



CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

STAFF REPORT

From: Maeve Pistrang, Community Development Director

Date: April 23, 2018

Subject: 2018 CDBG & HOME Funding

The purpose of this report in advance of the April 23rd Commissioner’s Meeting is to:

1. Identify CDBG and HOME grant funds for 2018
2. Review the application process for selecting CDBG projects
3. Familiarize you with the projects and programs recommended for funding

Two public hearings will be held on the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for 2018: April 9th and April 23rd. Final vote by the Commissioners endorsing our 2018 HUD Annual Action Plan is scheduled for the April 23, 2018 meeting. The plan will be submitted to HUD by May 15th, or the appropriate deadline once the allocation is received from HUD.

Available Grant Funds for 2018

CDBG Allocation: ***The Cumberland County 2018 CDBG allocation from HUD has not yet been determined.*** Congress has passed the HUD budget with an increase to the CDBG program overall, so we expect a slight increase from last year. The total Cumberland County Community Development HUD/CDBG allocation for 2017 was \$1,390,296, and this was the number used to estimate the 2018 budget recommendations, which were finalized before the budget increase.

The MOC made contingency provisions for changes in funding from 2017. For an increase in funding they have recommended restoring funding to projects that were recommended for partial funding, in descending order of how they scored.

For the Cumberland County “non set-aside communities”, an additional \$93,341 is available to re-program from activities that utilized less funds than originally granted or returned funds.

The total allocation is divided into four components:

1. Total Administrative Costs: **\$220,000**
 - County Administration \$140,000
 - South Portland Administration \$ 50,000
 - Bridgton Administration \$ 30,000

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2. County Community & Regional Grants: \$668,183 (2018 allocation); \$93,341 (re-programmed prior year funds): **\$761,524**
3. Town of Bridgton Activities: **\$150,656**
4. City of South Portland Activities: **\$351,457**

I. Accepting and Selecting Applications

The process for selecting “county” (not South Portland or Bridgton) applications for 2018:

- Applications distributed October 30, 2017
- Application workshop November 14, 2017
- Pre-applications submitted by December 13, 2017
- Final applications submitted February 1, 2018

Following submission, applications were distributed to the Application Review Team. Team members were: Dick Brobst, Chair (North Yarmouth); Travis Kennedy, (Cumberland County); Tom Gruber (Cumberland); Scott LaFlamme (Yarmouth); Sandy Warren (South Portland & Cumberland County); Donna Larson (Freeport)

Team members reviewed the applications and assigned scores based upon established criteria. Applicants met with the review team on February 22nd to briefly present their projects and answer questions.

General Program Applications

Project description – 10 points

Project management – 10 points

Implementation schedule – 5 points

Readiness to proceed – 20 points

Need for the project – 20 points

Need for CDBG funds – 15 points

Budget – 5 points

Distress score – 0-10 points

Multi-jurisdictional bonus – 5 points

Planning Program Applications

Description of problem – 35 points

Strategy to complete planning project – 30 points

Readiness to proceed – 30 points

Multi-jurisdictional bonus – 5 points

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Raw scores were totaled and converted to ordinal rankings for each reviewer. The ordinal rankings were averaged across all scorers to form a total group ranking. This rank order of projects, 1 to 15 (and 3 planning grants), became the working list. The result of the collective rank order of applications became the basis for the allocation of funds.

II. Projects, Programs & Activities Recommended for Funding

The Municipal Oversight Committee (MOC) recommends 15 grants for funding to the County Commissioners. Of these, five are region-wide activities and ten are community-based projects. One of the community-based projects serves multiple communities.

CDBG funds awarded:	\$761,524
2018 Program Funds	\$668,183
Re-allocated Funds	\$ 93,341

Regional vs. community projects:

Regional projects:	\$ 317,944
Community projects:	\$ 443,580

Funding by project type:

Public Services	\$ 95,000
Public Facilities & Infrastructure	\$ 475,408
Housing	\$ 169,480
Planning	\$ 21,636
County Administration	\$ 140,000

Project & Funding Recommendations

Public Services

Harpwell – Smoke/Co Detectors \$ 2,000

Installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors at income-eligible homes in the Town of Harpswell.

