<u>This is a mandatory workshop for ALL applicants</u>. A registration link to the Application Workshop will be available from December 12, 2023 through January 17, 2024 on Oxnard Housing Department Grants Management website: https://www.oxnard.org/city-department/housing/grants-management/.

February 12, 2024 – Deadline to receive CDBG and HESG applications via Zoomgrants

February 13, 2024 – March 30, 2024 Selection of proposed programs and projects to be considered for funding with CDBG and HESG

April 23, 2024 (Tentative) –Community Services, Public Safety, and Housing and Development Committee

Draft of the 2024 Annual Action Plan Community Goal, Activities and Funding Recommendation

May 7, 2024 (Tentative)– 2nd Public Hearing required by Citizen Participation Plan at City Council approval

Receive Public Input Re: Draft of the 2024 Annual Action Plan Community Goals, Activities, and Funding Recommendations

May 15, 2024 – 2024 Annual Action Plan funding selections are submitted to HUD and are subject to HUD approval.

Grant funds are contingent upon submission of an approved Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

The following additional information of the HUD grant programs that the City of Oxnard administers that may be helpful to applicants for program planning.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds may be used for public facilities, public improvements, urban infrastructure, housing programs, economic development programs, and public services <u>Click here for more information from HUD regarding the CDBG program</u>.

Hearth Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG) – The Hearth Emergency Solutions Grant Program provides funding to: (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; (2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; (3) help operate these shelters; (4) provide essential services to shelter residents, (5) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families, and (6) prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless. <u>Click here to view more information from HUD HESG program.</u>

HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)

The primary purpose of this program is to provide decent, affordable housing to lower income households, expand the capacity of nonprofit housing providers, strengthen the ability of state and local governments to provide housing, and leverage private-sector participation. See information below for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) under the HOME Program. <u>Click here to view more information from HUD regarding the HOME program</u>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For information regarding the HUD grants' community development process: Andrea Palmer, Grants Manager <u>andrea.palmer@oxnard.org</u> (805) 385-7959

For application information: Denise Ledesma, Grants Coordinator <u>denise.ledesma@oxnard.org</u> (805) 385-7493