



# **FY2023 CDBG Applicant's Workshop**

**January 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**





# Welcome & Opening Comments

Kimberly Carter, Community Finance  
Division Director

- ✓ Staff Introductions
- ✓ Materials Review
  - Columbus Convention & Trade Center Floor Layouts
  - CDBG Applicant Checklist
  - Consolidated Plan Survey
  - Economic Development Flyers
- ✓ Application Deadline
  - FY2023 – June 2, 2023
  - FY2024 – April 5, 2024

# Day One Agenda

## **1:00 PM - 3:30 PM**

- Community Development Block Grant Overview & Method of Distribution
- Environmental Review Requirements

## **3:45 PM – 5:30 PM**

- Section 106 Requirements
- Local Government Status/ State Survey Requirements
- State Audit Requirements

# **CDBG Overview and Method of Distribution**

Kathleen Vaughn

Director, Office of Community Development



# **CDBG Authorization**

- Established by the Housing and Community Development Act in 1974 as a tool for giving state and local leaders help to stimulate community development and job growth.
- Flexible funding solution to address physical, economic and social deterioration in low to moderate income neighborhoods and communities.

# Goals of the Program

Address State and Community priorities

Ensure fairness in the treatment of all applications

Promote development of affordable housing

Assist communities in preserving and developing basic infrastructure and public facilities

Support economic development activities that principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons through job training and job creation

# CDBG Programs and Allocations

The Georgia CDBG Program is comprised of the following:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
<b>Immediate Threat and Danger Program Set-Aside</b>	\$500,000
<b>Employment Incentive Program Set-Aside</b>	\$4,000,000
<b>Redevelopment Fund Program Set-Aside</b>	\$1,500,000
<b>Innovative Grant Program Set-Aside</b>	\$10,000,000
<b>Loan Guarantee Program (Section 108)</b>	<i>Pledge not to exceed \$5,000,000</i>
<b>Annual Competition</b>  <i>FFY22 allocation was approximately \$41million</i> <i>FFY23 allocation not yet released</i>	<i>Balance of HUD allocation after administration, technical assistance and set-asides</i>

# Eligible Applicants

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- **Non-entitlement communities**

Cities/Counties that do not participate in the Entitlement Program

- The following entitlement communities are not eligible to participate in the State CDBG Program:

- The Cities of Albany, Atlanta, Brunswick, Dalton, Gainesville, Hinesville, Marietta, Rome, Roswell, Sandy Springs City, Savannah, Smyrna City, South Fulton, Valdosta, and Warner Robins.
- The Counties of Cherokee County, Clayton County, Cobb County, DeKalb County, Fulton County, Gwinnett County, and Henry County.
- The Consolidated Governments of Athens/Clarke County, Augusta/Richmond County, Columbus Consolidated Government, and Macon/Bibb County.
- Any incorporated city within a HUD Entitlement Urban County that has chosen to participate with the Urban County through a Cooperating Agreement.