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Standish – Parks & Recreation Van \$ 18,000

Purchase of a van for transportation for youth and elder programs, including after school programs, community events, and recreation.

The Opportunity Alliance (TOA) – Homelessness Prevention \$ 75,000

Case management and one-time financial assistance supporting clients at-risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness.

Housing

Alpha One – Critical Access Ramps \$ 80,000

AlphaOne installs ramps at the homes of handicapped or elderly Cumberland County residents who otherwise would be severely hindered from, or unable to, leave their homes.

Gorham – Port Resources Group Homes \$ 71,480

Port Resources, a non-profit that serves mentally and developmentally disabled adults, seeks to rehab their 5 group homes in the Town of Gorham, including roofing, carpeting, windows, and boiler replacements.

Scarborough – Carpenter Court Paving \$ 18,000

Final paving for Carpenter Court, the roadway into the Habitat for Humanity affordable housing development off of Broadturn Road in Scarborough.

Public Facilities

Cumberland – Food Pantry Refrigerator & Walk-in Freezer \$ 20,000

The Cumberland Food Pantry, which serves Cumberland, North Yarmouth, Pownal, and New Gloucester, is relocating to a larger space and is seeking to purchase a walk in refrigerator and freezer with CDBG funds.

Long Island – Recreation Courts \$ 5,000

Repair and resurfacing of tennis and basketball courts on Long Island, as well as installation of a new pickle ball court.

Standish – Playground Construction \$ 53,600

Installation of new playground equipment at Memorial Park.

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Westbrook – Cornelia Warren Park

\$ 50,000

Trail, signage, landscaping, and parking improvements at the Cornelia Warren Park in downtown Westbrook.

Westbrook – Walker Memorial Library Windows

\$ 40,000

Installation of storm windows and replacement of stained glass windows at the historic Walker Memorial Library in downtown Westbrook.

Public Infrastructure

Cumberland County – Broadband Infrastructure

\$141,308

Funding for broadband installation from Boody's Corner in Windham to downtown Gray, as part of larger county-wide broadband project "Project: Connect Cumberland."

Windham – Depot Street Sewer & Sidewalk

\$165,500

Sewer and street improvements on Depot Street in South Windham Village.

Planning

Cumberland County – Broadband Planning

\$ 12,636

Planning for Cumberland County's *Project: Connect Cumberland*, which seeks to install broadband throughout the county. Activities would include mapping existing fiber, identifying priority locations, and recommending an operating entity configuration for the utility.

The Opportunity Alliance (TOA) – Cultural Broker Assessment

\$ 9,000

An evaluation and creation of a replicable model of TOA's "Cultural Broker" program, which assists new Mainers in accessing resources and integrating into the community.

Bridgton & South Portland Programs

The program and activities conducted in the two set-aside communities of Bridgton and South Portland are integral components of the Cumberland County Community Development program. While not participants in the County application competition, their projects, activities, funds, planning, administration and regulatory compliance are integrated with the County's program.

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Town of Bridgton:

Estimated 2018 Set-Aside Allocation	\$180,656
<u>Program Administration</u>	\$ 30,000
<u>Public Facilities</u>	\$133,316
Lower Main Street Re-construction	\$ 53,316
Skating Rink	\$ 35,000
Harmon Field Improvements	\$ 45,000
<u>Public Services</u>	\$ 17,340
Family Crisis Service	\$ 6,000
Community Center Navigator Program	\$ 6,340
School Backpack Food Program	\$ 5,000

City of South Portland:

Estimated 2018 Set-Aside Allocation **\$401,457**

The City of South Portland continues to operate their CDBG program much as they did prior to relinquishing HUD Entitlement status in 2007. Coordination between South Portland and the County, particularly on administrative matters occurs on a regular and on-going basis. Sandra Warren serves as the Community Development Coordinator in both Cumberland County and South Portland. South Portland finalized its selection of CDBG funded programs, projects and activities at their City Council meeting on April 3, 2018.

