

Housing & Community Development

Public Notice

St. Johns County Community Development Block Grant Funding, Survey, Meetings, and Application

St. Johns County is giving public notice that it anticipates receiving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the 2022-2023 Federal Fiscal Year.

St. Johns County receives CDBG funds as an Entitlement Community. The CDBG program is administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to benefit of low-to-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 an Annual Action Plans is a requirement of receiving federal CDBG funds.

In accordance with the County's Citizen Participation Plan, citizens are encouraged to participate in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the CDBG Entitlement Program. In preparation for the 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan, the County will host community meetings, distribute and evaluate the annual community priorities survey, solicit CDBG Entitlement Grant Applications from the community, and evaluate and select projects to be funded by HUD's CDBG Entitlement Allocation to St. Johns County.

The 2022 Community Meeting Schedule is posted below. At these meetings, information will be provided about the CDBG Entitlement Program and the 2022 Community Priorities Survey.

The 2022 Community Priorities Survey and the 2022-2023 CDBG Entitlement Program Application are also available on the County website at: <u>http://www.sjcfl.us/Housing/</u> <u>CDBG.aspx</u>. A paper copy of the Survey and Application may be obtained Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the Health and Human Services Department, 200 San Sebastian View, Suite 2300, St. Augustine, Florida 32084.

The 2022 Community Priorities Survey will close on May 2, 2022. The 2022-2023 CDBG Entitlement Grant Applications must be submitted by 4:00 PM on Monday, May 2, 2022. Grant Applications will be evaluated and scored by an independent committee at a public meeting on May 12, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. in the Kingfisher Conference Room, Health and Human Services, 200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, FL 32084. Additional information about the CDBG Entitlement Program may be obtained by calling 904-827-6897 or contacting: housing@sjcfl.us

As of the date of this advertisement, HUD has not informed the County of its annual CDBG funding allocation amount for the PY22-23 Entitlement Program. For the 2021-2022 Federal Fiscal Year, HUD allocated \$1,030,151 for St. Johns County. Funds for the 2022-2023 Federal Fiscal Year are expected to be available in November of 2022.

St. Johns County is not obligated to award all funds allocated to the County during an Entitlement Program's annual grant cycle. The County may reject applications submitted should the proposed project not meet federal regulations as set forth in the CDBG Entitlement Program. The County may also reject an application that is incomplete, not submitted according to PY22-23 Grant Application Instructions, or by the submission deadline. Due to alternative sources of funding available to the City of St. Augustine, HUD prohibits awarding Entitlement funds for projects proposed within the City's limits. In addition, eligible organizations submitting for the PY22-23 are required to attend at least one of the two offered Technical Assistance Workshops (see below schedule).

Projects proposed are required to align with at least one (1) of the priorities listed in the St. Johns County Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The County's 2021-2026 Consolidated Plan includes information pertaining to local needs and strategies to meet those needs. HUD approved the 2021-2026 Consolidated Plan, which was developed by County Staff, with input from affordable housing and social service providers, local citizens, and elected officials. The following priorities were included:

Priority #1 - Public Facilities and Infrastructure: Provision of adequate public facilities and infrastructure to assure the efficient levels of service and enhance the livability of low-to-moderate income neighborhoods.

Priority #2 – Public Services: Enhance the living environment of the targeted area by addressing basic needs that were unmet due to economic disparity.

Priority #3 – Affordable Housing & Homeless Services: 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 and support services to assist citizens who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Priority #4 – 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 #5 – Economic Development: Promotion of Economic Development activities in response to general needs and continued response to the impact of COVID-19.

The St. Johns County Citizen Participation Plan, 2021-2026 Consolidated Plan, and 2021 Annual Action Plan are available for review Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM at Health and Human Services, 200 San Sebastian View, Suite 2300, St. Augustine, Florida 32084. The documents can also be viewed on the St. Johns County website: <u>http://www.sjcfl.us/Housing/CDBG.aspx</u>.

2022 Community Development Block Grant

Community Priorities - Needs Assessment

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 10:30 - 12:30 AM Southeast Branch Library Large Meeting Room 6670 US 1 South St. Augustine, FL 32086

Thursday, April 14, 2022 2:00 - 4:00 PM Health & Human Services Muscovy Conference Room 200 San Sebastian View St. Augustine, FL 32084 Thursday, April 14, 2022 5:00 - 7:00 PM Hastings Branch Library Suite C Meeting Room 6195 S. Main St. Hastings, FL 32145

Tuesday, April 26, 2022 5:00 - 7:00 PM Ponte Vedra Branch Library Friends of the Library Conference Room 101 Library Boulevard Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Completing a Successful CDBG Application: Entitlement Grant Technical Assistance Workshop

Thursday, April 7, 2022 2:00 - 4:00 PM Health & Human Services Kingfisher Conference Room 200 San Sebastian View St. Augustine, FL 32084

Thursday, April 7, 2022 5:30 - 7:30 PM Southeast Branch Library Large Meeting Room 6670 US 1 South St. Augustine, FL 32086 Tuesday, April 12, 2022 2:00 - 4:00 PM Ponte Vedra Branch Library Friends of the Library Conference Room 101 Library Boulevard Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Thursday, April 28, 2022 10:00 - 12:00 AM CareConnect+ Training Room 100 Whetstone Place, Suite 303 St. Augustine, FL 32086

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in these proceedings should contact the ADA Coordinator at 904-209-0650, or at the County Administration Building at 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, FL 32084. 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. The public meeting will 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 each meeting.

