



CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/REVENUE SHARING PROGRAMS

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS

Section 1 - General Information and Time Frames

The City of Newark is soliciting applications for 51st year (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026) Community Development Block Grant Program funds and 2025 (January 1 - December 31, 2025) Revenue Sharing Program funds. Applications and information on the review process will be available at a Public Hearing/Question and Answer Session scheduled for **Tuesday, July 30, 2024 from 1:00 – 2:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber; Newark Municipal Building; 220 South Main Street; Newark, DE.** The purpose of this hearing is to distribute information on previously funded Community Development and Revenue Sharing projects and to answer any questions potential applicants may have about the current application process. Potential applicants may attend; however, attendance at the Public Hearing is optional. An application for funding is attached to these guidelines and further information may be obtained by calling the Planning & Development Department at (302) 366-7000 extension 2041.

Following the Public Hearing, applicants will have ample time to prepare their proposals, which must be received **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 28, 2024** in the Planning & Development Department, Newark Municipal Building. Once the proposals are received, the Community Development/Revenue Sharing Advisory Committee (hereinafter called the Committee) will meet to begin application reviews. During deliberations, the Committee may wish to meet with some applicants to discuss their projects. Those applicants will be invited by the Planning & Development Department to meet with the Committee at a mutually convenient time. Not all applicants will be required to meet with the Committee. In addition, meeting with the Committee does not guarantee an applicant funding; nor does the failure of the Committee to invite an applicant to meet with them indicate that funding will not be made available.

The Committee will meet in September to develop funding recommendations for City Council. The final decision on the allocation of all Community Development and Revenue Sharing funds will be made by City Council in November.

The grant year for the Community Development Program runs from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026. Community Development projects approved for funding this fall may begin the following July 1st. The Revenue Sharing Program runs on a calendar year. Revenue Sharing Projects approved for funding this fall may begin January 1st, 2025.

Section 2 - Proposal Guidelines

One application may be submitted for both funding sources. Information on eligible activities, objectives and regulations applying to both Grants are listed in Section 3 of these Guidelines. Please review this information for the development of grant appropriate proposals. The final determination of which funding source best suits a proposal will be made by the Committee with guidance from the Planning & Development Department.

Please fill out the application completely. Please do not use substitute forms. Please submit only one application per agency. Multiple projects should be prioritized within one application. Attach additional sheets as necessary. Please be sure that your project description is clear and concise. As partial funding is a possibility, the Committee recommends that you itemize and prioritize all expenditures. In addition, if partial funding will eliminate the feasibility of your project, please indicate so, and explain the special circumstances which require full funding of the application.

If your agency has received Community Development or Revenue Sharing monies in the past for a project which you are resubmitting for funding consideration, attach a brief project specific report on accomplishments/activities to date. Do not substitute an overall agency report for this requirement unless CDBG or Revenue Sharing monies were used to support overall agency operating expenses.

Return the original and 14 copies of your proposal to the City of Newark, Planning and Development Department, 220 South Main Street, Newark, Delaware 19711, Attention: Michael Fortner, Senior Planner by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 28, 2024. No proposals will be accepted after this deadline. Please feel free to contact Jacob Higgins of the Planning & Development Department if you have any questions or if the number of copies required presents a hardship for your organization.

Section 3 - Grant Information

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, created a new Community Development funding program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City of Newark, as part of an "Urban County" receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds annually through New Castle County by an entitlement formula based on population. Under the entitlement program, the City of Newark must submit a yearly application to HUD through New Castle County for Community Development Program activities.

The **primary objective** of the Community Development Block Grant program is "the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing in a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income" (Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended).

To qualify for Community Development funding, all projects and activities must:

- **Principally benefit low and moderate income persons (80% of Area Median Income), or;**
- **Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight, or;**
- **Meet other Community Development needs having particular urgency (flood, disaster, etc).**

Community Development rules and regulations specify eligible and ineligible activities. As a general guideline, eligible activities include:

1. Acquisition of property
2. Clearance, demolition and removal
3. Public facilities and improvements
4. Rehabilitation and preservation activities
5. Economic development
6. Economic opportunities for low and very low-income persons
7. Removal of architectural barriers
8. Public services (Limited funds available)
9. Planning and administration (Limited funds available)

Please note that these activities are **eligible for CDBG funding provided that they first meet one of the primary objectives listed above. Please feel free to contact Michael Fortner in the Planning & Development Department at (302) 366-7000 ext. 2041 to discuss your project's eligibility.**

REVENUE SHARING

Since 1974, the City, through a policy of City Council, has shared part of its Federal Revenue Sharing funds with agencies, groups and individuals who provide social services beneficial to the residents of Newark. In 1987, Federal Revenue Sharing funds were discontinued. The City of Newark City Council, however, decided to continue services originally provided by Federal Revenue Sharing with an annual allocation from the City's general fund.

Revenue Sharing funds are available to outside agencies which provide social services to Newark residents. Funding will only be considered for those persons within the proposal who are residents of the City of Newark. Funds allocated must be expended within 2025. The proposal must not legally bind the City of Newark to financial support in years subsequent to 2025.

When reviewing proposals for Revenue Sharing funding, the Community Development/Revenue Sharing Advisory Committee considers the following **guidelines**:

1. Projects aimed at social needs are encouraged.
2. Proposals containing multiple funding mechanisms (matches, grants-in-aid, etc.) are favored over ones depending entirely on City funds.
3. New programs needing start up help are encouraged.
4. Programs for capital projects only are discouraged.
5. "Overhead costs" should not be funded by the City.
6. Programs that have experienced Federal funding cuts should be helped, all else being equal.
7. The Committee is reluctant to fund projects that will always depend on Revenue Sharing funds for their operation. The Committee hopes programs started with Revenue Sharing funds will become financially independent within a few years of their initial funding.

The above information is intended to assist you in deciding if your project is appropriate for submission. The Committee's position is that, while the parameters cannot be taken as absolutes and that exceptions may be made, the foregoing does provide important screening criteria. **Please feel free to contact Jacob Higgins in the Planning & Development Department at (302) 366-7000 ext. 2044 if you would like to discuss your project's eligibility.**