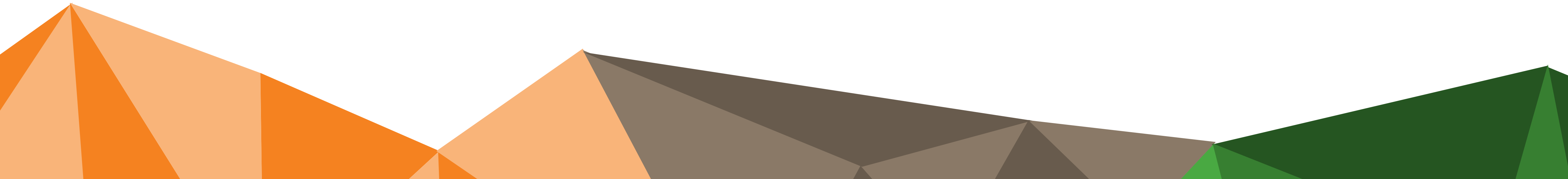


# Eligible Projects

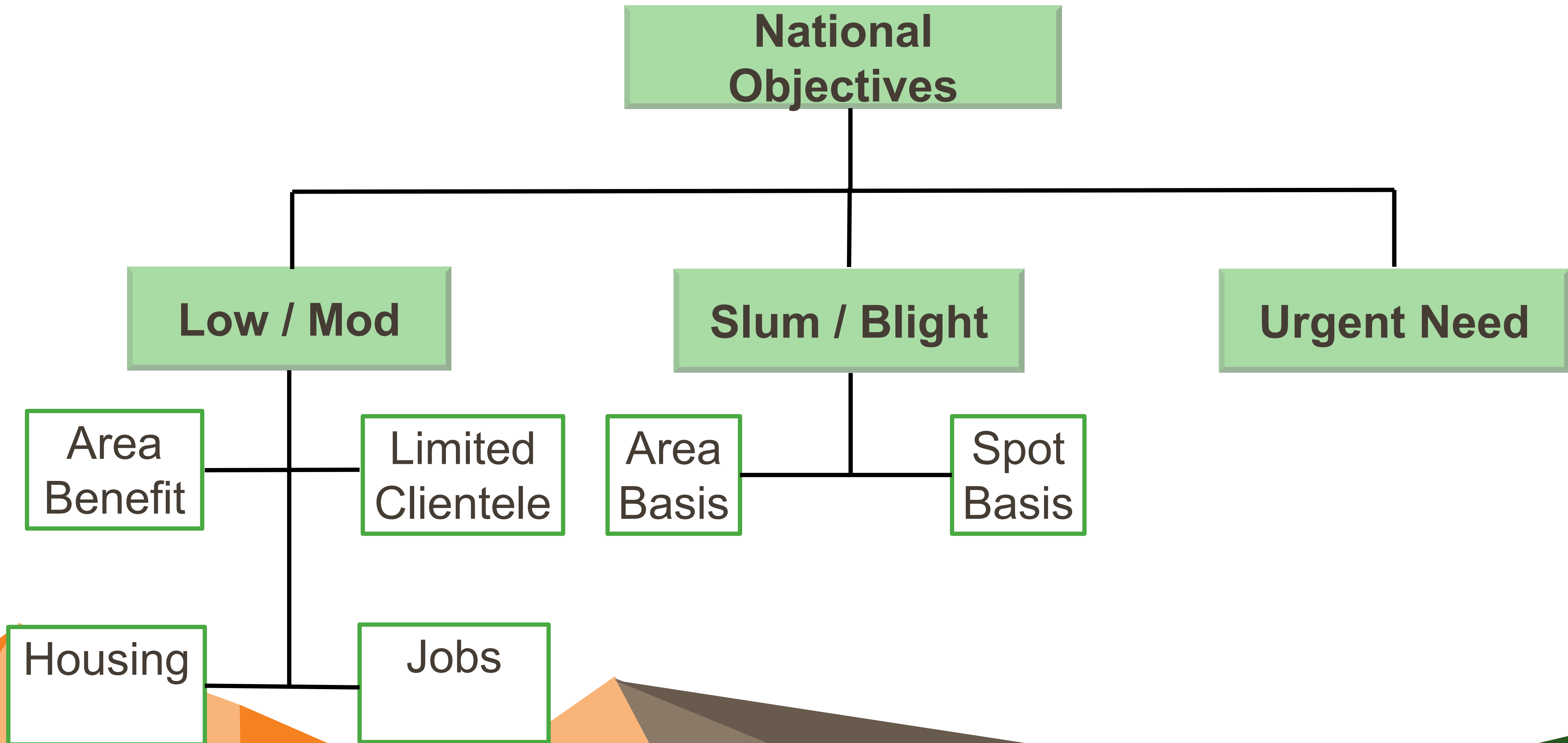
- For any activity(ies) carried out by a grantee to be considered eligible, two conditions must be met:
  1. The activity(ies) must meet a National Objective

**AND**

2. The activity(ies) must be listed in the law as eligible.  
*Section 105(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (HCDA)*



# National Objectives Requirements



# I. Documenting LMI Benefit

## Two Methods

### A. Direct count based on client records

- Housing
- Job Creation such as Employment Incentive Program (EIP), etc.
- Limited Clientele for Community Services Buildings

Health Centers, Senior Centers, etc.

