

# DUTCHESS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

October 8, 2020 Public Hearing/Workshop

# AGENDA

Purpose

Application process/requirement

Eligibility

Removal of architectural barriers

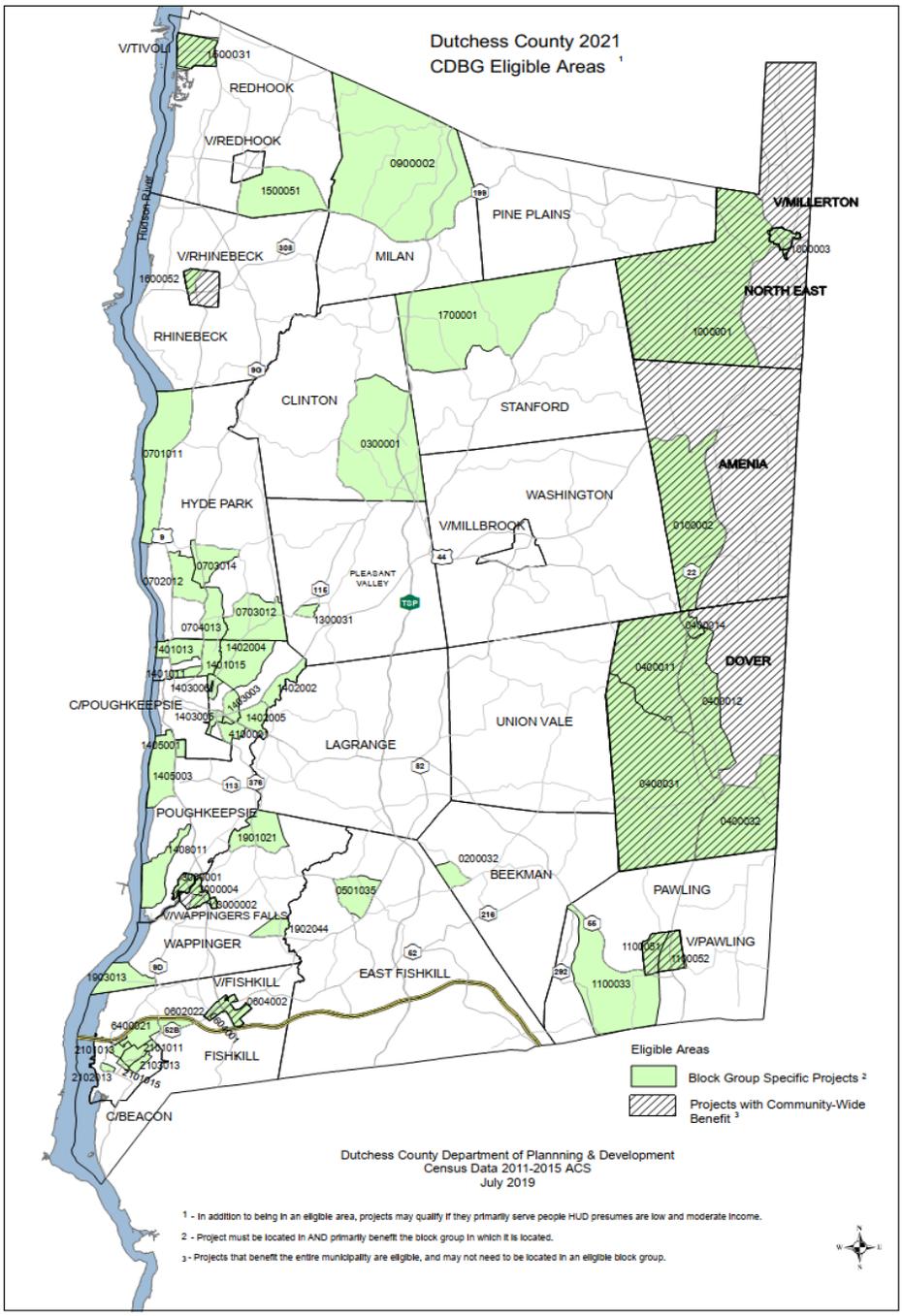
## CDBG PURPOSE

“To develop viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, **principally for low- and moderate-income persons.**”

## LOW- AND MODERATE- INCOME LIMITS

- For CDBG low and moderate income (low/mod) is at or below 80% of the area median income:
  - 1 person - \$52,850
  - 2 people - \$60,400
  - 3 people - \$67,950
  - 4 people - \$75,500
  - 5 people - \$81,550
  - 6 people - \$87,600

Dutchess County 2021  
CDBG Eligible Areas <sup>1</sup>



Dutchess County Department of Planning & Development  
Census Data 2011-2015 ACS  
July 2019

<sup>1</sup> - In addition to being in an eligible area, projects may qualify if they primarily serve people HUD presumes are low and moderate income.  
<sup>2</sup> - Project must be located in AND primarily benefit the block group in which it is located.  
<sup>3</sup> - Projects that benefit the entire municipality are eligible, and may not need to be located in an eligible block group.



