



2010 – 2011 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)



Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Home Investment Partnerships Act (HOME)
Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)

Application Due Date:

Thursday, January 14, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

Department of Housing and Community Development
105 E. Anapamu St., Room 105
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
HCDNOFA@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

CDBG Urban County Partnership
Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium



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Introduction

Under this 2010-2011 Comprehensive Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), the County of Santa Barbara invites applications for funding consideration through federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Act (HOME), and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) programs. This federal funding is provided by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The County of Santa Barbara serves as lead agency under the HOME Consortium and CDBG Urban County, which include Santa Maria, Lompoc, Carpinteria, Goleta, Buellton, and Solvang.

The federal funding provided by HUD allows for implementation of projects, programs, and services intended to serve low and moderate income residents across our community. Although the County serves as lead agency for the grant funding, in collaboration with partner jurisdictions the work that non-profits perform is key to addressing the needs of the community, including those of specific groups such as senior citizens, youth, homeless persons, and the disabled. The funding allows for a number of eligible activities to address community needs, such as housing development and rehabilitation, community and public facilities development, infrastructure, economic development, and human services programs.

This document provides more details regarding each particular funding source, as well as information about federal and County requirements associated with administration, implementation, management, and reporting under these programs. Please take the time to review this information prior to completing the formal application for funding.

Summary of Funds Available

Three primary sources of funding are available:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds
- HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds
- Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds

All funding allocations identified in this NOFA are estimated based on the 2009-2010 allocations.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds Available:

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 14.218)

(Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Citation Number: 24 CFR Part 570)

CDBG funding allows for a variety of eligible activities to assist low and moderate income households and clientele. Examples include capital projects, human services programs, and economic development activities. Federal statutes and regulations governing CDBG place specific spending caps on certain activities. For example, of the total amount of CDBG funding, no greater than 15% can be allocated to human services programs. Also, Economic Development and Capital / Infrastructure projects represent no greater than 65% of the total. Remaining funds are retained for grant administration and oversight.

CDBG Capital / Economic Development Allocations

For the 2010-11 funding cycle, the following CDBG funds are available for capital projects and/or economic development activities.

Jurisdiction	Estimated Funds Available
Unincorporated County	\$884,103
Carpinteria	\$120,561
Solvang	\$106,379

CDBG Human Services Allocations

For the 2010-11 funding cycle, the following CDBG funds are available for human services programs.

Jurisdiction	Estimated Funds Available
Unincorporated County	\$202,308
Carpinteria	\$25,002

Under the County of Santa Barbara CDBG Urban County Cooperation Agreement, the City of Lompoc conducts an independent application and funding review processes; however, the County may also jointly fund eligible projects in these cities. Interested applicants for City of Lompoc CDBG funding should contact Dinah Lockhart at 875-8245 with respect to their application availability and process.

2010-2011 CDBG Funding Priorities:

The following priorities have been established by the CDBG Urban County to be addressed with CDBG funds. These are based on unmet needs of the community that have been identified through public hearings and surveys. The priorities are not listed in order of importance; all priorities are provided equal weight.

CDBG Capital Projects/Economic Development Priorities:

- Support rehabilitation of public facilities and affordable housing that incorporate energy efficiency and conservation design measures
- Promote and provide services that prevent discrimination and eliminate barriers to housing
- Support economic development that creates or retains jobs, including those for low and moderate income persons
- Provide assistance for revitalization and enhancement by improving the physical character of neighborhoods, including complete streets, parks, and other public spaces.
- Provide assistance to low income neighborhoods by funding critical community facilities such as community service centers or libraries
- Address design barriers to providing community services to persons with mobility and other impairments as promoted under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Maintain and upgrade existing low income affordable housing stock
- Develop and promote programs that create and sustain long term affordable housing for extremely low to low income persons

CDBG Human Services:

- Promote and provide services that assist persons with special needs
- Support public service programs for low and moderate income households including programs for housing and other community development needs

Home Investment Partnerships Act (HOME) Funds Available:

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 14.239)

(Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Citation Number: 24 CFR Part 92)

HOME funding is principally designed for the development of housing, although in limited circumstances it can also be used to provide rental assistance under the Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA). Any applicant proposing a TBRA application for consideration under this NOFA is strongly advised to partner with a local housing authority and consult with HCD staff prior to submittal.

