



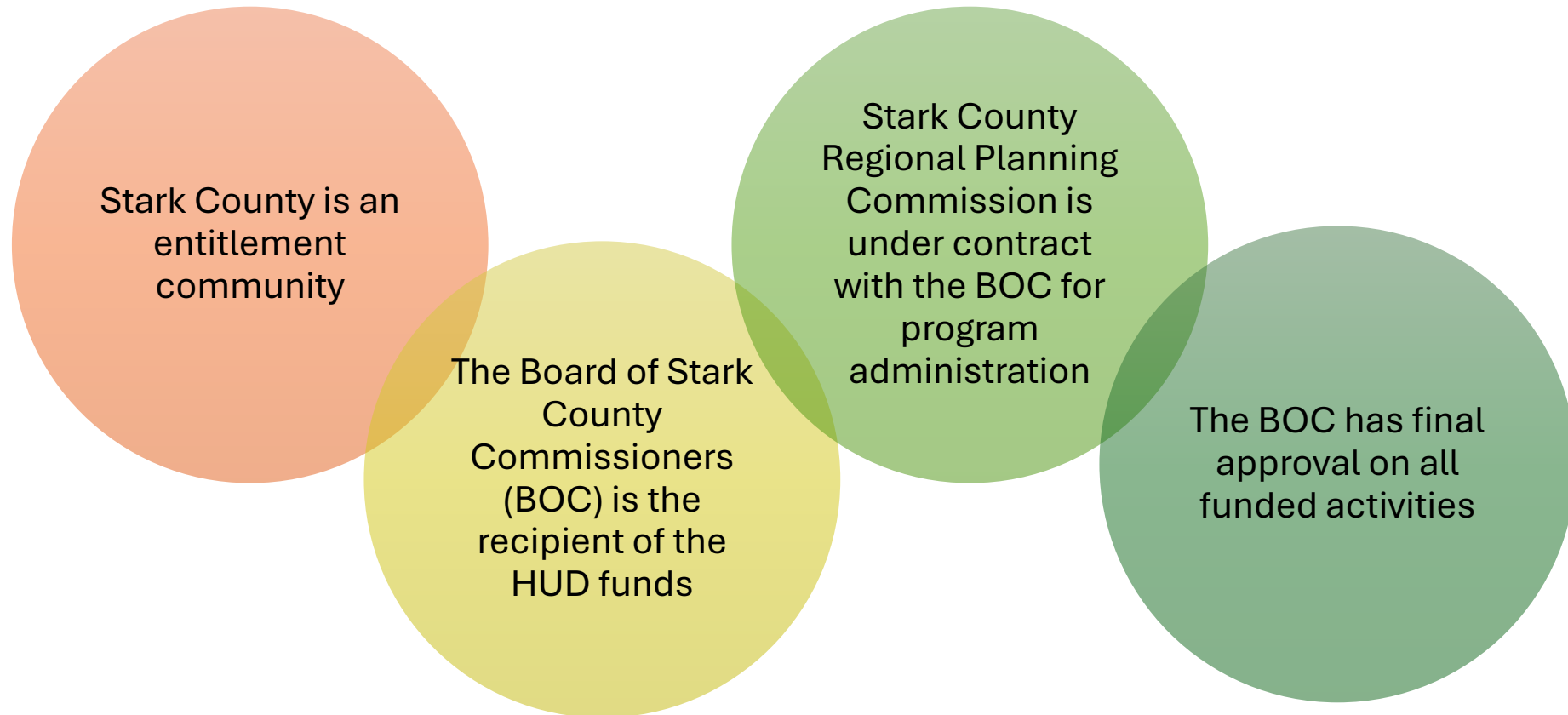
Stark County Community Development Block Grant

FY 2026 – 2028 Application Process

August 8, 2025



Administration of the CDBG program





Community Development Block Grant

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program supports community development activities to build stronger and more resilient communities. To support community development, activities are identified through an ongoing process. Activities may address needs such as infrastructure, economic development projects, public facilities installation, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, homeowner assistance, etc.

[Join a CDBG Mailing List](#)

What Is CDBG Funding?

- Federal block grant funding that is distributed annually from HUD to entitlement communities
- Entitlement communities (Stark County) have the ability to develop their funding priorities as long as funded activities are consistent with their current five-year Consolidated Plan

Choosing an Activity

All funded activities must meet all the following criteria:

1. Consistent with the current [Stark County Consolidated Plan](#)
2. Is located or serves those in the balance of the County*
3. Meets a [National Objective](#)
4. Is an eligible activity [24 CFR 570.201](#)



Applicants should review [Playing by the Rules: A Handbook for CDBG Subrecipients on Administrative Systems](#)

*Eligible projects must serve areas or individuals outside of the cities of Alliance, Canton, Massillon, and the villages of Hills & Dales and Wilmot



Who Can Apply?