➤ Some projects may benefit certain groups presumed to be LMI

➤ Only need a count of the # of people

Elderly, Severely Disabled, Homeless, Battered or Abused Men, Women, of Children, Migrant Workers, Persons Living w/ AIDS, Illiterate

# I. Documenting LMI Benefit

Two Methods - Continued

B. Area Benefit based on survey data

- Water and sewer projects
- Streets and drainage projects, etc.
- Must be primarily residential Target Area
- 70% of beneficiaries must be LMI (rounding not allowed)
  - HUD Data – Place level for rural areas
  - Local Survey – Door-to-Door or Random Sample
    - Door-to-Door must result in 90% response rate
    - Random Sample – Appendix C *Guide to Acceptable Survey Methodology & Sample Survey Form*

## 2. What's an Eligible Project?

- All projects must conform to eligible activities listed under Section 105(a) of the HCDA of 1974.
- Examples include, but may not be limited to:
  - Water and Sewer
  - Storm drainage
  - Street improvements
  - Housing clearance
  - Publicly owned buildings  
*(not used for general operation of government)*
  - Housing rehabilitation or reconstruction
  - Fire protection
  - Senior Centers
  - Health Centers
  - Boys & Girls Clubs

# CDBG Ineligible Activities

## Ineligible Activities

Buildings for the Conduct of Government (except removal of architectural barriers)

Direct grant assistance to a for-profit business

General Governmental Expenses

Operating & Maintenance Expenses

New Housing Construction (not reconstruction)

Lobbying Efforts

Furnishings and Personal Property

Operating and Maintenance Expenses

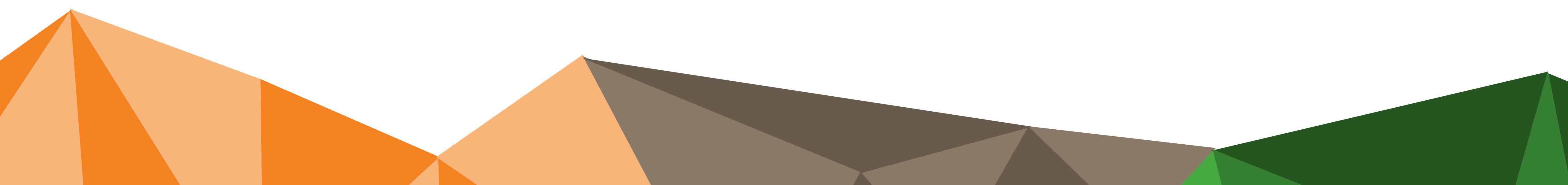
Land Acquisition that is not directly tied to a national objective



# Threshold Requirements Annual Competition

**Due by 11:59 on Friday, June 2, 2023**

For the 2023 Annual Competition, threshold requirements include the following standards:

- 1) Submission of a complete application via the online portal;
  - 2) Compliance with all deadline requirements as noted in the manual (pages 14-15);
  - 3) Meeting all requirements as specified by DCA for curing any application deficiencies;
  - 4) Completion all professional procurement requirements (any sole source requests must be submitted to DCA prior to June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023); and
  - 5) Completion of the Tribal Consultation portion of the Environmental Review not later than June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.
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# Deadlines

**All application submissions are required by 11:59 p.m. on the date specified.**

Annual Competition Application	Received No Later than June 2, 2023
Completion of Professional Procurement	June 2, 2023
Completion of Tribal Consultation	June 2, 2023
Revitalization Area Strategy Application	Received No Later than June 2, 2023
Exceptions to the “Every Other Year” Rule	June 2, 2023
Applicants must have a current WaterFirst, PlanFirst, RAS, or GICH designation (active in the three-year program OR Certified Alumni) as of June 2, 2023	
Proposed CDBG Project must be included in Service Delivery Strategy	June 2, 2023
The Service Delivery Act (HB 489)	June 2, 2023
QLG/Comprehensive Planning	June 2, 2023
DCA Local Government Finance Report requirements	June 2, 2023
Government Management Indicators Survey	June 2, 2023
Local Government Audit Act	June 2, 2023
Deadline for CDBG Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Compliance	June 2, 2023
Timeliness Deadline	June 30, 2023
Deadline for Submission of Bonus Point Documentation	June 30, 2023
Deadline for Submission of Leverage Documentation	June 30, 2023
Submission of RLF Closeout for Bonus Points	June 30, 2023