As a “production-based” program, every dollar of HOME funds expended is expected to result in affordable housing units that primarily benefit persons at or below 60% of the area median income.

HOME Allocations

For the 2010-2011 funding cycle, the following HOME funds are available for affordable housing projects.

Jurisdiction	Estimated Funds Available
Unincorporated County	\$476,642
Goleta	\$141,380
Carpinteria	\$71,909
Buellton	\$191,106
HOME Program Income	\$600,000

Under the HOME Consortium, the cities of Santa Maria and Lompoc conduct their own HOME funding allocation and review process. Please contact Dinah Lockhart at the City of Lompoc at 875-8245 for information regarding the City of Lompoc’s funding availability and Celeste Coelho-Hudson of the City of Santa Maria at 925-0951, ext. 373 concerning the City of Santa Maria’s funding review and allocation process.

In instances where the County of Santa Barbara does not receive applications for funding consideration for projects located in the unincorporated areas of the County of Santa Barbara, the County may opt to jointly fund projects located within partnering jurisdiction cities. However, when competitive applications for projects located in the unincorporated areas meet threshold requirements the County may prioritize these applications utilizing County HOME funds as they advance County-specific housing production goals both under the HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan and the County General Plan Housing Element Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) targets.

2010-2011 HOME Program Funding Priorities

The following priorities have been established by the Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium to be addressed with HOME funds. These are based on unmet affordable housing needs of the community that have been identified through public hearings and surveys. The priorities are not listed in order of importance; all priorities are provided equal weight.

- New construction / acquisition / rehabilitation of rental housing for lower income households, including:
 - Large households
 - Small households
 - Special needs households, including homeless, disabled, and elderly persons
- Permanent supportive housing and Single Room Occupancy (SRO) units to address the needs of the homeless, households at imminent risk of becoming homeless, and/or special needs clients
- Ownership opportunities for low income first-time homebuyers
- Universal design and accessibility standards to meet disabled populations' specific needs
- Energy efficiency and conservation design measures
- Proximity of projects to employment centers, public transportation, and public services

Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESG) Funds Available:

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 14.231)

(Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Citation Number: 24 CFR Part 576)

Emergency Shelter Grant funding may used to provide operations support for emergency shelter and transitional housing providers. It can also used for homeless prevention activities as well as for rehabilitation of existing shelter structures. **Since funding is limited in terms of supporting emergency shelters across County of Santa Barbara, applications from organizations providing existing shelter operations will be given priority consideration during the review process.** In addition, with the exception of Shelter Operations assistance, under ESG some eligible activities have regulatory expenditure caps as follows:

- No greater than 30% of aggregate ESG allocations is available for Essential Services (\$25,329)
- No greater than 10% of aggregate ESG allocation is available for staff salaries (\$8,443);
- No greater than 30% of aggregate ESG allocation is available for Homelessness Prevention activities (\$25,329)

Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Allocation (Estimated figures)

For the 2010-2011 funding cycle, the following ESG funds are available.

Jurisdiction	Estimated Funds Available
Unincorporated County	\$84,430

Application Submittal Deadline

All applications for funding covered by this announcement are due on:

Thursday, January 14, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

Electronic submittals are encouraged; however, *one (1) complete original, wet-signature copy of each application for funding must be delivered to HCD's offices by this due date. Late applications will not be accepted; nor will post-marked applications.*

Please submit the original application to the following address:

**County of Santa Barbara
Department Housing and Community Development
Housing Development and Grants Administration Division
123 East Anapamu Street, Room 27
Santa Barbara, CA 93101**

Electronic submittals and questions, including requests for clarifying information with respect to funding applications, can be directed to the following e-mail address:

[*HCDNOFA@co.santa-barbara.ca.us*](mailto:HCDNOFA@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)

Application Informational Workshops

County Housing and Community Development staff will be conducting three community workshops to answer questions and provide opportunity for public comment regarding the annual funding process.