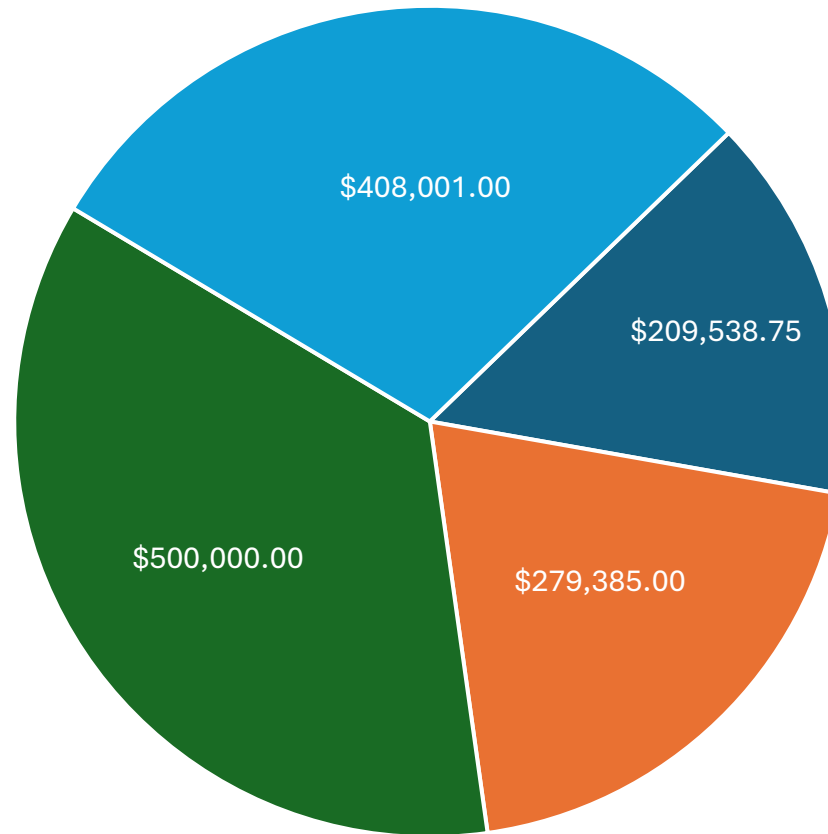
Non-profit organizations

Institutions of higher learning

Political jurisdictions*

*Other than those previously mentioned

Estimated 2026 Funds



■ Public Services

■ Administration

■ Housing Rehabilitation

■ Estimated Available for New Projects

Activity Types



Public service



Infrastructure and
public facility



Economic
development technical
assistance



Affordable housing

Public Service

- Projects will only be accepted for FY '26 (July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)
- Public service projects must serve LMI persons/families ($\leq 80\%$ AMI)
- Income and demographic info must be obtained from public service beneficiaries
- If currently funded in FY '25, public service applicants must show a quantifiable increase from the prior year [24 CFR 570.201\(e\)](#)
- Projects physically located in Alliance, Canton, or Massillon will need to provide proof that those served are Stark County residents residing outside of the three cities and two villages
- CDBG funds may be used to pay for labor and supplies of a public service activity. Timesheets must be submitted to document costs
- Activities are capped at 15% of the total allocation





Infrastructure & Public Facility

- Projects will be accepted for the FY '26, FY '27, and FY '28 funding cycles (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029)
- Projects must be in an eligible area which is $\geq 42.20\%$ low-income based upon data from HUD
- To identify the census tract and block group of a project, use this [map](#)
- Eligible block groups and census tracts can be subject to change, based upon HUD's data
- Must serve and benefit areas that are primarily residential
- ADA activities may be eligible even if they are not in a low-income area
- Must be located outside of the three cities and two villages

