

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2025-0001

Sponsored by: Councilmember Simon	An Ordinance amending Section 714.02(E) of the Cuyahoga County Code to prioritize municipal corporations and townships in Cuyahoga County when evaluating applications to the Cuyahoga County Community Development Supplemental Grant (“CDSG”) Program.
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WHEREAS, Chapter 714.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code establishes the County Community Development Supplemental Grant (“CDSG”) Program and sets the Community Development Fund as the Program funding source; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Supplemental Grant Program has been subject to a high demand and has received widespread interest and praise from the County’s municipal corporations and townships; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to clarify and update the evaluation criteria for the Community Development Supplemental Grant Program in order to prioritize municipal corporations and townships.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. 714.02(E) of the Cuyahoga County Code is hereby amended to read as follows (additions are underlined, deletions are stricken):

Section 714.02 County Community Development Supplemental Grant Program

(Paragraphs A-C remain in their entirety)

D. Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to receive CDSG funds through the Municipal Grant Program, applicants shall meet the following criteria:

1. All applicants must be municipal corporations, townships, or not-for-profit community development corporations tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code located within Cuyahoga County. To be eligible to apply, a not-for-profit community development corporation must **provide a letter from the chief executive officer, or his or her designee, of a municipal corporation, township, or county land reutilization corporation located within Cuyahoga County that expresses support for the application submitted to the County and** (2) be incorporated for not less than two years prior to the application deadline set by the Department; ~~provided, however, that community development corporations in existence on or before the original effective date of this provision shall be eligible to apply;~~ and
2. The applicant must be able to document appropriate activities to affirmatively further fair housing choice; and
3. The applicant must document its compliance with citizen participation requirements as set forth either in Cuyahoga County's Community Development Block Grant Citizen Participation Plan or in a citizen participation plan prepared by an entitlement community pursuant to 24 CFR §570.302; and
4. All application projects must meet a community development need related to the health or welfare of the community. These initiatives include but are not limited to the following eligible activities:
 - a. community master plans,
 - b. housing and commercial demolition,
 - c. infrastructure,
 - d. public safety,
 - e. streetscapes,
 - f. parks and playgrounds, or
 - g. community and senior centers
5. The applicant must be in compliance with all existing contracts for CDBG and CDSG funds previously allocated pursuant to this Chapter by the date of the current application deadline as determined by the Department; and
6. Applications must specify the location of all projects; and
7. All documents required by the Department must be contained within the application or attached; and
8. All applications must be received by the deadline as set by the Department.

E. Evaluation Criteria

1. The Department shall issue written requirements for each year's application format, contents, and required attachments; and all documents required by the Department must be contained within the application or attached.
2. The Department shall establish and notify local communities of each year's application deadline and other requirements regarding the application deadline. All applications must be received by the deadline as set by the Department.
3. The Department shall evaluate applications based upon factors including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. That the application meets the eligibility requirements specified in paragraph (D) of this section.
 - b. That the project specified in the application may complement or otherwise enhance other projects supported through other funding sources.
4. Each Community Development Supplemental Grant award shall not exceed \$50,000.00.

5. In the event the scoring of applications results in a tie, the Department shall prioritize applications received from municipal corporations and townships within Cuyahoga County ahead of not-for-profit community development corporations; provided however that the Department may alternatively recommend that awards be divided between two or more tied applicants.

SECTION 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. Kelly, the foregoing Ordinance was duly enacted.

Yeas: Schleper, Conwell, Jones, Turner, Houser, Simon, Kelly, Sweeney, Casselberry, Gallagher and Miller

Nays: None

<u>Dale Miller</u>	<u>8/7/2025</u>
County Council President	Date
<u>Chris Ronayne</u>	<u>8/13/2025</u>
County Executive	Date
<u>Andria Richardson</u>	<u>8/6/2025</u>
Clerk of Council	Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: January 14, 2025
Committee(s) Assigned: Community Development & Housing

Legislation Substituted in Committee: July 28, 2025

Legislation Substituted on the Floor: August 5, 2025

Journal CC059
August 5, 2025