Tuesday, December 15th, 2009, 2:30 P.M.

County of Santa Barbara Administration Building
Board of Supervisors' Conference Room
105 East Anapamu Street, 4th Floor, Santa Barbara

Wednesday December 16th, 2009, 9:00 A.M.

North County Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room
Betteravia Government Center
511 East Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria

Wednesday, December 16th, 2009, 2:00 P.M.

North County Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room
Lompoc Government Center
401 East Cypress Ave., Lompoc

Funding Review Process

Application Threshold Requirements: All applications will receive a preliminary review by HCD staff to ensure that minimal application submittal threshold and completeness requirements have been met prior to consideration of funding review. All applicants will be required to present their project / program and or human service proposals before formal review panels, which will then rate, rank and determine funding recommendations in accordance with priorities as defined in this NOFA and the project applications packet. The review panels for consideration of County project funding will be convened in late February. Applicants will be notified of the specific dates and times and will be required to attend. For applicants in the area of Carpinteria, Santa Maria, and Lompoc, please contact staff of these cities in this respect.

PLEASE NOTE: Only employees of the non-profit organization applicant or members of the respective Board of Directors will be invited to project review interviews. Consultants not directly affiliated with the applicant non-profit will not be allowed to present projects before review committees, even with prior written permission of the non-profit's Board of Directors, unless a member of the organization is present.

Rating and Ranking Criteria

The criteria listed below identify specific principles by which the County evaluates proposed project applications.

HOME Housing Development; CDBG Capital Projects

All applications for HOME or CDBG capital project funding will be evaluated based on the following criteria. In addition to these criteria, HUD Notice CPD 98-01 - Layering Guidance for HOME Participating Jurisdictions is consulted when County funds are proposed to be combined with other governmental subsidies (e.g. tax credits, etc.) in a project.

- 1) Program eligibility
- 2) Geographic distribution (project location – within Urban County / HOME Consortium)
- 3) Project Readiness
 - Site control / permitting
 - Environmental review and CEQA completion
 - Scope of environmental constraints / hazards
 - Percentage of total project budget / funding secured
- 4) Financial Feasibility
 - Cost effectiveness of development (high cost = weak feasibility; low cost = strong feasibility)
 - Stability of pre-committed funding
- 5) Cost Efficiency
 - Cost reasonableness
 - Number of consultants / subcontractors involved

- Leveraging of resources
- 6) Energy Efficiency and Conservation
 - Title 24 performance beyond standards
 - Innovative use of energy efficiency technology and renewables
 - Energy Star Qualified
- 7) Job Creation and Retention
- 8) Meets Urban County / HOME Consortium Priorities
- 9) Capacity
 - Agency Experience with Similar Projects
 - Agency Experience with Federal Grant Programs
 - Development Team
 - Finance Staff
 - Past Performance under HCD Programs

CDBG Human Services Program Ranking and Rating Priorities

All applications for CDBG human services funding will be evaluated based on the following priorities.

- 1) Programs and Services that Meet Basic Human Needs
- 2) Programs and Services that are Preventative in Nature
- 3) Programs and Services that Enhance Quality of Life

Post Funding Review Process

Upon completion of the funding review process and preliminary determination of funding recommendations, staff will prepare its **draft Annual Action Plan**, that will be presented before the Board of Supervisors tentatively scheduled for **early March, 2010**. All applicants will be invited to attend this public hearing and comment on the draft Action Plan and proposed funding awards identified therein.

Public comments received at the Board hearing will then be incorporated into the **final Annual Action Plan** that will be presented for Board consideration and approval for forwarding to HUD in late April, 2010.

Contacts

County staff is available to address any questions or concerns related to the 2010-2011 NOFA and funding applications. All questions should be initially directed to the following primary contact information listed below.

County of Santa Barbara
Department of Housing and Community Development
Housing Development and Grants Administration Division
123 East Anapamu Street, Room 27
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Phone: (805) 568-3529

Email: HCDNOFA@co.santa-barbara.ca.us