Economic Development Technical Assistance

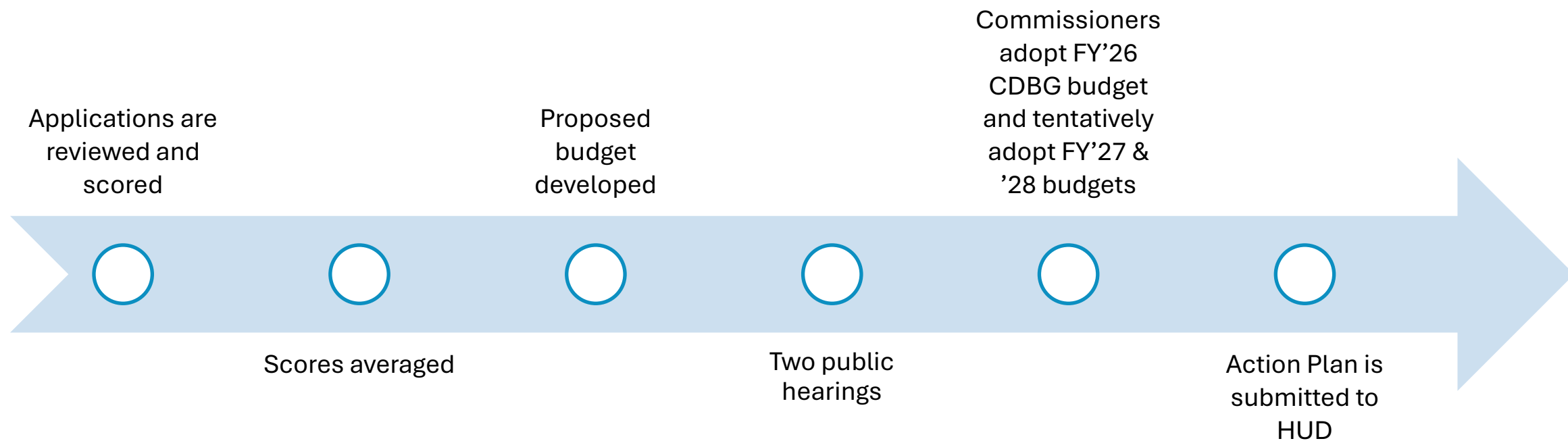
- Projects will only be accepted for FY '26 (July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)
- Applications will only be accepted for microenterprise technical assistance projects
- If you are seeking funds for business loans, we suggest contacting the [Stark Economic Development Board](#)



Affordable Housing

- Projects will be only be accepted for FY '26 (July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)
- Housing activities must serve households $\leq$ 80% AMI
- Each household's income and assets must be verified with third party documentation in accordance with [Part 5 \(Section 8\)](#)
- If you intend to apply for an affordable housing project, please reach out to discuss the details of the project before starting the application

Application Review Process



Application Review Committee

- Seeking volunteers today for the CDBG Application Review Committee
- Tasks include reviewing and scoring eligible applications
- Will meet virtually on no more than two occasions
- Applications will be distributed in early November and will need to be completely scored by mid-December
- Seeking no more than five volunteers
- Those who live and/or work in Stark County



Application and Materials

- Draft applications can be submitted for comments, feedback and technical assistance until end of day September 26, 2025
- Final applications are due by **12:00 PM on Monday, October 6th**
- Applications will only be accepted through Neighborly
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted and scored
- Late applications will not be accepted and scored
- There is no limit to the number of applications submitted by each applicant
- Joint applications submitted on behalf of two political subdivisions must have the endorsement of all parties involved
- Application instructions are on our [website](#)

Scoring Criteria

- 100-point total
- All attendees of this virtual workshop will automatically receive 10 points on each application submitted
- To review the full scoring criteria, visit our [website](#)

2026 Public Services Score Report

A: FUNDING	POINTS AWARDED	AVAILABLE POINTS
Will the applicant accept less funds than requested? Yes=5 points, No=0 points	0	5
CDBG funding request Under \$30,000=10 points \$30,001-\$50,000=7 points \$50,001-\$99,999=5 points \$100,000-\$249,999=3 points \$250,000-\$350,000=2 points More than \$350,001=0 points	0	10
Other committed funds involved in the project=10 points Only CDBG funds=3 points	0	
Section Total	0	

B: PROJECT	POINTS AWARDED
Required Documents are attached (see Section E. Required Documents)	0
Did the applicant explain how the project qualifies to receive CDBG funding? Is the application consistent with the most recent 5-year Consolidated Plan?	0
Did the applicant specify the scope of the project and activities to be undertaken with CDBG funds?	0
Did the applicant explain how this project increase the quality of life for lower income individuals?	0
Timeline The project will be completed and funds expended by July 15, 2027=10 points If the project will not expend all funds by July 15, 2027=0 points	0
Beneficiaries Less than 76 Individuals=5 points 76-150 Individuals=10 points Over 150 Individuals=15 points	0
Will this project cross corporation lines to serve a larger area?	0
Will certain groups of individuals such as the disabled, elderly, victims of domestic violence, victims of human trafficking, unhoused or the underemployed benefit as a whole if this project is funded?	0
Section Total	0

