



Onondaga County Legislature

JAMIE McNAMARA
Clerk

TIMOTHY T. BURTIS
Chairman

TAMMY BARBER
Deputy Clerk

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PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – JUNE 18, 2025 **DAVID H. KNAPP, CHAIR**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Fiato, Ms. Harvey, Mr. Olson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Meaker

ALSO ATTENDING: Mr. Bush, Chairman Burtis; also see attached

Chair Knapp called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m., and the previous meeting's minutes were approved.

1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Marty Skahen, Director

a. Authorizing the Onondaga County Executive to File the 2025 Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant, Home Grant, and Emergency Solutions Grant Programs (\$3,219,764)

PURPOSE:

Authorize and adopt the 2025 Action Plan which serves as the application to HUD for 3 entitlement grants: Community Development Block Grant, Home Grant, and Emergency Solutions Grant. The Action Plan has been reviewed and approved by the CD Steering Committee.

OBJECTIVE/WORK PLAN:

To obtain our "base funding" from HUD. The total application amount is \$3,219,764.

FUNDING SOURCE:

Federal funding from the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development.

BUDGET:

See attached budget.

2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUDGET-Final

6/11/2025

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT	2024	2025	
County	\$ 1,957,700	\$ 1,967,135	
Clay	\$ 303,603	\$ 305,268	
Total Grant	\$ 2,261,303	\$ 2,272,403	
Reprogrammed Balances			
Program Income	\$ 107,310	\$ 100,000	
Total Available	\$ 2,368,613	\$ 2,372,403	\$ 3,790
Capital Projects	\$ 889,907	\$ 908,046	
Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 241,445	\$ 254,876	
Housing Rehab (Prog Income)	\$ -	\$ -	
Commercial Rehabilitation	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	
Rehab Delivery	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000	
Administration	\$ 452,261	\$ 454,481	
Housing Counseling	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
Fair Housing	\$ 80,000	\$ 50,000	
Program Income	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	
Total	\$ 2,368,613	\$ 2,372,403	
HOME GRANT	\$ 633,131	\$ 673,565	\$ 40,434
Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 474,848	\$ 505,174	
Home Ownership Subsidies			
Non-Profit Housing Activities	\$ 94,970	\$ 101,035	
Administration	\$ 63,313	\$ 67,357	
Total	\$ 633,131	\$ 673,565	
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT	\$ 172,486	\$ 173,796	\$ 1,310
Administration	\$ 12,936	\$ 13,035	
Projects	\$ 159,550	\$ 160,761	
Total	\$ 172,486	\$ 173,796	
Grand Total	\$ 3,174,230	\$ 3,219,764	\$ 45,534

