



## **TDA Working Summary - Consolidated Plan Stakeholder Engagement Community Planning Efforts**

As part of the Consolidated Plan process (5-year plan), TDA is assessing the existing Texas CDBG program.

### **Summary of Current Program:**

TDA currently allocates 1% of its annual funding (approx. \$650,000 in 2019) for awards to produce comprehensive plans for communities with populations that are primarily low- to moderate-income (51% LMI or more). The Planning and Capacity Building (PCB) Fund includes a matrix that assigns a maximum award amount based on population and the planning elements to be completed (base mapping, land use, utility mapping, street and thoroughfare planning, etc.).

To encourage plans produced through TxCDBG to be implemented, TDA is exploring several options:

### **Potential Revisions to Planning & Capacity Building Fund:**

Revise scoring:

- Low- to moderate-income persons served (LMI Rate)
- Matching funds
- Total Population
- Type of application (Jurisdiction-wide vs target area – discuss whether one type should be prioritized)
- Eliminate Community Distress scoring factors

Allow multiple types of applications:

- Comprehensive Plan
  - Jurisdiction-wide
  - Based on existing matrix
  - Maximum grant \$60,000
  - Minimum 10% matching funds, with additional points for higher match
- Component Plan
  - Jurisdiction-wide or target area
  - Maximum grant \$30,000
  - Minimum 20% matching funds, with additional points for higher match

Future scoring factor:

- No earlier than 2021, points may be awarded to applications (CD Fund, Main Street Program, etc.) where the requested project was included in a documented planning effort.
- Comprehensive Plans and Component Plans funded through TxCDBG would qualify for such points, along with capital improvement plans, regional mitigation plans, local strategic plans, and other relevant planning documents.



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### **New Economic Development Planning Pilot Program:**

In June, TDA quickly launched an Economic Development Planning Pilot Program. The Pilot Program does not use TxCDBG federal funding, but TDA is considering incorporating this idea into future grant funding plans

#### Primary Goal:

- Make funding available for projects to promote economic development opportunities that are specific to each community, which may not be the type of projects traditionally funded by TxCDBG
- Ensure that projects identified in a plan are implemented

#### Two Phase Approach:

- Phase 1 – Planning
  - Funds awarded to produce a plan that includes a detailed assessment of current and long-term community needs, proposes business recruitment and expansion strategies, and identifies potential projects to support sustainable economic growth
  - Maximum grant \$30,000
  - Minimum 20% matching funds
- Phase 2 – Implementation
  - Completion of Phase 1 qualifies a community to request a Phase 2 Implementation grant
  - Maximum grant and match amounts to be determined
  - Projects must meet a National Program Objective, HUD activity eligibility, and be identified as a priority in the Phase 1 plan.
  - TxCDBG staff will provide technical assistance throughout Phase 1 to identify projects that would qualify for the Implementation grant.
  - Funds for Phase 2 grants would be set aside for each Phase 1 participant - no separate competition required to qualify for funding