Office of Community Development
Weekly Digest

April 22, 2021

Our offices are closed on the weekend. If you think you'll need to access OCEAN during that time, make sure you are able to log in by <u>12 p.m. Friday</u>.

For password resets, email <u>ocd@development.ohio.gov.</u> <u>DO NOT submit a ticket to the OCEAN Help Desk.</u>

Upcoming Events and Grant Deadlines	
(click underlined text for more information)	
Upcoming OCD Grant and Application Deadlines	
No new items	
OCD Meetings and Training Events	
May 5, 2021	[Draft CDBG-DR Program Action Plan First Amendment Public Hearing](#)
Other Training and Professional Development Events	
April 28, 2021	[OCCD 2021 Virtual Spring Meeting](#)

New and Updated Items
COVID-19 Items
• Governor's Office Coalition Communication: Local Government
• [CDBG-CV Home Relief Grant Programmatic Guideline Updates](#)
• [CDBG-CV Home Relief Grant Program Questions and Answers - Grant Administration](#) *(updated)*
Administrative Items
• [Service Area Map - Community Investments](#) *(updated)*
• [PY 2021 Critical Infrastructure Program Application Documents](#)
• [PY 2021 Neighborhood Revitalization Program Application Documents](#)
• [Using Community Development Block Grant Funds for Street Improvement Activities](#)

Active OCEAN users receive the OCD Weekly Digest. OCD does not maintain a separate mailing list. If you are an active OCEAN user and not receiving the Digest, please check with your administrator and make ocd@development.ohio.gov a safe sender. Also, check your OCEAN profile and ensure your email address is correct. Click here for the Quick Reference Guide to update your information. Remember to use Internet Explorer when using OCEAN. If you need assistance navigating OCEAN, **do not submit a ticket to the OCEAN Help Desk**. Email your program representative with the grant number and screen shots of the issue.

As part of an ongoing effort to move to paperless operations, we encourage grantees to send all correspondence via email to your program representative or ocd@development.ohio.gov and copy your program representative. Since the physical office is closed to employees, items mailed to our physical address will not be received in a timely manner. If you have any questions, please contact your program representative.

For HOME-funded Grants: When submitting a status report, if you receive an error message about unexpended HOME funds, click *Cancel* to clear the message and submit the report.

Environmental Review Process
Until further notice, grantees must submit environmental review Request for Release of Funds and/or Certification documentation via email to ocd@development.ohio.gov. Grantees may view and download Project-Specific Release of Environmental Conditions documents in OCEAN. OCD will not mail hard copies of these documents. Please email Cecilia Castillo at Cecilia.Castillo@development.ohio.gov or Tim Allen at TimothyM.Allen@development.ohio.gov if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

COVID-19 Administrative Updates

Homeless Crisis Response Program CARES Act Status Reports Past Due
Homeless Crisis Response Program CARES Act status reports were due Thursday, April 15, 2021. Grantees must complete and upload either an Emergency Shelter or Housing Stability ESG-CV Expense Report in OCEAN immediately. Click here to download the report templates.

PY 2020 Round 2 Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) Program Funding Availability
The Office of Community Development has funds available through Round 2 of the Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) for renovation and street outreach. Supplemental funding for Round 1 Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) CARES grantees for emergency shelter, alternate shelter, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing is also available. For more information, including how to apply, click here to download the updated forms.

Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Government Assistance Program
The State of Ohio, through the Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Government Assistance Program, provides financial assistance to local governments for expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on these resources, visit their webpage. For assistance in reviewing proposals or eligible uses, contact the Office of Budget and Management at grants@obm.ohio.gov.

Administrative Updates

New Community Development Analyst – Grant Johnson
Grant Johnson joined Development as a Community Development Analyst in the Office of Community Development on April 19, 2021. Prior to joining Development, Grant worked at the Henrico County Department of Community Revitalization in Virginia where he received and reviewed applications, administered housing rehabilitation and emergency housing repair programs and helped draft the county's Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. Grant holds a Master of Public Administration from Marshall University and bachelor's degrees in political science and economics from Old Dominion University. Grant will represent a 16-county region in southeast Ohio. You can find the updated program representative map here.

Guidance for Street Improvements Now Available

To provide clarity for grantees on street improvement projects, OCD created a guidance document that covers resurfacing, street rehabilitation and full-depth reconstruction activities. Street resurfacing (paving) is not eligible through the Allocation or Critical Infrastructure Programs and can be funded only as a component of a targeted Neighborhood Revitalization Program. Street reconstruction is eligible as an Allocation, Neighborhood Revitalization or Critical Infrastructure project. For more detailed information, click here.

PY 2021 CHIP Application Instructions, Attachments and Q&A

Application instructions, attachments and Q&A for the PY 2021 Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Program are now available on the TA site. Application instructions and attachments can be found here. Questions and answers are available on the TA site here. The application is scheduled to open on April 27, 2021. The submission deadline is **Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. EST.**

CHIP Program Virtual Technical Assistance Available

The Residential Revitalization staff is providing virtual technical assistance to CHIP grantees. We highly encourage CHIP Program Rehabilitation Specialists to schedule a virtual technical assistance visit for project scope of work and specifications. Contact your program representative for more information or to schedule a session.

PY 2021 Neighborhood Revitalization and Critical Infrastructure Programs Pre-Applications Now Available

The Neighborhood Revitalization and Critical Infrastructure Programs pre-applications are now available on the TA site. Applicants can submit pre-applications beginning May 10, 2021. Pre-applications must be received by June 4, 2021, for both the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and Round 1 of the Critical Infrastructure Program. OCD will open full applications for approved pre-applications on the applicant's behalf. To access the Neighborhood Revitalization pre-application, click here. For the Critical Infrastructure pre-application, click here. If you have any questions, contact your Community Investments program representative.

PY 2021 Income Limits Now Available

Income limits for PY 2021 are now available on the TA site. Each year, HUD sets income limits that determine eligibility for assisted housing programs and develops income limits based on Median Family Income estimates and Fair Market Rent area definitions for each metropolitan area, parts of some metropolitan areas, and each non-metropolitan county. These limits go into effect April 1 each year. Grantees should begin using the PY 2021 Income Limits immediately. To access the PY 2021 Income Limits, click here.

OCD Partner Information

Limited PPE available through the Ohio Department of Public Safety

The Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) has a limited quantity of personal protective equipment (PPE) available to communities and nonprofit organizations. To request PPE, email esf6@dps.ohio.gov with the following information:

- Type and quantity of PPE requested
- Contact information
    - Names of your organization's contact person. (ODPS suggests multiple contacts)
    - Contact(s) phone number or email address
    - Organization's hours of operation and any special delivery instructions
    - Date and time of pick up or delivery

- o For PPE deliveries, answer the following questions:
    - Is there a loading ramp at the delivery location?
    - Does the delivery location have personnel to unload the PPE?
    - Does the delivery location have equipment to unload the PPE?

For additional information or questions, e-mail esf6@dps.ohio.gov.

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