2025 Community Development
Capital Projects-All Applications

Municipality/Agency	Project	Req CDBG	Match	Project Total	Proposed Funding
Town-Camillus	Warner's Park Playground Equipment	\$ 50,000	\$ 23,800	\$ 73,800	\$ 50,000
Town-Cicero	Senior Center Enhancements	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500	\$ 50,000
Town-Clay	Malaga & Goguen Dr - repaving	\$ 100,000	\$ 42,078	\$ 142,078	\$ 100,000
Town-of-Dewitt	Springfield Gardens Pedestrian Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 50,000
Town-Fabius	Cowles Settlement Rd - repaving	\$ 50,000	\$ 189,009	\$ 239,009	\$ 50,000
Town-Gadusa	Camo Center Inclusive Playground	\$ 50,000	\$ 20,324	\$ 70,324	\$ 50,000
Town-LaFayette	Stafford Park Improvements	\$ 11,100	\$ 3,700	\$ 14,800	\$ 11,100
Town-Lysander	Town Hall ADA Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 25,173	\$ 75,173	\$ 50,000
Town-Onondaga	Kelley Brothers/Anthony Santoro Park Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 15,899	\$ 65,899	\$ 50,000
Town-Satna	School Rd Sidewalk & Drainage System	\$ 50,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 50,000
Town-Van Buren	Senior Center Energy Efficient Heating System	\$ 50,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 50,000
Village-Baltwinsville	Meadow St Parking Lot	\$ 50,000	\$ 13,830	\$ 63,830	\$ 50,000
Village-Camillus	Maple Dr Reconstruction & Repaving	\$ 50,000	\$ 18,740	\$ 68,740	\$ 50,000
Village-Fayetteville	Senior Center Heating Efficiency	\$ 50,000	\$ 38,000	\$ 88,000	\$ 50,000
Village-Marissa	Village Centre Park Playground Equipment	\$ 46,948	\$ 5,959	\$ 52,905	\$ 46,948
Village-Minoa	Sidewalk Replacement Program	\$ 50,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 50,000
Village-N Syracuse	Wells Ave East Sidewalk Project	\$ 50,000	\$ 2,142	\$ 52,142	\$ 50,000
Village-Solvay	Mountain Top Park Playground	\$ 50,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 50,000
Municipality Total:		\$ 908,046	\$ 997,054	\$ 1,905,100	\$ 908,046
Fair Housing					
ARISE, Inc	ARISE Housing Referral & Advocacy Program	\$ 6,711	\$ 59,851	\$ 66,562	\$ 5,000
CNY Fair Housing, Inc	Fair Housing Education & Enforcement	\$ 50,000	\$ 98,000	\$ 148,000	\$ 50,000
Fair Housing Total:		\$ 56,711	\$ 155,851	\$ 212,562	\$ 55,000
Requested Total		\$ 964,757	\$ 1,152,905	\$ 2,117,662	\$ 963,046

- Each municipality was awarded the amount they requested

Questions/Comments from the Committee:

- CD team works very hard and does a great job with projects
- Shout out to Mike LaFlair for keeping up with the municipalities
- Were all funds all allocated?
 - Yes, CD will submit to HUD once resolution is adopted at the 7/1/25 Session
 - HUD typically approves Action Plans around Thanksgiving
 - Goal is to get contracts in place through the winter and start projects in the spring
- Good to see increase in matches; able to get more meaningful work done
- Is the increased match a trend that Community Development (CD) is working towards or did it just happen to be this year?
 - It just happened to be this year
 - Town of Dewitt has a large State grant
 - Application requires a 25% match
- Not all towns qualify for the grant because it goes by census blocks and is income driven
 - Most villages, except Fayetteville, are in census tracks
 - Many towns did not have an opportunity to apply because they did not qualify
 - Fayetteville does a lot of work on their senior center
 - Senior centers are considered low income due to fixed incomes
 - A senior center is considered an allowable expense for the CDBG grant even if it is not in the census track
 - If a park puts in an inclusive playground, it will qualify whether it is in a census track or not

2025 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Spreadsheet – See Attachment No. 1

- Requests and awards are not in alignment with the ESG grant because the ask exceeds available funds
- Applications reveal other funding streams
- Knowing funding streams of each applicant allows the review committee to better allocate ESG grant money

A motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Ms. Fiato, to approve this item.

- City of Syracuse is not included because the city gets its own pot of money which is much more than the County gets

A vote was taken on the item. ***Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

b. INFORMATIONAL: Shape-Up for Veterans

- CD has had a program called Shape-Up for years
- The Shape-Up program is for low income persons age 62 or older who need work done on their home
 - Eligible work includes: roof, porch, mechanical work, wheelchair ramp etc.
 - The program does not allow for cosmetic updates
- County Executive budgeted \$1M in 2022 to fund the Shape-Up for Veterans program
 - Shape-Up for Veterans is the same as the Shape-Up program except there is no age restriction
- Additional \$77K was allocated to the veterans program in 2024
- All money has been allocated to projects
 - Completed 49 jobs for \$931,204
 - 9 jobs are under contract in various stages

Questions/Comments from the Committee:

- How many applications usually come in?
 - Once funding is allocated, a waitlist is started
 - Applications are not accepted for those who are waitlisted

