
Frazier Park Public Utility District – Application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding

5 messages

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Wed, Jun 5, 2024 at 4:00 PM

To: Tiffany Matte <tiffanym.fppud@gmail.com>

Cc: Dennis McNamara <McNamaraD@kerncounty.com>, Daniel Peterson <PetersonD@kerncounty.com>

Our Spring Meeting has been set for next week, Wed the 12th of June at 6:00 pm here in Bakersfield.

Location 2700 M Street - Large Conference Room first floor

I want to invite you to attend and/or any send comments for consideration.

Further information including the initial draft plan meeting and schedule can be found at:

Community Development - Kern County Planning & Natural Resources Dept. (kernplanning.com)

Frazier Park Public Utility District – Application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding for

the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan Water Tank Replacement

The Community Development (CD) Division of the Planning and Natural Resources Department wants to thank

you for the opportunity to consider the Frazier Park Public Utility District's proposal for replacement of its water tank

using CDBG funds. Staff is continuing to evaluate this proposal for CDBG funding opportunities that may be

provided by the FY 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan and/or other resources available. However, every proposal

funded with CDBG funds must meet both project eligibility and national objective criteria established by Department

of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to receive funding.

Proposal

Frazier Park Public Utility District Improvements provides at least \$908,500 funding for the public utility

district within the unincorporated community of Frazier Park for the design, demolition of the existing water

tank and replacement construction for a new water tank.

Eligibility

The proposal is otherwise eligible under 24 CFR 570.201(c) as a Public Facility and Improvement.

National Objective Criteria

As to this criteria, the application submitted presents some obstacles to consider:

The CD Division primarily utilizes the Low-Moderate income (LMI) criteria under Census Tracts and Block

Groups to qualify projects. However, HUD is currently utilizing an older version of the Census Data that

does not indicate the community of Frazier Park qualifies under this criterion. CD considered the District's

Disadvantaged Community status and raised this issue with the local HUD office. HUD rejected this proposal

and offered that option that the District conduct an income survey of its beneficiaries.

Option #1 - Income Survey

In this option, the District would need to perform a survey of its service users in which household size and

income data and other demographic questions are collected. The survey method would need to be approved

be HUD prior to mailing to ensure HUD would accept the data collected in lieu of census data. Based on the

responses received, the District the data would need to be submitted to CD for date quantification and further

evaluation. CD would then forward the complete data to HUD for review and approval.

Option #2 - Wait until new data is available

As stated previously, CD Staff questioned the validity in the HUD data sets permitted to be used to qualify the

project under the LMI criteria. HUD is currently updating the data sets used with the new sets ETA at the end

of July when the new data sets can be evaluated for the LMI criteria.

Option #3 – Urgent Need Criteria

Another option is under the urgent need criteria as stated below:

c) *Activities designed to meet community development needs having a particular urgency.* In the

absence of substantial evidence to the contrary, an activity will be considered to address this objective if

the recipient certifies that the activity is designed to alleviate existing conditions which pose a serious and

immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community which are of recent origin or which recently

became urgent, that the recipient is unable to finance the activity on its own, and that other sources of

funding are not available. A condition will generally be considered to be of recent origin if it developed

or became critical within 18 months preceding the certification by the recipient.

Although the issue appears to be recent in origin (based on the Tank Inspection Report dated June 23, 2023)

as identified in the application (Please provide a copy of this report), after further review of the application,

it appears that there were financial reserves the District has on hand after the FY 2021 that could be

utilized for installation of the improvements. If this is incorrect or does not reflect the current state of

resources available to the District, please provide other financial statements of a more recent nature

to determine the financial feasibility/infeasibility for District to provide the requested improvements utilizing its own resources. It seems that in Feb this year you indicated that more recent financial statements are available for 2022 and 2023, these statement will be helpful to evaluate this.

I encourage you to contact myself at goldenj@kerncounty.com and/or my Supervisor Dennis McNamara at McNamaraD@kerncounty.com if you have additional questions regarding the application.

Thank you,