# APPLICATION PROCESS



**Anticipated allocation -  
\$1,000,000**



**Two step application  
process via the portal –**

Step 1 – Eligibility

Due date 11/13/20 at 4:00 p.m.

Step 2 - Application

Due date 12/1/20 at 4:00 p.m.



**Documents posted on  
website:**

Instructions

Application questions

Portal link

Budget template

Timeline template

Low/mod maps

# FUNDING LIMITS

Funding Maximums		
Activity Type	One Applicant	Joint Applicants
Affordable Housing Public Facilities* Water/Wastewater Economic Development	\$150,000	\$300,000
Removal of Existing Architectural Barriers Parks and Recreation	\$100,000	\$200,000
*Excludes projects involving removal of architectural barriers, and parks and recreation which have a lower limit		

# MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEARING



Must have a local public hearing PRIOR to submitting application



Schedule public hearing soon



Purpose is to get input on potential applications, not have the public comment on the proposed application



Applications submitted without a public hearing will be rejected

# OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Be sure to read the application instructions (only 6 pages including the cover letter and timeline). They provide information on:

- Architect/engineering costs
- Start and completion dates
- Procurement
- Prevailing wage
- Application review
- Timeline

# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Staff is available to review projects and do site visits during the application period.

# ELIGIBILITY

CDBG eligibility is a two-prong test:

Eligible Activity	National Objective
√	√

# HUD ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Public facilities and  
improvements

Public services

Rehabilitation  
(housing, commercial,  
non-profit)

Activities that support  
housing construction  
(acquisition of  
property,  
infrastructure...)

Economic  
development and  
microenterprise  
assistance

Homeownership  
assistance

## INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Assistance to buildings for the general conduct of government (municipal buildings), except for removal of architectural barrier improvements
- General government expenses
- Purchase of construction equipment
- Purchase of equipment, fixtures, motor vehicles, furnishings, or other personal property not an **integral structural fixture**
- Operating and maintenance expenses
- New housing construction
- Income payments (with limited exceptions)

# CONSOLIDATED PLAN PRIORITIES

- Economic development – job creation for low/mod persons
- Public Facilities
  - Repairs to existing or construction of new sidewalks, crosswalks, curb cuts, bike friendly features and bus shelters to improve pedestrian connections
  - Improvements to existing facilities, municipal parks and recreation areas, particularly removal of architectural barriers. New recreation facilities will be considered based on demonstrated need
  - Improvements designed to mitigate flooding and improve resiliency of critical infrastructure, facilities, neighborhoods and housing

# CONSOLIDATED PLAN PRIORITIES

- Water and Wastewater
  - Development of central water and wastewater systems
  - Maintenance of central water and wastewater systems with properly set user charges
  - Alternative wastewater systems
  - New techniques to contain drainage such as green streets, pervious parking lots and walkways, and rain gardens, with a priority for areas where runoff and infiltration of storm water into sewer systems is a problem.

# CONSOLIDATED PLAN PRIORITIES

- Rental Housing – Creation of new rental housing through new construction, rehabilitation of vacant residential buildings, and adaptive reuse.
- Owner-Occupied Housing –
  - Rehabilitation via volunteer programs (Rebuilding Together/Habitat)
  - Homeownership as part of neighborhood revitalization
  - Created via the Dutchess/Poughkeepsie Land Bank
- Transitional and Permanent Housing for the Homeless

# NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

## Options to meet a national objective (three methods)

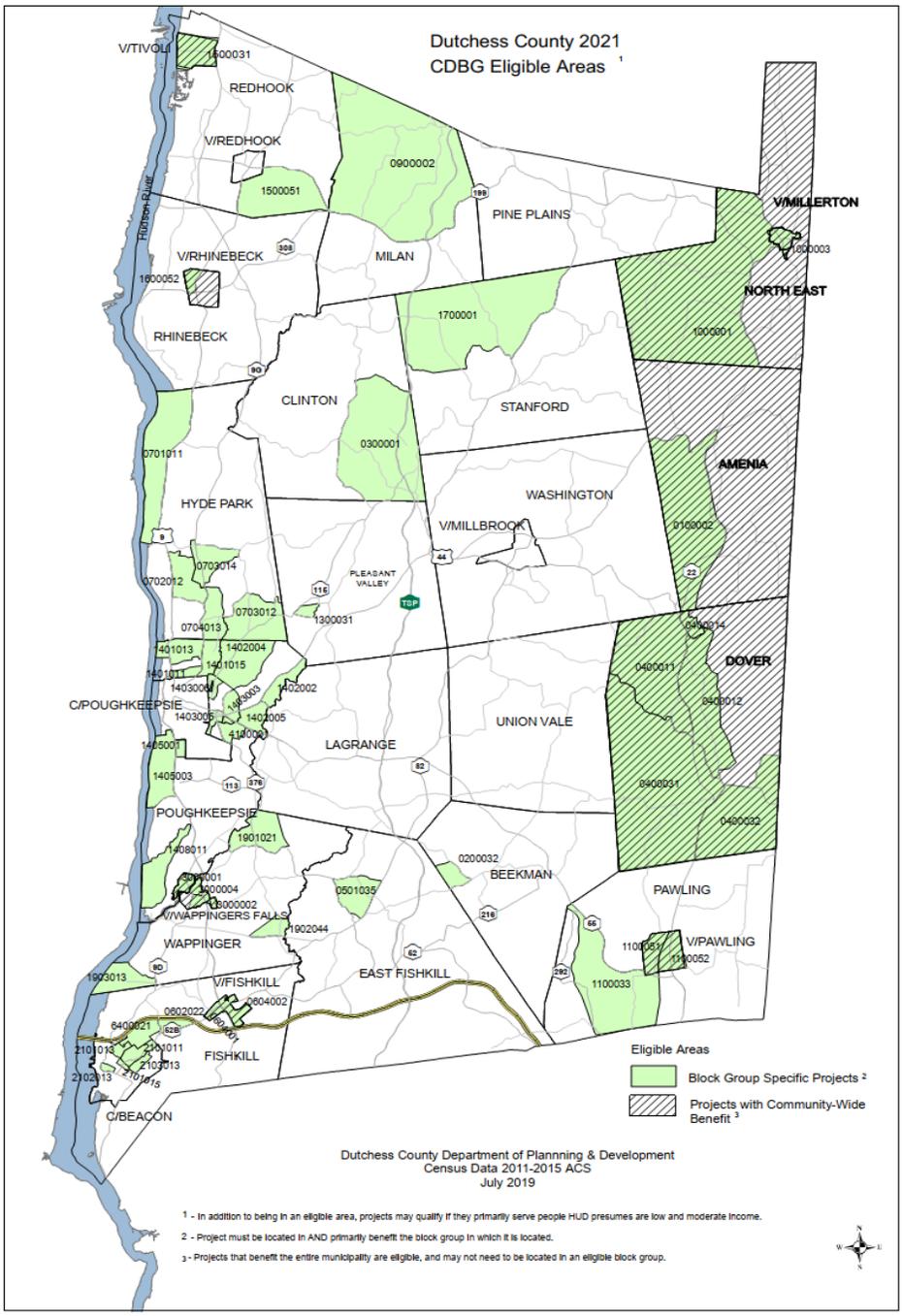
1. Benefitting low- and moderate-income persons (most common, called the primary objective)
  - Area benefit
  - Limited clientele
  - Housing/Jobs
2. Slum and blight (infrequently used)
3. Urgent need (rarely used)

**BENEFITTING  
LOW- AND  
MODERATE-  
INCOME  
PERSONS**

**Area Benefit  
(two methods)**

- Project is in and primarily benefits a residential area designated by HUD as low- and moderate-income.
  - See the maps created by County Planning based on HUD data
- Complete a statistically valid income survey

