

# Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **GENERAL APPLICABILITY**

#### **1. What is the overall mission of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program?**

The CDBG program is authorized by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. It provides annual grants to cities, counties and states to develop strong communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate income persons. The authorizing statute of the CDBG program (24 CFR part 570) requires that maximum feasible priority be given to funding activities that will carry out one of three national objectives:

- Benefit LMI persons.
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight.
- Meet a need having particular urgency due to an immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community

#### **2. How does the City request CDBG funds?**

In order to access CDBG funds, the grantee (City of Slidell) submits a Consolidated Plan every five years. As a planning document, the Consolidated Plan assesses local community development needs in the areas of affordable housing and non-housing community development. Each year, the City of Slidell prepares an Annual Action Plan that describes the projects and activities it will undertake to carry out the strategies outlined in the Consolidated Plan. CDBG eligible activities are initiated and developed at the local level based upon the City's needs, priorities, and benefits.

#### **3. What are the requirements for the use of the CDBG funds?**

Each grantee (the City of Slidell) receiving CDBG funds determines what activities it will fund as long as the activities meet one of the national objectives. Other Federal requirements such as environmental, labor standards, fair housing, nondiscrimination, also apply to the use of CDBG funds.

#### **4. How do Communities utilize CDBG Funds Nationwide?**

CDBG funding is often used in association with other HUD grants for projects that further the Administration's policy priorities of strengthening and broadening the Federal housing safety net for people in need, advancing equity by improving housing choices and greater economic opportunity, supporting underserved communities, and advancing sustainable communities by promoting climate resiliency and energy efficiency across the housing sector. Communities predominantly expend CDBG funds for housing-related activities and public improvements.

## **5. What are CDBG Eligible Activities?**

- Eligible activities include but are not limited to the following:
- Acquisition/disposition of real property
- Public improvements and facilities
- Public services
- Relocation payments and assistance
- Rehabilitation
- Historic preservation
- Lead based paint evaluation and prevention
- Code enforcement
- Micro-enterprise assistance
- Homeownership assistance
- Technical assistance

## **6. What are CDBG ineligible activities?**

Ineligible activities include:

- Building use for the general conduct of government
- General local government expenses
- Political activities

## **7. What is the overall appropriation level for this program and how much has been invested in communities since the program's authorization in 1974?**

The appropriation level has varied over the 40 year program history. The 2024 President's Budget requests \$3.4 billion for the Community Development Fund (CDF), which is \$3 billion less than the 2023 enacted level. The Budget for the CDF includes 2.3 Billion for the CDBG Entitlement Program that is to be directed toward removing barriers to affordable housing and community development in underserved communities. This funding reinforces the Administration's commitment to advancing racial equity and supporting underserved communities through affordable housing, economic recovery, and environmental justice.

## **8. How many grantees across the nation received funding this year for Fiscal Year 2023?**

The program provided annual grants to more than 1,200 recipients, including large cities, urban counties, States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Territories. All cities and towns in the United States can potentially receive CDBG funding, either from HUD directly or through their respective State.

## **9. Does CDBG fund the local government, organizations or individuals?**

CDBG funds states, metropolitan cities and urban counties directly. Organizations and individuals cannot receive funds directly from HUD, but can apply for funding through their local government entity but only if that unit of local government provides grant opportunities.

