

*Ready, Set, Grow-* 2023 Virtual PAAO Workshop

# Grant Management Workshop





# SNAP Session -Planning Grants





# What is a Planning Grant?

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds which are used to determine a locality's greatest community need, by use of public input
- Planning Grants are used to determine, not only the community's greatest community need, but also if a proposed project is feasible
- Planning Grants can also help a locality narrow down which project can be undertaken first



# Types of Planning Grants



- Comprehensive Community Development:
- Up to \$60,000 available
- Will address more than one activity, with housing being one of the main components addressed
- Designed to improve the living conditions of LMI (low-and-moderate income) individuals
- Products from the PG include:
  - Housing Assessments/Cost Determinations
  - PERs (for infrastructure needs – including water/sewer, stormwater, streetscapes, etc.)
  - Neighborhood Surveys
  - Identification of Project Area

# Types of Planning Grants

- Housing Rehabilitation :
- Up to \$50,000
- Used to help improve housing conditions of LMI individuals
- Can be a County or Town-Wide Needs Assessment; Neighborhood Specific; or Scattered Site
- Products from the PG include:
  - Prioritized Improvement Plan
  - Neighborhood/County/Town Needs Assessment
  - Surveys
  - Cost Determinations
  - Procurement of Rehab Specialist
  - Determination of Contractor availability



# Types of Planning Grants

- Business District Revitalization/Downtown:
- Up to \$50,000 available
- National Objective – Slum/Blight
- Localities will be encouraged to work with Virginia Main Street (VMS) in DHCD's EDCV Office
- PG Products:
  - Economic Restructuring Plan: identify the means by which the locality can implement economic improvement strategies that will help ensure the long-term sustainability of the community, particularly the downtown business district.
  - PER/PAR
  - Market Studies/Analyses



# Types of Planning Grants

- Community Service Facilities :
- Up to \$50,000 available
- To improve lives of LMI individuals
- PG products include:
  - Staffing and Operations Plans/FFEs
  - PERS/PARS
  - Cost Determination
  - Market Studies/Community Surveys
- Examples include:
  - Community centers, adult daycares, etc.



# Types of Planning Grants



- Public Infrastructure :
- Up to \$50,000
- Include water, sewer services, stormwater improvements, and street improvements to improve living conditions of LMI individuals
- PG products include:
  - PER
  - LMI surveys
  - Cost Determinations
  - Easements/User Agreements





# Types of Planning Grants



- Public Service :
- Up to \$50,000
- A new service, or a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service which has been provided by the state or another entity on its behalf through state or local government funds in the 12 months preceding the submission of the state's Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan to HUD.
- PG products include:
  - LMI Surveys
  - Implementation Plan/ Collaboration of Partners
  - Cost Determinations



# Types of Planning Grants

- Regional Planning Grants:
- Up to \$60,000 are available for a regional effort of more than one locality for needs analysis and strategy development.
- PG Products Include:
  - Community assessments, needs analyses, and need prioritization
  - Surveys of residents, users, customers, and potential beneficiaries
  - Obtaining easements and user agreements
  - Completion of market studies
  - PERs



# What if My Project Doesn't Fit In Those Categories?

# How and When Can I Apply?



- Open Submission
- Applications are due in CAMS
- DHCD will reach out to applicants with next steps following a PG Application Submission
- Contact DHCD if you have questions about applying for PGs



# Overall Planning Grant Goals



- Determination of what the community wants and needs out of a PG
- Determination of viability of proposed project
- Determination of additional funders and grant opportunities (ex – ARC, Virginia Housing, VDH, DEQ, VMS, etc.)
- Strong application if/when locality decides to apply for implementation
- GOOD PLANNING GRANTS MAKE GOOD PROJECTS!



The background features silhouettes of two families holding hands. On the left, a man carries a baby on his back, and a young girl holds his hand. On the right, a man holds the hand of a young girl. The entire scene is set against a solid blue background with a subtle gradient.

# THANK YOU

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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING  
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