# Timeliness

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- **Previous Annual Competition Projects funded in...**
- **2022**
  - Meet an exception to the “every other year” rule. Exceptions outlined on page 26 of the FY2023 CDBG Applicants’ Manual.
  - All Special Conditions Cleared
  - Design Work Completed
  - Environmental Clearance
- **2021**
  - 75% of budget funds drawn and expended
- **2020 or earlier**
  - 100% funds drawn and expended
- **All previously funded applicants**
  - All findings cleared

# Funding Limits and Match Requirements for Annual Competition

## Applicants may apply for:

- Single-Activity Project - up to \$1,000,000
- Multi-Activity Project - up to \$1,250,000
- Regional Cooperation Project – up to \$2,000,000

## Local Match Requirements (except single-activity housing projects):

- 0% match requirement for grant requests of \$300,000 and less
- 5% match requirement for grant requests of \$300,001 to \$750,000
- 10% match requirement for grant requests of \$750,001 to \$1,000,000
- 15% match requirement for grant requests of \$1,000,001 or more

# Scoring

Categories	Max Points
Program Feasibility	50
Program Strategy	50
Program Need	125
Program Impact	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost Per Person</li> </ul>	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demographic Need - absolute number in poverty</li> </ul>	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demographic Need - percent of poverty persons</li> </ul>	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demographic Need - median household income</li> </ul>	15
Leverage of Additional Resources	20
Bonus points for Revitalization Area Activities	20
Bonus points for State Priority Projects	10
Bonus points for Regional Cooperation	20
Bonus points for Robust Citizen Participation Activities	10
Bonus points for Readiness to Proceed	5
Bonus points for Return of RLF Funds	5
Point Reduction for Missing Elements	Up to -25 Pts.
<b>Maximum Total Points</b>	<b>390</b>

# Competitive Advantage

## Bonus Points Deadline

June 30, 2023

- **Leverage** - additional resources committed to and directly related to the project. Calculation based on per capita average and percentile ranking among types of projects. Up to 20 points available.
- **State Priority Projects (10 Points) –**  
Water/Sewer/Housing
- **Regional Impact (20 Points) -** Multiple Jurisdictions or Two or More Counties
- **Closing RLF (5 Points) –** Return of Funds
- **Readiness to Proceed (5 Points) –**  
Environmental Clearance
- **Revitalization Area Strategy (20 Points)**

## **Robust Citizens Participation**

- A maximum of ten (10) bonus points may be earned for projects displaying a robust citizens participation process.
  - Some examples include, but not limited to
    - Water bill announcements
    - Meeting times and frequency
    - Flyers-
    - Informative/ interactive webinars
- Extra efforts to provide an opportunity for citizens, especially LMI citizens, to participate in an advisory role in the planning, implementation, and assessment of the programs and projects funded through CDBG activities

# Important!

- **Water Sewer Rate Increase**

Last year, DCA increased standard that water charges of 1% or greater of median household income and sewer charges of 1% or greater of median household income, begin to demonstrate a significant local effort in meeting water/sewer infrastructure needs.

- **Note the increase from .8% which was the standard.**

- **Build America, Buy America (BABA):**

The Build America, Buy America Act, enacted as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act on November 15, 2021, established a domestic content procurement preference for all Federal financial assistance obligated for infrastructure projects after May 14, 2022. The domestic content procurement preference requires that all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in covered infrastructure projects are produced in the United States.

- **Violence Against Women Act (VAWA):**

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Reauthorization of 2022, effective October 1, 2022, includes a new requirement for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recipients to support an individual's right to seek law enforcement or emergency assistance. CDBG recipients will have additional requirements to report non-compliant local laws and ordinances.

# What Are We Trying To Accomplish?

- **Community Planning** - Projects demonstrating thoughtful planning in prioritizing needs and capital
- **Public Facility Improvements** - Projects addressing health and safety, improved quality of life, greater availability, accessibility and affordability of services.
- **New Job Creation** - Projects creating new jobs for low and moderate income people, which increases the per capita income and reduces unemployment in a community.

## **Resources**

- ❖ **HUD Survey Data & Demonstrating Area Benefit to Low- and Moderate-Income Persons**

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/cdbg-low-moderate-income-data/>

- ❖ **Guide to National Objectives and Eligible Activities for State CDBG Programs**

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2179/guide-national-objectives-eligible-activities-state-cdbg-programs/>

- ❖ **FY23 CDBG Applicants' Manual**

<https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/8230>





# Thanks!

Any questions or comments?

