



State Community Development Block Grant

Community Development Program Refresh Kickoff

Office of Community Infrastructure (OCI)

July 24, 2025

Presenters



Ross Cunningham
Deputy Chief
Office of Community Infrastructure



Wesley Watkins
Manager
Community Investments



**Department of
Development**

Presentation Topics



Method of Distribution (MOD)



Current Method



Program Refresh



Looking Back

Method of Distribution (MOD)

Overview of the Method of Distribution (MOD)

- The MOD is the state's required plan for allocating CDBG funds to non-entitlement local governments.
- Required under 24 CFR 91.320(k)(1) as part of the Annual Action Plan.
- Outlines how funds are distributed, what projects are eligible, and how applications are evaluated.
- Must align with the Consolidated Plan and national CDBG objectives.
- Promotes transparency, fairness, and strategic impact in funding decisions.

Required MOD Components

- Allocation method across funding programs/categories (e.g., housing, infrastructure, public services).
- Thresholds and grant size limits.
- Application scoring criteria and their relative importance.
- Ensures accountability and regulatory compliance in project selection and fund use.

Community Development Programs – Current MOD

Community Development Program Grants

Allocation

- Biennial Basis – Amount Determined By Formula
- Project Limits based Allocation Funding Level
- Selection based on community needs and CDBG eligible activities

Neighborhood Revitalization

- \$750,000 – Competitive – Scoring based on Capacity, Design, Local Engagement
- For PY 2025 Allocation Applicants Only
- Cohesive Project in Residential Areas

Critical Infrastructure

- \$500,000 – Competitive – Scoring based on Capacity, Design, Infrastructure Condition
- High-Priority, Single-Purpose Infrastructure Improvements

Residential Public Infrastructure

- Up to \$750,000 – Competitive – Scoring based on Leverage, Impact, Sustainability, Readiness
- Public Water and Sanitary Sewer
- Documented Health Hazard

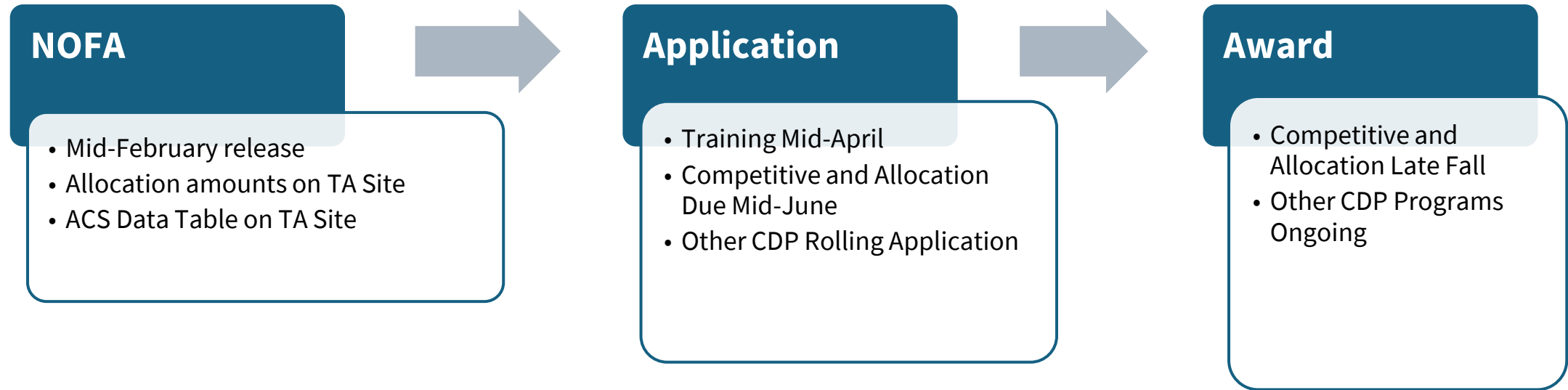
Flexible

- \$250,000 – Competitive – Scoring based on Feasibility and Evidence of local need
- Community Development or Downtown Buildings

Economic Development

- \$500,000 – Competitive – Scoring based on Effectiveness, Impact, Econ. Distress
- Job Creation and Infrastructure

Application and Award timeline



Community Development Program Refresh

Reasons to Refresh



Administrative Capacity



Increase Flexibility



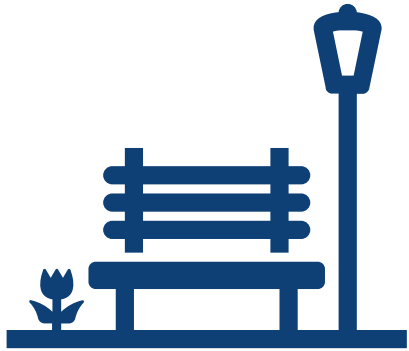
Stagnant Funding



Simplify Structure

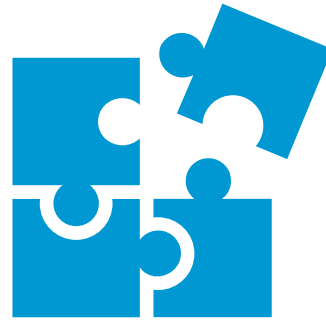
Distribution Models for State CDBG

100% Allocation



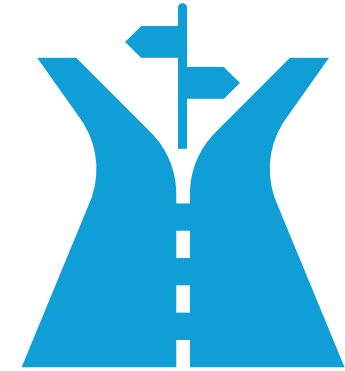
- Consistent and Reliable
- Lower Local Impact
- Allocation Formula updates tied to local need