<u>Public Facilities/Infrastructure</u>	\$281,238
American Legion Roof Repair	\$ 14,268
Westbrook Street Improvements & Streetscapes	\$225,000
Healthy Landscapes Demonstration Gardens	\$ 15,000
Port Resources Group Home Rehab	\$ 11,970
Long Creek Trail Completion	\$ 15,000

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<u>Public Services</u>	\$ 60,219
Fuel Assistance	\$ 7,500
Community Paramedic Project	\$ 7,719
Recreation Scholarships	\$ 8,000
Senior Bus Program	\$ 2,500
Domestic Violence Outreach Support Services	\$ 6,500
Memorial Middle School Outing Group	\$ 2,000
Redbank Hub	\$ 17,000
Meals on Wheels	\$ 9,000
<u>Housing Repair/Energy Efficiency</u>	\$ 10,000
<u>Program Administration</u>	\$ 50,000

HOME Program Consortium

All the communities of Cumberland County including Portland, Brunswick and the 25 members of our Community Development program have formed the City of Portland/Cumberland County HOME Consortium. Portland serves as the lead entity for the Consortium. All administrative and program delivery services are conducted by the City

Unlike CDBG, HOME funds can only be used for four housing activities: housing rehabilitation, home ownership assistance, tenant based rental assistance and new construction of rental or ownership housing.

Estimated 2018 funds = \$319,553

Housing Rehabilitation	\$100,000
Affordable Housing Development	\$166,350
CHDO	\$ 53,203

Like CDBG, the HOME budget has been increased this year, though we have yet to receive our final allocation. Upon receiving our final allocation number, the proposed HOME budget will be adjusted proportionally.



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Federal Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Action Plan Financial Summary

Grantee	Activity	Funds
Public Infrastructure		\$585,124
Bridgton	Lower Main Street Reconstruction	\$53,316
Cumberland County	Broadband Installation	\$141,308
South Portland	Westbrook Street Improvements	\$225,000
Windham	Depot Street Sewer & Sidewalk	\$165,500
Public Facilities		\$292,868
Bridgton	Harmon Field Improvements	\$45,000
Bridgton	Skating Rink Improvements	\$35,000
Cumberland	Food Pantry Refrigerator & Freezer	\$20,000
Long Island	Recreation Courts	\$5,000
South Portland	American Legion Roof Repair	\$14,268
South Portland	Healthy Landscapes Demo Gardens	\$15,000
South Portland	Long Creek Trail Completion	\$15,000
Standish	Playground Construction	\$53,600
Westbrook	Cornelia Warren Park	\$50,000
Westbrook	Walker Memorial Library Windows	\$40,000
Housing		\$191,450
Alpha One	Critical Access Ramps	\$80,000
Gorham	Port Resources Group Homes	\$71,480
Scarborough	Carpenter Court Infrastructure	\$18,000
South Portland	Housing Rehab/Energy Efficiency	\$10,000
South Portland	Port Resources Group Home	\$11,970
Public Service		\$172,559
Bridgton	Community Center Navigator Program	\$6,340
Bridgton	Domestic Violence Victim Services	\$7,000
Bridgton	School Backpack Food Program	\$4,000
Harpwell	Smoke/CO Detectors	\$2,000
South Portland	Summer Recreation Camp Scholarships	\$8,000
South Portland	Emergency Heating Assistance	\$7,500
South Portland	Senior Bus Program	\$2,500
South Portland	Domestic Violence Victim Services	\$6,500
South Portland	Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub	\$17,000
South Portland	Meals-On-Wheels	\$9,000
South Portland	Community Paramedic Project	\$7,719
South Portland	Wheels for Kids	\$2,000
Standish	Parks & Recreation Van	\$18,000
The Opportunity Alliance	Homeless Prevention Services	\$75,000
Planning		\$21,636
Cumberland County	Broadband Planning	\$12,636
The Opportunity Alliance	Cultural Broker Assessment	\$9,000
Program Administration		\$220,000
Bridgton	Administration	\$30,000
South Portland	Administration	\$50,000
County	Administration	\$140,000
All Total		\$1,483,637