

Proposed CDBG Method of Distribution

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) is seeking feedback on proposed changes to its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Method of Distribution. In each of the example scenarios, line items are increased (green), reduced (red), or eliminated from the 2014 allocation in an attempt to better meet the needs of community recipients.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

In the first two proposals, a line item called “*Downtown Revitalization*” is introduced. This category would fund transformative building façade improvement projects that have long-lasting benefits for a downtown. Downtown Revitalization projects have already been successfully implemented in many communities across the State.

NEIGHBORHOOD & DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

Based on feedback collected through stakeholder interviews, IEDA has added a third funding proposal. A new line item called “*Neighborhood & Downtown Revitalization*” combines the current activities eligible for Housing funds with new Downtown

Revitalization activities using a global neighborhood approach to community development.

Conscientious planning is fundamental to the success of a complex, coordinated effort like Neighborhood Revitalization. Applications for this category would be approved over two phases, beginning with a pilot grant for a detailed planning and implementation study. Submission of a satisfactory plan would trigger an additional application for implementation funding.

Neighborhood Revitalization projects would have to meet a minimum number of goals for a designated geographic area. A menu of qualified project elements might include owner-occupied housing rehabilitation, second story rental rehab or construction, and façade improvements, as well as secondary elements like streetscaping, sidewalk repair, and open space development that support the primary objectives. Preference would be given to projects that leverage other activities already happening in a neighborhood (funded through CDBG or otherwise), maximizing the impacts of a community’s collective effort and investment.

CURRENT DISTRIBUTION

Admin	2%	\$437,163
Technical Assistance	1%	\$218,582
Water/Sewer	33%	\$7,213,191
Housing	25%	\$5,464,539
Economic Development	20%	\$4,371,631
Community Facilities	7%	\$1,530,071
W/S or CF	7%	\$1,530,071
Opp/Threat/Sustainability	5%	\$1,092,908
TOTAL	100%	\$21,858,155

PROPOSAL 1

Admin	2%	\$437,163
Technical Assistance	1%	\$218,582
Water/Sewer	33%	\$7,213,191
Housing	22%	\$4,808,794
Economic Development	15%	\$3,278,723
<i>Downtown Revitalization</i>	15%	\$3,278,723
Community Facilities	7%	\$1,530,071
Opp/Threat/Sustainability	5%	\$1,092,908
TOTAL	100%	\$21,858,155

PROPOSAL 2

Admin	2%	\$437,163
Technical Assistance	1%	\$218,582
<i>Water/Sewer</i>	35%	\$7,650,354
Housing	20%	\$4,371,631
Economic Development	18%	\$3,934,468
<i>Downtown Revitalization</i>	15%	\$3,278,723
Community Facilities	6%	\$1,311,489
Opp/Threat/Sustainability	3%	\$655,745
TOTAL	100%	\$21,858,155

PROPOSAL 3

Admin	2%	\$437,163
Technical Assistance	1%	\$218,582
<i>Water/Sewer</i>	35%	\$7,650,354
Economic Development	18%	\$3,934,468
<i>Neighborhood & Downtown Revitalization (includes former Housing item)</i>	35%	\$7,650,354
Community Facilities	6%	\$1,311,489
Opp/Threat/Sustainability	3%	\$655,745
TOTAL	100%	\$21,858,155