100% Competitive



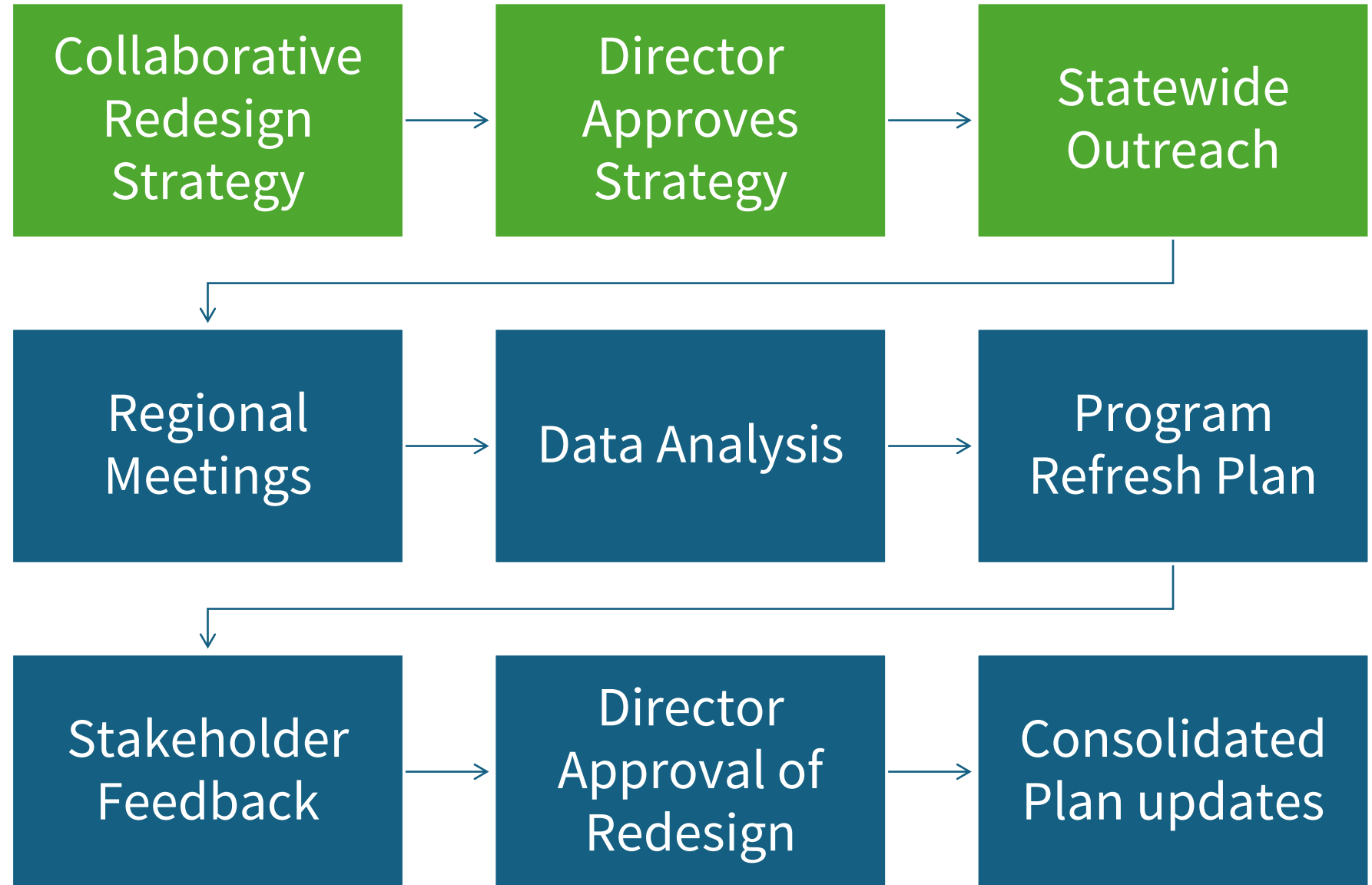
- Larger Awards
- High Impact
- Fewer grants to Manage
- No local funding guaranteed

Hybrid – Simplified Competitive



- Retain Bi-Annual Local Funding
- Simplified Programs
- More Grant – Higher Administrative Demand

Program Refresh



Regional Meetings

Building consensus that informs improvements to the State CDBG Method of Distribution (MOD)

Goal

3.25-hour in-person workshops

CDBG Overview and MOD options

Breakout sessions and group presentations

Regional Feedback discussion

Format

Local Governments

Regional Planning Agencies

Grant Administrators

Port Authorities and local development district

Stakeholders

Details and Outcomes

Locations

Central: Mansfield (Richland County)

Northeast: Canton (Stark County)

Northwest: Findlay (Hancock County)

Southeast: Athens (Athens County)

Southwest: Chillicothe (Ross County)

Expected Outcomes

Stakeholder feedback on MOD preferences

Visual charts summarizing pros/cons of each model

Community-driven recommendations for CDBG distribution

Input to shape statewide funding strategy

History Map



**A window into
the past
provides a
vision for the
future...**



Department of Development

Development.Ohio.gov