

**ONONDAGA COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Onondaga County Community Development funds capital projects throughout the County. Project applications are due in February and must be submitted through the local town or village. Applications must be accompanied by a Town or Village Board Resolution that approves the project.

The funds provided through the Community Development Block Grant Program are not usable for all activities that local government might want to undertake. By legislation and program regulations, some activities and projects have been declared ineligible for funding. The following is a partial listing of activities that are eligible and ineligible for funding.

It should be noted that even though an activity is listed as eligible, it must still be justified according to the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, which is the federal legislation authorizing the program. The Act states that Community Development funds must be primarily used for projects or activities which principally benefit lower income residents. In exceptional circumstances, it is possible to justify activities which aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blighting conditions or which address an urgent need.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

1. **ACQUISITION:** Acquisition, in whole or in part, of real property for any eligible public purpose.
2. **DISPOSITION:** Disposition, through sale, lease, donation, or otherwise, of real property acquired with CDBG funds.
3. **PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS:** Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of public facilities and improvements, except those listed under ineligible activities. Examples of public facilities and improvements are:
 - a) senior citizen centers,
 - b) parks, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities for active use by the general public,
 - c) centers for the handicapped,
 - d) neighborhood facilities, or community centers, which may be single purpose or multipurpose, and which are designed to provide health, social, recreational or similar community service,
 - e) parking facilities
 - f) street improvements
 - g) water and sewer facilities, and
 - h) flood and drainage facilities.
4. **CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES:** Clearance, demolition and removal of buildings and improvements.
5. **PUBLIC SERVICES:** Provision of public services that are directed toward improving the community's public services and facilities. The public service must be either (a) a new service or (b) a quantifiable increase in the level of a service above that has been provided by, or in behalf of, a unit of general local government in the previous 12 calendar months.

6. **REMOVAL OF ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS:** Removal of material and architectural barriers that restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly or handicapped persons to publicly owned and privately owned buildings and facilities.
7. **REHABILITATION:** Rehabilitation of privately owned buildings through grants, loans, loan guarantees and interest subsidies. Rehabilitation may include:
 - a) repairs directed toward the correction of items which may affect the health and safety of the residents;
 - b) replacement of principal components and fixtures of the structure;
 - c) measures to increase energy efficiency; and
 - d) connection of residential structures to water distribution lines or local sewage collection lines.
8. **CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Code enforcement in deteriorated areas where such enforcement, together with public improvements and rehabilitation, may be expected to arrest the decline of the area.
9. **HISTORIC PRESERVATION:** Rehabilitation, preservation, and restoration of officially recognized historic buildings.
10. **PLANNING:** Planning activities carried out for the purpose of developing a comprehensive community development plan. This can include:
 - a) Data gathering, and
 - b) Preparation of plans for land use, housing, economic development and neighborhood preservation.
11. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Economic development activities directed toward the alleviation of physical and economic distress.
12. **ADMINISTRATION:** Payment of reasonable costs related to the planning and execution of community development activities.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

1. **GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS:** Funds may not be used for buildings that are used predominantly for the general conduct of government. Examples are: city halls, courthouses, jails, police stations and other state or local government buildings.
2. **GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENSES:** Funds may not be used to cover the costs of general government operations.
3. **POLITICAL ACTIVITIES:** Funds may not be used for facilities for political purposes or for partisan political activities.
4. **PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT:** Funds may not be used for the purchase of equipment, furnishings and personal property.
5. **OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES:** Funds may not be used for the operation or maintenance of public facilities.
6. **INCOME PAYMENTS:** Funds may not be used for income payments for housing or any other purpose.