Questions & Answers – July 12, 2023 – July 21, 2023

1. Can jurisdictions outside of Saginaw, Midland, Gladwin, Iosco, Arenac and Wayne Counties apply for CDBG-DR money?
   No, the CDBG-DR funds are designated to be used in disaster areas which were declared by the Federal and State government and received funds through Congressional Authorization for specific areas.

2. Can work which was completed before the submittal of an application be funded/reimbursed?
   No, work which was completed before application approval will not be eligible for funding or reimbursement.

3. How long after the August 22nd due date will awards be made?
   MEDC will make every effort to make determinations as quickly as possible. A specific timeframe cannot be made because it is unknown how many projects will be submitted and how complex the projects might be. Expectations would be 30 – 90 days.

4. Is there a preferred national objective?
   No, there are no additional considerations for a particular National Objective.

5. Once a project is approved can expenses such as engineering be included?
   The cost/estimate of project engineering should be included in the project application budget. You should not include incurred engineering costs completed prior to project application approval.

6. How will applications be submitted?
   Project applications should be emailed to the web site as a zip drive. If the application is too large one can use multiple emails as long as the documents are clearly marked in subject line "application", "Part 1", "Part 2" etc.

7. There was a question regarding LMI data and how to access this.
   On the CDBG-DR website, Section "Application" look for the document "HUD Low to Moderate Income Summary Data"

8. When aggregating several smaller projects does an entire application need to be produced including the statement of assurances and various policies for each project?
   No, only "**Section 2: Project Information**" on the application will need to be completed for each smaller project which is part of an aggregate project.

9. What is the policy regarding program income?
   The MEDC discourages projects which will produce program income. If a project is generating program income and is a priority for the community, MEDC should be contacted to discuss the particulars of that project.

10. Do all policies such as a fair housing ordinance and an excessive force policy need to be approved by a legislative body before submittal?

No, the policies and or ordinances can be marked draft and should be included in the application with information regarding when the ordinances will be on an agenda for approval.

11. Is it advisable to use google map to document flood mitigation activities?

Yes, there is no prescribed documentation source for what can be submitted in the application. The important factor is that any documentation submitted be relevant and is tied back to the application.

12. If CDBG-DR is being used as a match to a FEMA grant, and engineering on the FEMA grant is being completed at present, will that jeopardize the CDBG-DR funds since work is being done before the grant award?

No, you should be documenting the FEMA timeline in your application and you should be working on the FEMA grant as needed. The CDBG-DR grant is not meant to slow down or supplant FEMA requirements.

13. Will there be another application round for infrastructure funding?

At this point it is hard to give a definitive answer until the number and cost of projects received is known. The information in the project description says there may be a second round but if MEDC receives enough projects that are qualified there may not be the need for a second round.

14. Should contingency be included in the project budget?

Yes, contingency should be a part of the overall estimated budget.

15. Will there be the ability to adjust the budget concerning Certified Grant Administrators once RFQs are received and a Certified Grant Administrator is chosen?

Yes, the Certified Grant Administrator line item in the budget is an estimate at the time of the submittal of the application.

16. What is a definition of a contractor?

A contractor would be someone who provides a service related to construction, engineering, architecture, environmental review, etc.

17. Would the purchase and installation of a generator be considered a project?

Yes, as long as it meets a national objective and has a tie back to the disaster.