



**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE AND NOTICE OF FUND AVAILABILITY
CDBG OPEN APPLICATION PERIOD**

Applications accepted January 30 – February 21, 2024

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) awards grants to entitlement community grantees to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward revitalizing neighborhoods, economic development, and providing improved community facilities and services. The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) provides annual grants on a formula basis to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. The program is authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended; **42 U.S.C.-5301** et seq. The City of Mount Vernon is an entitlement community and receives approximately \$330,000 per year in funding.

Entitlement communities develop their own programs and funding priorities. However, grantees must give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income persons. CDBG funds may not be used for activities which do not meet these broad national objectives.

Eligible Activities

CDBG funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- acquisition of real property;
- relocation and demolition;
- rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures;
- construction of public facilities and improvements, such as water and sewer facilities, streets, neighborhood centers, and the conversion of school buildings for eligible purposes;
- public services, within certain limits;
- activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources; and
- provision of assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities.



Ineligible Activities

Generally, the following types of activities are ineligible:

- acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of buildings for the general conduct of government;
- political activities;
- certain income payments; and
- construction of new housing by units of general local government.

The City of Mount Vernon's yearly funding is based on a July 1 through June 30 fiscal year. The funding typically must be expended during that time period. The City will hold an open application period beginning January 30, 2024 through February 21, 2024. The Mayor's Office will accept applications from public and non profit organizations for review of eligibility during this time. Applicants will be notified promptly whether or not their project is eligible. To assist in preparation of an application, the City will hold a virtual application workshop on **February 14, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.** Contact the Mayor's Office at (360) 336-6211 or mvmayor@mountvernonwa.gov to register.

The City will open a 30 day public comment period to obtain citizen input on proposed projects, housing and non-housing needs of the community. The comment period this year is **March 26 through April 24, 2024.**

Two public hearings will be held to solicit input during regularly scheduled City Council meetings to review the draft Action Plan, review any comments on the selected projects and approve the final Action Plan. The public hearings will be held on **March 13, 2024**, and **April 24, 2024**, prior to submittal of the draft Plan to HUD no later than May 15.

Accommodations for individuals with handicaps/disabilities or limited English proficiency shall be made upon request by calling (360) 336-6211 or TTY 7-1-1 or 1-800-833-6384 at least 3 days prior to the meeting date and time.

City staff will prepare the annual Action Plan which includes the approved projects. This Action Plan is forwarded to HUD for approval no later than 45 days prior to July 1, the beginning of the City's plan year. HUD confirms receipt and approval of the Action Plan typically by the end of September. Funding for projects is available only after HUD provides approval of the Action Plan and the city and approved subrecipient(s) have a signed contract outlining the scope of work.



If you believe you have an eligible project, complete the initial application located at: <https://www.mountvernonwa.gov/561/CDBG> on or after **January 30, 2024**. If you have any questions, please contact the Mayor's Office at 360-336-6211 or mvmayor@mountvernonwa.gov.