

Public Hearing Notice

Federal regulations at 24 CFR, Part 91 require that the City of Newark, OH to prepare and submit an Annual Action Plan (AAP) for its housing and community development programs utilizing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The City of Newark has prepared its proposed FY 2022 AAP; the AAP outlines how the City intends to expend its \$729,666 in PY 2022 CDBG funds.

As noted in its Citizen Participation Plan, the City of Newark will hold two public hearings at 4:00 pm in City Council Chamber, 40 West Main Street, Lobby area, Newark, OH 43055 on June 6, 2022 and June 7, 2022

Persons requiring special assistance should contact the Newark Department of Development at 740-670-7530 by June 1, 2022.

In order to obtain the views of citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties, the City has placed its proposed FY 2022 AAP on public display for 30 days beginning June 6, 2022 on the City website (<https://newarkohio.net>) and in the Newark, Department of Development, 40 W. Main Street, 4th floor, Newark, OH.

Comments on the FY 2022 AAP can be directed to: Mark Mauter, Director of Development at: mmauter@newarkohio.net, or by calling 740-670-7530, or by mail at 40 W. Main Street, Newark, OH 43055. All comments must be received by 4:30 pm on July 7, 2022.

A final FY 2022 AAP will be submitted to HUD for review and approval by July 8, 2022.

The FY 2022 AAP contains the following major components:

1. Identification of federal and non-federal reasonably expected to be made available during the FY 2022 program year to undertake activities identified in the approved Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-2024
2. A list of activities to be undertaken during the FY 2022 program year to address community development and housing needs in Newark.

HUD Notice: CPD-22-05 explains the availability of waivers of the Community Planning and Development Grant Program Requirements to Facilitate the Ability to Incur Pre-Award Costs in FY 2022. HUD has waived 24 CFR 570.200(h). The waiver will allow a grantee (City of Newark-CDBG Entitlement) to treat the effective date of the grant agreement as the program year start date or the date that the consolidated plan/action plan (with actual allocation amounts) is received by HUD, whichever is *earlier*.

The City of Newark, Department of Development will include pre-award costs in its CDBG Annual Action Plan for activity costs it may incur in a program year, prior to the effective date of the City's CDBG grant agreement with HUD.

This would permit the City to sign a contract and begin work for a public facilities activity contained in the annual action plan prior to the effective date of the City's CDBG grant agreement with HUD.

The City Department of Public Service will front the costs using City General Fund and non-grant sources and CDBG funds will reimburse the City. The pre-award costs will pertain to the Street Rehabilitation activity.

The Environmental Review process must be completed and an RROF issued by HUD before any public facilities contract signing or work commences during a program year. If costs are incurred prior to the completion of the environmental review process, CDBG funds will not be utilized as reimbursement.

The intent behind this proposal is to offer the City more flexibility to implement public facilities projects in a timely manner. The City's CDBG program year begins January 1 and ends December 31. It is very difficult to meet a timeliness deadline when the effective date of the CDBG grant agreement is executed late in the program year. Furthermore, a very important concept in administering CDBG activities is planning for the timely expenditure of CDBG funds and the City position is that using the mechanism of pre-award costs to pay for capital projects would help the City achieve this, and reduce the likelihood of having future entitlements reduced due to not meeting HUD's timeliness requirements.

The City is aware of the federal regulation citing the total amount of pre-award costs paid during any program year can't be more than 25 percent of the grant amount for that year or \$300,000, whichever is greater.

Citizens are encouraged to review and comment on the above items. Comments should be directed to the Dept. of Development, 40 W. Main St, Suite 407, Newark, OH 43055 or the email below by July 7, 2022.

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