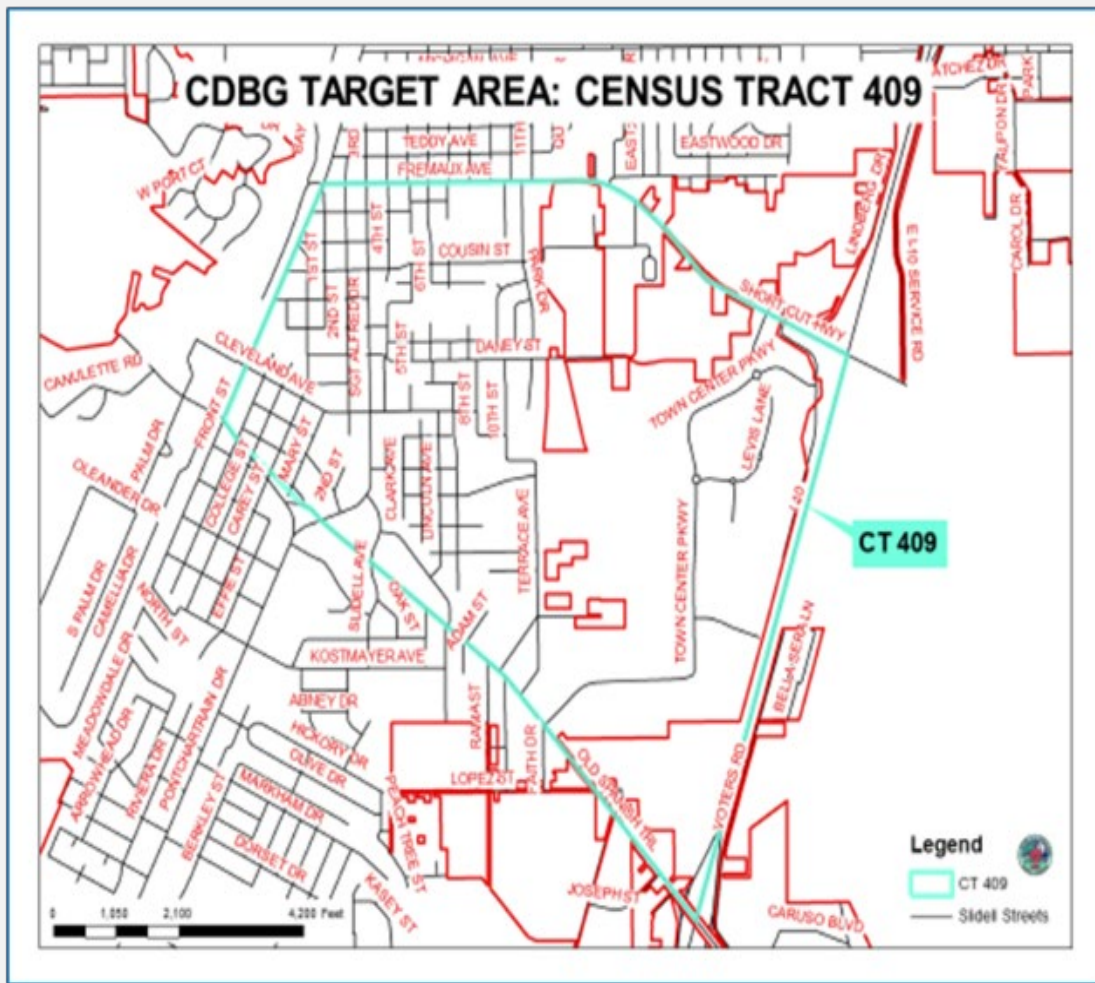
## 10. Can citizens participate in the planning/decision-making process around the use of CDBG funds?

CDBG encourages citizens to be involved in the planning process. The CDBG law requires that a grantee must develop and follow a detailed Citizen Participation Plan which provides for, and encourages, citizen participation. CDBG emphasizes participation by persons of low- or moderate income, particularly residents of predominantly low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, slum or blighted areas, and areas in which the grantee proposes to use CDBG funds. The citizen plan must provide citizens with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records related to the grantee's proposed and actual use of funds.

## CITY OF SLIDELL CDBG PROGRAM IN PARTICULAR

### 11. Are CDBG projects available City-wide?

No. CDBG funds are directed to our target area, Census Tract 409, outlined in light green below:



### 12. What activities are being funded by CDBG funds?

Current Projects (includes matching Land and Water Conservation Funds):

- Improvements to Ducksworth Park:

- Conversion of the current baseball field into a multi-use field
- New bleachers
- New dugout
- New backstop

### **13. What are proposed CDBG projects?**

Proposed Projects:

- Field Lighting
- Paved walkway
- Nature trail
- New restroom
- New pavilion

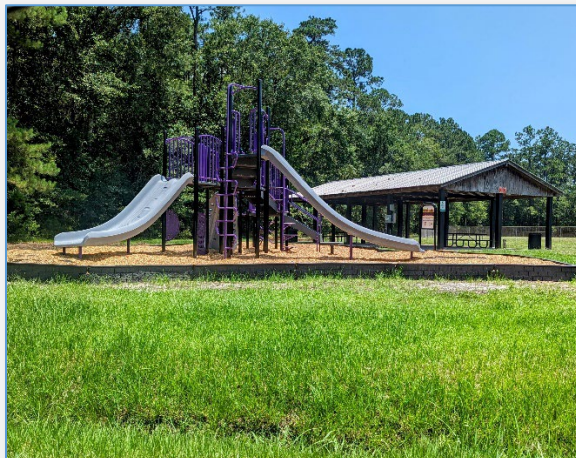
### **14. What are recently completed CDBG projects:**

Recently completed projects:

- Installation of a new playground in Ducksworth park
- Construction of two new basketball courts in Ducksworth Park
- Sidewalk and drainage improvements in the CDBG Target Area CT 409
- Improvements to an exercise path in Possum Hollow Park
- Restroom Improvements to three area parks: Ducksworth Park, Griffith Park, Veterans Park
- “Wi-Fi in the Parks” which provides internet connection in four area parks

### **15. Who Do I contact for more information about CDBG?**

CDBG Program  
Slidell Planning Department  
P.O. Box 828  
Slidell, LA 70459  
[cdbg@cityofslidell.org](mailto:cdbg@cityofslidell.org)  
985-646-4320



**Ducksworth Park**