

Sonoma County Community Development Commission 141 Stony Circle, Suite 210, Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4142

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026

Federal Programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and FY 2020-2021 Community Development Block Grant Cares Act (CDBG-CV)

State Program: Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA)

Local Programs: County Fund for Housing (CFH) and Low-and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund (LMIHAF)

Issue Date: February 21, 2025 **Application Due Date:** April 17, 2025 5:00 P.M.

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission (Commission) is pleased to request applications from eligible organizations for eligible affordable housing projects, capital projects, tenant based rental assistance, supportive services, homelessness services, rapid rehousing, fair housing services, non-congregate shelter, and microenterprise assistance activities to receive funding from the following sources:

Federal Programs

| FUND SOURCE | FY 2025-2026 ACTION PLAN (estimated amounts and prior year funding available) | FY 2020-2021 ACTION PLAN SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT | ELIGIBLE USES |
|-------------|--|---|---|
| CDBG | \$1,880,472 | | Affordable housing projects, non-housing capital projects, microenterprise assistance. Eligible projects that are ready to proceed towards construction will be given preference. |





| FUND SOURCE | FY 2025-2026 ACTION PLAN (estimated amounts and prior year funding available) | FY 2020-2021 ACTION PLAN SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT | ELIGIBLE USES |
|--|--|---|--|
| CDBG - Public Services set aside for Fair Housing | \$248,683 | | Fair housing activities only |
| HOME | \$495,519 | | Development and preservation of affordable rental housing, tenant based rental assistance. Eligible projects that are ready to proceed towards construction will be given preference. |
| HOME - Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) set aside | \$99,103 | | CHDO rental housing development and preservation. Eligible projects that are ready to proceed towards construction will be given preference. |
| ESG | \$138,724 | | Homelessness supportive services, shelter operations support, outreach, rapid rehousing. |
| CDBG-CV | | \$132,483.64 | Prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus only. |

The Commission administers federal funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) including CDBG, HOME, ESG and CDBG-CV on behalf of the County of Sonoma, the Town of Windsor, and the cities of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, and Sonoma (collectively, the "Urban County"). This NOFA and associated guiding documents as well as the FY 2025-2026 Federal Funding Policies govern the distribution of funds. Please review these materials carefully for important information on project/program eligibility and application procedures. As stated in the Federal Funding Policies, prior to execution of a funding agreement, all federal awards are subject to completion of an environmental review in accordance with applicable HUD regulations and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as well as Section 3 requirements to directly employ, train, and provide contract opportunities to low-income individuals and businesses that employ these persons in their community. Additionally, all activities awarded federal funds must comply with the Buy America Preference (BABA Act) unless the activity is excepted.

Non-Federal Programs

| FUND SOURCE | FY 2025-2026 Amount Available | Eligible Uses |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| LMIHAF | \$250,000 | Homelessness supportive services, outreach, and rapid rehousing services. |
| PLHA | \$979,795 | Preservation, development, rehabilitation, acquisition of affordable housing including accessory dwelling units. Permanent supportive housing and housing serving special needs populations are eligible and workforce ownership housing serving households with 120 percent of the Area Median Income. Only projects located outside the city limits of Petaluma and Santa Rosa are eligible for funding. Preference will be given to eligible workforce ownership housing projects. Eligible projects that are ready to proceed towards construction will be given preference. |
| CFH | \$1,500,000 | Development, preservation of affordable housing, including permanent supportive rental housing; below market-rate homeownership projects, housing serving special needs populations, emergency shelters, transitional housing, group homes, and other type of congregate facilities. Eligible projects that are ready to proceed towards construction will be given preference. |

All applications and supporting documentation must be submitted through an online application portal. A link will be provided to all interested applicants following a mandatory technical assistance meeting.