- How many people are on the waitlist?
 - Do not have that information today, will get the number for the committee
- There are parallel programs for regular Shape-Up and Shape-Up for Veterans?
 - Yes
- The goal of the program is to keep people in their homes?
 - That is the goal for the regular Shape-Up program
 - The Shape-Up for Veterans program is to remove the age barrier so younger vets can apply as well
- The program is helpful for vets needing accessibility improvements
- Is there a lien?
 - There is a lien for Shape-Up, but not for Shape-Up for Veterans
- Is there a popular item needed (ie: windows, roofing)?
 - It has been a mix
- Is there a match?
 - There is not a match; people are told there is a \$15K limit
 - Once a job is assessed and estimated, CD will sometimes end up blending money
 - Some jobs are \$23K, some are \$8K
- Can people apply for more money?
 - They apply for the job, not the money
 - CD does an estimate to make sure it can be covered before putting it out to contractors
- What are some of the challenges as far as vets knowing about the program?
- Has there been feedback from the vets?
 - Did a Shape-Up, veterans based program a number of years ago through HUD funding
 - Had 2 issues:
 - It was almost impossible to actually spend the money because it was sponsored through HUD
 - Found a strong hesitancy where the veteran community did not want help
 - Ended up giving most of the money back because it was not used by the deadline
 - Mike LaFlair did a lot of recruiting for the Shape-Up for Veterans program when it launched
 - Focus was to get in front of veterans groups to make sure they understood this was a thank you for the service they provided, not a handout
 - Visited towns to get the word out
 - Had a stronger reception with the local program than with the HUD program
- Is there a certain area in the county where the program is more widely used?
 - It is pretty spread out
 - Biggest selling point is word of mouth
- Given the waitlist, is there a suggested dollar amount needed to start again?
 - Can provide the number of people currently on the waitlist with a max of \$15K per person
- Are any organizations CD works with helping to spread the word?
 - Provide brochures to the VFW to pass out
 - Mike LaFlair sends a list with brochures to towns and villages to let them know who is claiming a veterans tax exemption in hopes the municipality will forward program information to the vet

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



TAMMY BARBER, Deputy Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: JUNE 18, 2025

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
Nicole Watts	
Dan Kranz	CE
Isabelle Harris	CE
Mille Lefhr	OCED
Marty Stoker	CD
Susan Dean	Finance
Darcie Lesniak	Leg
Ethan LaMontagne	Leg
John DeSantis	Leg.
Jim Beube	Leg.
Ben Yaus	Law Dept
Joe Frateschi	Legal Counsel

2025 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT SPREADSHEET

Organization	Project Name	HUD Category	Description	Use of funds	2024 Award	2025 Request	2025 Award	Match	Project Total	Source of Match
Housing Visions	Homelessness prevention program	Homeless Prevention	DFA a for individuals facing homelessness	Direct Assistance	0	\$65,000	\$19,000	\$19,000.00	\$38,000	ESSHI
Catholic Charities	Housing Services Relocation Program	Homeless Prevention	Relocation/stabilization of indiv and families facing eviction or imminent homelessness	Staff; Direct Assistance	\$50,853	\$67,000	\$52,064	\$52,064	\$104,128	Supportive Services to Veteran Families Program
Chadwick Residence	Chadwick Residence	Transitional	Shelter operations women& children, case work, life skills	Equipment, maintenance, utilities	\$46,000	\$58,000	\$46,000	\$46,000	\$92,000	NYSSHHP
Liberty Resources	DePalmer House	Emergency Shelter	Shelter for homeless persons living with HIV/AIDS	Emergency Shelter case manager and fringe costs for .5FTE	\$28,697	\$46,609	\$28,697	\$28,697	\$57,394	HOPWA Contract 100% match
Rescue Mission	HIS Team: Street outreach	Street Outreach	Street outreach to homeless indiv living in places unfir for human habitation	Salaries/fringe, van expenses	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$30,000	DSS, Thrifty Shopper Donations
Salvation Army	Barnabas Shelter	Emergency Shelter	Provide beds for homeless young adults ages 18-24	Salaries/fringe, utilities, food	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	NYS Child/Family Svc/Untied Way
					\$159,550	\$270,609	\$160,761	\$160,761	\$321,522	