



2026 Cuyahoga County Municipal Grant Program

Cuyahoga County is pleased to announce our Municipal Grant Program for 2026. The Municipal Grant Program is a competitive grant program that makes awards to help strengthen cities, encourage regional collaboration, and improve quality of life for county residents.

The 51 Cuyahoga County communities that signed a cooperation agreement with Cuyahoga County form the Cuyahoga Urban County. **Municipal Grant applications are limited to Urban County Communities.** Grant funding obligates both the county and grant awardees to meet certain objectives and adhere to some specific funding requirements.

Projects that are in process or already completed are not eligible for funding.

	Municipal Grant
Maximum Grant Award	\$150,000
Total Grants Available	10
Program Term	TBD
Application limit	One per municipality

All applications 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:

Community Master Plans (*if you intend to use the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission you must contact them for a timeline and cost estimate before submitting*).

Housing and commercial demolition Infrastructure Public safety

Streetscapes Parks and playgrounds Community and senior centers

Exterior Storefront Renovations

Detailed eligible activities for grant programs are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations [24CFR570](#).

**Application Deadline: Tuesday, July 15, 2025, by 4:00p.m. to
dbroadus@cuyahogacounty.gov**

This is a competitive award program, only unaltered, signed and complete applications, submitted on time will be considered.

Threshold Criteria

Applications must meet the following threshold criteria by the submission deadline for funding consideration. **Missing, late or un-verifiable information will void your application and make it ineligible.**

- Activity eligible under the CDBG Program regulations (24 CFR 570)
- Public (residents) participation requirements met in accordance with the required schedule
- Current with previous CDBG contract requirements including fund decertification, if applicable
- Application and all required attachments received by deadline
- Activities must be located in an Improvement Target Area (ITA) or an Low-Moderate Income census tract(s)
- **Projects that have already begun are not eligible.**

Required Attachments: (One page each)

1. Evidence of public (residents) participation for the proposed activity
 - a. Copy of **dated** advertisement placed **at least 7 days prior to meeting**; and
 - b. Copy of **dated** sign in sheet for related public meeting and minutes
 - c. Copy of **Council resolution dated at least 7 days after** the public meeting
2. Engineer's or Finance Director's cost estimate. If Master Plan, the estimate from the County Planning Commission.
3. Activity location map w/street(s) clearly identified, if applicable
4. 2 pictures of activity location, if applicable
5. Proof of commitments of additional funding to the project, if applicable

Application Requirements

Attach all required documentation. (Application; 10 pages required documentation; 5 pages optional documentation)

- **Limit required attachments (above) to ten (10) pages.** The font size and page size are locked in the application template. Please do not alter the font or page size to prevent application disqualification.
- Applicants may submit **up to five (8½" x 11") pages of additional attachments** in support of the application for a total of 15 pages of attachments.

- Letters of support are not required and are not evaluated in the scoring process.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications for the Cuyahoga County Municipal Grant are scored on a 100 point scale.

Activities must be located in an Improvement Target Area (ITA) or an Low-Moderate Income census tract(s)

Activity Summary (35 pts. max)

Activity summary (35 pts. max) The summary must include **WHAT** the project or activity is, **WHERE** it is located and **WHY** it is needed.

Activity Impact (50 pts. max)

Activity Impact (50 pts. max) Activity Impact (50 pts. max) Applications must describe **WHO** will be served. Describe **HOW** low- and moderate-income persons benefit directly from the activity and **how** CDBG income guidelines will be verified, if applicable. Applications will explain **HOW** the proposed solution fits strategically with other development activities already planned and underway in the community or surrounding area and; **HOW** funding received would be a catalyst for additional growth.

Activity Implementation Schedule with Milestones (15 pts. max)

Activity Implementation Schedule with Milestones (15 pts. max) The schedule must provide a timeline of **WHEN** legislative, administrative and contractual activities occur from inception to completion, including the timing and amount of other funding or in-kind contributions. Strong applications will demonstrate that milestones are realistic and feasible.

PROJECTS CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS OR COMPLETED ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.

Application Submission Instructions

1. Submit applications via email and in PDF format to dbroadus@cuyahogacounty.gov
2. Submit applications on or before **Tuesday, July 15, 2025, by 4:00p.m.** to dbroadus@cuyahogacounty.gov
3. Submit application as three separate files with the following file names:
 - Name of Applicant Muni Grant application
 - Required Attachments
 - Optional Attachments

Public Meeting (virtual or in-person)

The public meeting is designed to provide residents with the opportunity to discuss proposed programming, provide ideas and suggestions and discuss impact on the community. This meeting may be held virtually.

- The meeting must address local housing and community development needs and obtain the views of residents. Suggestions from residents must be solicited at the meeting. Citizens may also submit written comments.

At a minimum the applying community must conduct one public meeting.

- The advertisement for the meeting must be placed in a local publication or advertised electronically at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. See sample advertisement below.
- Advertisement must clearly identify the date and forum where posted and must include all the information as detailed in the sample advertisement.
- Attendance and minutes of the meeting must be taken.
- Seven (7) days must be allowed from the date of the meeting before adopting a resolution authorizing the Mayor to submit the grant application(s).
- Public meetings must be conducted in accessible buildings at times and locations convenient to potential beneficiaries of the CDBG program.

SAMPLE

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ____ Cuyahoga County Competitive Municipal Grant Program

The City of ____ is eligible to apply for funding from Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds administered by Cuyahoga County through the Department of Development. Funds can be used for a variety of housing, economic development and community improvement projects. Residents are invited to attend a public meeting to voice their opinions on local development needs, or to submit opinions in writing to the address below.

Date/Time _____ Site Location /Address _____ Written Comments Address (if different)

For further information, contact _____ at ()_____

Any person who wishes to attend and requires special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact the _____ no later than 72 hours prior to the public meeting.