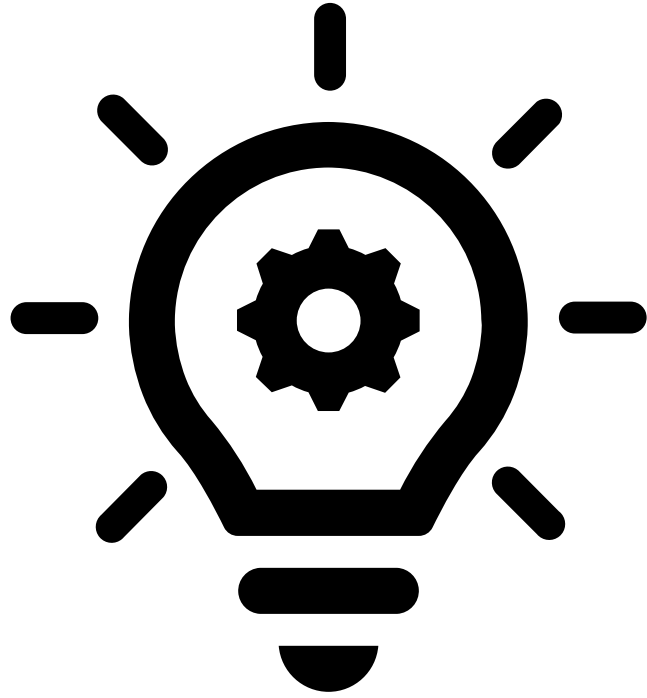
C: APPLICATION	POINTS AWARDED
Was there a workshop attendee? Attendee=10 points, No attendee=0 points	0
Was the application thoroughly prepared and articulated?	0
Section Total	0

2026 Public Facility & Infrastructure Score Report

A: FUNDING	POINTS AWARDED	AVAILABLE POINTS
Will the applicant accept less funds than requested? Yes=5 points, No=0 points	0	5
CDBG funding request Under \$50,000=10 points \$50,001-\$99,999 7 points \$100,000-\$249,999=5 points \$250,000-\$349,999=3 points \$350,000-\$449,999=2 points More than \$450,000=0 points	0	10
Other committed funds involved in the project=10 points Only CDBG funds involved in the project or CDBG and tentative funds=3 points	0	10
Section Total	0	25

B: PROJECT	POINTS AWARDED	AVAILABLE POINTS
Required Documents are attached (see Section E. Required Documents)	0	5
Did the applicant explain how the project qualifies to receive CDBG funding? Is the application consistent with the most recent 5-year Consolidated Plan?	0	5
Did the applicant specify the scope of the project and activities to be undertaken with CDBG funds?	0	10
Did the applicant explain how this project will increase the quality of life for lower income individuals?	0	5
Timeline All CDBG funds will be drawn within one year of the project beginning=10 points All CDBG funds will be drawn within two years of the project beginning=5 points All CDBG funds will be drawn within three years of the project beginning=0 points	0	10
Will this project cross corporation lines to serve a larger area?	0	6
Will certain groups of individuals such as the disabled, elderly, victims of domestic violence, victims of human trafficking, unhoused or the underemployed benefit as a whole if this project is funded?	0	3
Beneficiaries <76 individuals=5 points 76-150 individuals=10 points 150 individuals=15 points	0	15
Section Total	0	59

C: APPLICATION	POINTS AWARDED	AVAILABLE POINTS
Was there a workshop attendee? Attendee=10 points, No attendee=0 points	0	10
Was the application thoroughly prepared and articulated?	0	6
Section Total	0	16



Items to Keep in Mind

- Public service funds are extremely competitive
- CDBG is intended to be gap funding to support a project
- If the scope of the project changes for any reason after application submission, you must inform us of the changes
 - Why is this important?
 - RPC's recommendations to the Board of Commissioners need to be true and accurate
 - Final recommendations are submitted to HUD in the form of an Action Plan
- If selected for funding:
 - Funds will not be available until **sometime** after July 1, 2026
 - Subrecipients who expend >\$1,000,000.00 in Federal award funds in their fiscal year must have a single audit performed for that year [2 CFR 200.501](#)
 - Non-profit subrecipients will be monitored by RPC after the end of FY 2026

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Helpful Suggestions

- Ask for a review of your draft application. Generally, TA results in stronger final applications
- Pay attention to the required documents section
- Review the scoring criteria to self assess
- An applicant can seek County CDBG in addition to CDBG from other municipalities
- If your project was not selected for funding in FY 2025, we encourage you to reapply

Contact Information



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Website: [Regional Planning Commission](#)