Dutchess County 2021  
CDBG Eligible Areas <sup>1</sup>



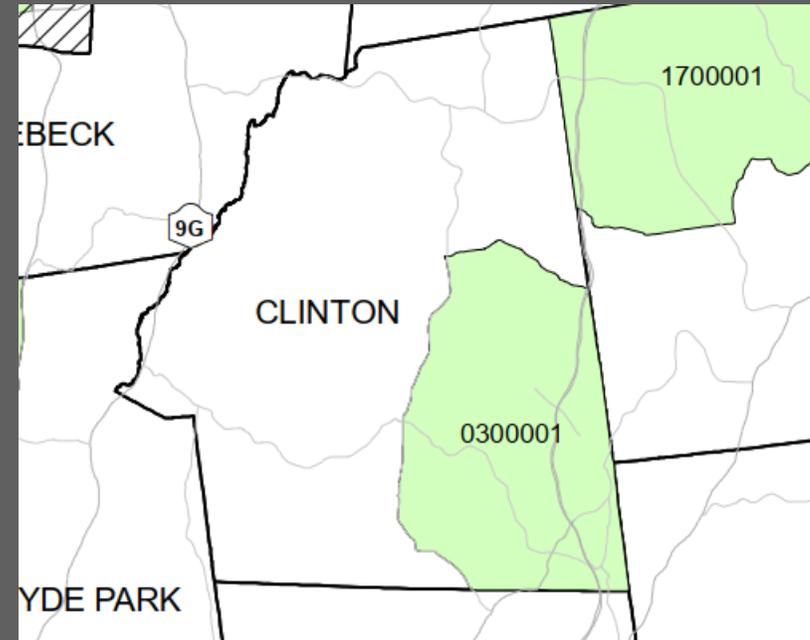
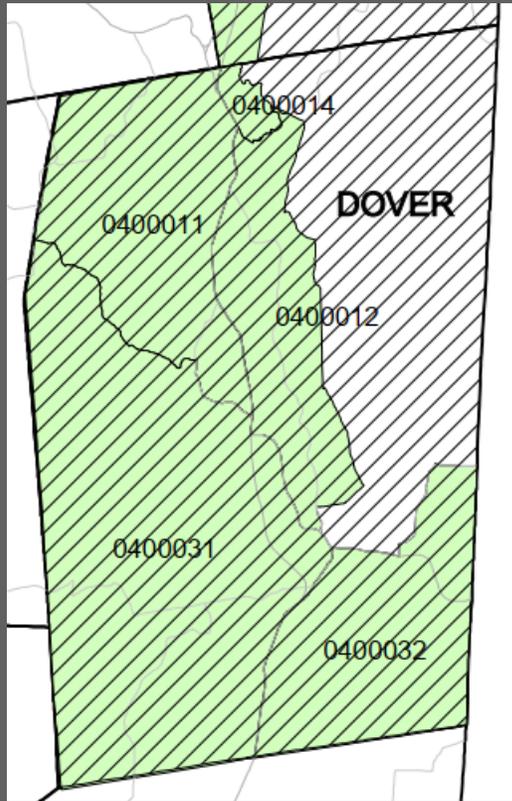
Eligible Areas  
 Block Group Specific Projects <sup>2</sup>  
 Projects with Community-Wide Benefit <sup>3</sup>

Dutchess County Department of Planning & Development  
 Census Data 2011-2015 ACS  
 July 2019

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# AREA BENEFIT EXAMPLE



QUESTIONS ON AREA BENEFIT?

# BENEFITTING LOW- AND MODERATE- INCOME PERSONS

## Limited clientele (two methods)

1. Assist a group presumed by HUD to be low/mod:

- Elderly
  - Severely disabled adults
  - Homeless
  - Victims of domestic violence
  - Illiterate adult
  - Persons living with AIDS
  - Migrant farm workers
- 
- Presumption based on census data which confirms that 51% of the people in these groups are low/mod
  - Data does not show that 51% of disabled children come from low/mod families

2. Income verification of the household benefitting from the project

# BENEFITTING LOW- AND MODERATE- INCOME PERSONS

- Housing – Check the income of the occupant or purchaser
- Jobs – Check the income of the job seeker or holder

# REMOVAL OF EXISTING ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS

- Eligibility is “removal of an architectural barriers” not more general terms like – ADA or handicapped accessibility
- What counts as removal of a barrier?
  - The facility must exist, be usable, and meet the building code
  - If the current facility does not meet the applicable building code, it is generally ineligible as removal
  - New construction is generally ineligible as removal
  - Can a person without a disability use the facility but a person with a disability can't or would struggle?

## REMOVAL OF EXISTING ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS

- Reminder about eligibility
  - Children with disabilities are not presumed to be eligible by HUD
  - Barrier removal projects must be focused on adults with disabilities
  - Barrier removal projects for children may be done in low/mod areas

# QUESTIONS/ PUBLIC COMMENTS

# IMPORTANT REMINDERS

1

Schedule your public hearing now!

2

Request eligibility determination by 11/13/20

3

Submit application by 12/1/20 at 4:00 p.m.