| Friday, February 21, 2025 | Publication of the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) |
|---|--|
| Tuesday, March 11, 2025 10:30 A.M. | Technical Assistance (TA) Workshop #1 for applicants interested in submitting a funding application. Attendance at a TA session or a TA meeting with Commission staff is a mandatory requirement for application submittal. |
| Thursday, March 13, 2025 2:00 P.M. | Technical Assistance (TA) Workshop #2 for applicants interested in submitting a funding application. Attendance at a TA session or a TA meeting with Commission staff is a mandatory requirement for application submittal. |
| Thursday, April 17, 2025 5:00 P.M. | Funding applications are due no later than 5:00 P.M. |
| Wednesday, May 14, 2025, 10:00 A.M. (Special Meeting) | Community Development (CD) Committee and Cities and Towns Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) will hold a concurrent meeting to make funding recommendations for the FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan and FY 2020-2021 Action Plan Substantial Amendment. CD Committee will review preliminary funding recommendations for LMIHAF, PLHA, and CFH. All applicants must be present to be considered for funding. |
| Monday, May 19, 2025 through June 18, 2025 | Draft FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan and FY 2020- 2021 Action Plan Substantial Amendment published for a 30-day public comment period. |
| Wednesday, June 18, 2025 10:00 A.M. | CD Committee and CTAC will hold concurrent public hearings to make final funding recommendations in the draft FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan and FY 2020-2021 Action Plan Substantial Amendment. The CD Committee will also review final funding recommendations for LMIHAF, PLHA, and CFH at this meeting. |
| Tuesday, July 8, 2025 (Date subject to change) | Board of Supervisors to review and adopt the FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan and FY 2020-2021 Action Plan Substantial Amendment as well as review the funding recommendations for LMIHAF, PLHA, and CFH. |

Attendance at a technical assistance workshop is mandatory for all applicants. There are two scheduled technical assistance workshops, and applicants must attend one of these sessions in order to submit an application. If you are unable to attend a

technical assistance workshop, applicants must contact Commission staff to discuss an alternative that will satisfy the mandatory attendance requirements. Information about funding, eligible activities, and other project requirements will be reviewed, and Commission staff will be available to answer questions. The TA workshops will be held virtually on the following dates:

Technical Assistance Workshop #1:

Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. Meeting to be held virtually:

Passcode: 734334 Webinar ID: 975 9290 6167 Telephone: 1-669-444-9171 / 1-669-900-9128

Technical Assistance Workshop #2:

Thursday, March 13, 2025 2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. Meeting to be held virtually:

Passcode: 505314 Webinar ID: 913 5626 8122 Telephone: 1-669-444-9171 / 1-669-900-9128

Please contact Matthew Burns by email at <u>matthew.burns@sonoma-county.org</u> or phone at 707-565-1268 to RSVP for one of the workshops noted above. Please contact staff if you need assistance logging into one of the workshops.

Application Due Date

All funding applications must be submitted to the Commission by 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 17, 2025. Only applications submitted through the Commission's online portal will be accepted. Hard copy applications will not be accepted.

Funding Priorities

The Community Development Commission Loan Policies, CFH Policies, PLHA policies, Homeownership Policies, and Federal Funding Policies guide the allocation process of these funds in an effort to further the strategic plan goals stated in the five-year Consolidated Plan. Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to review these policies prior to application submission. The policies can be viewed on this web page: https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/plans-policies-and-reports

The Commission will recommend funding awards to the most competitive proposals that adhere to the applicable funding policies and are consistent with the goals of Consolidated Plan.

Selection Process

All applications will be reviewed and evaluated by Commission staff, who will then prepare an analysis for consideration by the CD Committee and the CTAC. For Federal Funding Applications, the committees will hold a concurrent public meeting to review staff analysis of applications submitted under the competitive funding categories, accept comment from applicants and the public, provide feedback to staff, and make funding recommendations that will be incorporated into the draft FY 2025-2026 Action Plan and FY 2020-2021 Action Plan Substantial Amendment. The CD Committee will review preliminary funding recommendations for LMIHAF, CFH, and PLHA. The meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. and will be a hybrid meeting. **All applicants applying for funding must be present at the public workshop to be considered for funding. Applicants may attend in-person or virtually.**

The CD Committee and CTAC will hold concurrent public hearings on June 18, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. to make final funding recommendations for the draft FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan and draft FY 2020-2021 Action Plan Substantial Amendment. At this meeting, the CD Committee will also review and make funding recommendations to the Board on LMIHAF, PLHA, and CFH funding programs. All funding recommendations will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for review and approval.

Commission Contact Information

Please contact Matthew Burns at <u>matthew.burns@sonoma-county.org</u> or by calling 707-565-1268 if you have any questions about the application process and requirements.