CDBG Urban Agriculture RFP

DEPARTMENT OF METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT

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APRIL 15, 2015
Urban Agriculture RFP

How Much
+ CDBG (2015): $500,000
+ CDBG (2016): $500,000

Who
+ For-profit, Non-profit

When
+ Open Now
+ Closing May 18th, 2015, 12:00 PM (noon)

Submit to
+ City County Building, DMD, Room 2042
+ Only to:
  + Erica Aquila
  + Jennifer Fults
  + Jeff Hasser
  + Jon Hunsberger
  + Courtney Purnell
Applicants need to submit:
• Six (6) original signed and typed proposals on 8.5” x 11” paper AND
• One (1) scanned electronic copy of the signed and typed proposal on a flash drive.

Applicants must adhere to the following general guidelines for preparing the application for CDBG funding.
1. Questions on the RFP will not be accepted after 5:00pm May 11th, 2015.

2. The application must be submitted with the required content and in the format requested. Do not submit any handwritten documents. Documents submitted in an inappropriate format will not be transferred to the review committee or evaluated.

3. Proposals must address the items specified in the Proposal Narrative section and must be organized exactly as specified in the Application Content, Format, and Order sections. Points will be deducted for proposals that have incomplete responses to questions or which are improperly organized.

4. Submit only the documents specified in the Required Documentation sections. Do not submit annual proposals, video tapes, flyers, paraphernalia, or any other materials not requested at this time. Additional materials will not contribute to the evaluation process and will be discarded.

5. Submit ALL DOCUMENTATION requested. Only complete applications will be considered. A complete application includes ALL requested forms and documentation. Applications that are missing any required documentation will not be evaluated.
Definition

+ The growing of plants and the raising of animals for food within and around cities
+ For example: animal husbandry, aquaculture, agroforestry, urban beekeeping, and horticulture
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Goals

+ Transform formerly underutilized or vacant land and/or buildings into economically viable urban farms or urban agriculture related businesses
+ Connect communities fresh produce and allow for nutritional education in neighborhoods considered food deserts.
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Objectives

+ Support Local Agriculture Development and Job Creation
+ Support Vibrant Communities
+ Enhanced Access to Economic Opportunities
+ Coordinated and Leveraged Investments
+ Comprehensive Revitalization Strategies
Economic Benefit

+ Integrated into the urban economic and ecological system: urban agriculture is embedded in - and interacting with - the urban ecosystem
+ Linkages:
  + Urban residents as laborers
  + Use of typical urban resources (like organic waste as compost and urban wastewater for irrigation)
  + Direct links with urban consumers
  + Direct impacts on urban ecology (pos. & neg.)
+ Being influenced by urban policies / plans, etc.
Eligibility Requirements
+ 1 FTE Job Created per $50,000 Funds Requested
+ 51% Low-Mod Income Target Employees
+ Within NRSA (recommended, not required)

Eligible Activities
+ Acquisition of real property
+ Demolition
+ Rehabilitation
+ Installation of commercial or industrial buildings
+ Activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources
Economic Development

Economic development activities in an approved NRSA are able to take advantage of the following flexibilities:

- Activities that assist businesses and that are designed to meet the CDBG job creation or retention requirements need not track the income of applicants they interview or hire because the assistance may be qualified as meeting “area benefit” requirements. This provides a significant reduction of the administrative burden to the assisted business and the recipients.

- Economic development activities carried out in the approved neighborhood are exempt from the aggregate public benefit standards that limit the amount of assistance that can be expended on each activity.
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Helpful Links

+ Urban Agriculture 2015 CDBG RFP Application
+ Urban Agriculture 2015 CDBG RFP Application Dev. Budget
+ http://www.lincolninst.edu/pubs/95_Farming-Inside-Cities

+ CDBG Questions
  Jeff Hasser
  CDBG Grant Manager
  Jeff.Hasser@indy.gov
  (317) 327-5805

+ Zoning Questions
  Kathleen Blackham
  Senior Planner
  Kathleen.Blackham@indy.gov
  (317) 327-5165

+ Other Questions
  Jon Hunsberger
  Senior Project Manager
  Jon.Hunsberger@indy.gov
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