



## St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners

Housing & Community Development

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### St. Johns County Community Development Block Grant Proposed 2022-2023 Action Plan

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that St. Johns County has prepared a proposed 2022-2023 Action Plan as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. St. Johns County receives CDBG funds as an Entitlement Community for the benefit of low- and moderate-income residents. St. Johns County may use CDBG funds within the unincorporated areas of the County and within the city limits of St. Augustine Beach. The development and approval of the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan are requirements of receiving CDBG funds.

The HUD approved 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan prepared by St. Johns County includes a discussion of needs and strategies to meet those needs. The 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan was developed with participation from County staff, elected officials, affordable housing and social service providers, and local citizens. As a result of this process, the following priorities were developed:

- **Priority #1 – Infrastructure and Public Facilities:** provision of adequate infrastructure and public facilities to enhance the livability of low- to-moderate income neighborhoods and assure efficient levels of service.
- **Priority #2 – Property Blight** – promote development activities aiding in the prevention and elimination of specific conditions of blight and physical decay, eliminating specific conditions detrimental to public health and safety.
- **Priority #3 – Public Services** - enhance the living environment of the targeted area by addressing basic needs that are unmet due to economic disparity.
- **Priority #4 – Affordable Housing & Homeless Assistance:** increase the supply of affordable rental housing available to very low, low, and moderate income residents, as well as veterans, elderly, disabled, and homeless persons through new construction or acquisition; provide housing counseling and support services to assist individuals and families in crisis.
- **Priority #5 – Rehabilitation of Existing Housing:** focus on improving health and safety, code violations, accessibility and sustainability for extremely low-to-moderate income residents below 50% AMI (including but not limited to residents who are elderly, disabled, and veterans).
- **Priority #6 – Economic Development:** Promotion of Economic Development activities to respond to general needs and to respond to the impact of COVID-19.

The Annual Action Plan lays out how the funds will be used for qualifying purposes such as projects, programs, and administration. For the 2022-2023 Program Year, HUD plans to allocate \$1,022,927 for St. Johns County. The 2022-2023 proposed Annual Action Plan will provide for the following expenditures:

#### ***Priority #1 – Infrastructure and Public Facilities and Priority #2 – Property Blight***

- \$347,091.00 for public infrastructure and public facilities to enhance the livability of low- to-moderate income neighborhoods and assure efficient levels of community services and safety, and the promotion of development activities aiding in the prevention and elimination of specific conditions of blight and physical decay, eliminating specific conditions detrimental to public health and safety.

***Priority #3 -Public Services:***

- \$101,250.00 for social programs for low to moderate-income individuals or households.

***Priority #4 - Affordable Housing & Homeless Assistance:***

- \$250,000.60 to increase the supply of affordable housing available to very low, low, and moderate income residents, as well as veterans, elderly, disabled, and homeless persons through new construction or acquisition; provide housing counseling and support services to assist individuals and families in crisis.

***Priority #5 – Rehabilitation of Existing Housing:***

- \$120,000.00 to provide for emergency repair, spot or full house rehabilitation of existing housing for extremely low-to-moderate income residents below 50% AMI (including but not limited to residents who are elderly, disabled, and veterans).

***Planning and Administration:***

- \$204,585.40 for HUD-approved administrative costs associated with establishing and maintaining a CDBG program.

The Current Citizens Participation Plan, 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan, and the proposed 2022-2023 Draft Action Plan are available for review beginning June 15, 2022, Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the Health and Human Services Department at 200 San Sebastian View, Suite 2300, St. Augustine, FL 32084. These documents can also be viewed on the St. Johns County website: <http://www.sjcfl.us/Housing/CDBG.aspx>.

**Public Comment Period:** The purpose of this public notice is to fulfill the requirements of the St. Johns County Citizens Participation Plan by ensuring that the public is informed of the proposed 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan. The 30-day public review and comment period is June 15, 2022 through July 15, 2022. Comments from the public are encouraged and will be accepted during this comment period at the Health and Human Services Department at 200 San Sebastian View, Suite 2300, St. Augustine, FL 32084. Comments can also be given by calling 904-827- 6890 or emailed to [housing@sjcfl.us](mailto:housing@sjcfl.us). A written response will be given within fifteen (15) days, to all written comments received. For additional information, please call 904-827-6897.

**Public Hearing:** Final action will be taken on the proposed 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of County Commissioners to be held at 9:00 a.m. on July 19, 2022.

Meetings of the Board of County Commissioners take place in the County Auditorium, located at 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, FL 32084. Citizens may offer public comments at this meeting. Accommodations have been made to provide for social distancing at meetings of the Board of County Commissioners. Meetings can be viewed on Comcast cable channel 3, or online at <http://www.sjcfl.us/GTV>.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in the CDBG program or in public meetings should contact the ADA Coordinator at 904-209-0650. Deaf and/or hard-of hearing individuals may use Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD): 904-209-0650, or the Florida Relay Service: 800-955-8770. CDBG information is provided in English; the Board of County Commissioners meeting will also be conducted in English. If you require a translator, please call 904-209-0650. To request services, please notify the County at least five business days prior to need for services.

