

**PUBLIC NOTICE ON PUBLIC MEETINGS
And REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
For COUNTY OF HAWAII'S 2017
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM**

The County of Hawaii's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) is currently planning for its 2017 Consolidated/Action Plan process for the aforementioned program.

As required by federal regulations, the County will hold a series of public hearings and has selected the following locations and times in an effort to encourage comments and views from persons of very low and moderate income.

	<u>PAHALA PUBLIC HEARING</u>	<u>PĀHOA PUBLIC HEARING</u>
Date:	October 10, 2016	October 10, 2016
Time:	10:00 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Place:	Pahala Community Center	Pahoa Community Center
	<u>KONA PUBLIC HEARING</u>	<u>HONOKA`A PUBLIC HEARING</u>
Date:	October 13, 2016	October 11, 2016
Time:	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Place:	West Hawaii Civic Center 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy. Mayor's Office Conference Room, 2 nd Floor	Honoka`a Gym/MPR Room
	<u>HILO PUBLIC HEARING</u>	
Date:	October 14, 2016	
Time:	10:00 a.m.	
Place:	1990 Kino`ole Street Existing Housing Conference Room	

The purpose of the public hearings is to hear views and comments from citizens on housing and community development needs and the past performance of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) CDBG Program.

The County encourages its citizens, especially persons of low and moderate income, minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities, to attend the public hearings and share their comments and views.

Persons requiring special needs (i.e., sign language or bilingual interpreters) may call the OHCD at V/TT 961-8379 at least seven (7) days prior to the hearings so arrangements may be made to accommodate them. Citizens who are unable to attend these hearings may submit or fax (808/961-8685) testimony pertaining to their housing and community development needs by October 14, 2016 to Susan K. Akiyama, Housing Administrator, Office of Housing and Community Development, 50 Wailuku Drive, Hilo, Hawai`i 96720.

After the public hearing, OHCD staff will be available to discuss the procedures and guidelines for applying for the County's 2017 CDBG program. OHCD staff will provide technical assistance to groups/agencies requesting assistance in developing proposals.

2017 CDBG PROJECT PROPOSAL FORMS

The County's five-year 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan (CP) describes the County's housing and community development needs, funding plans, priorities and objectives, and includes the County's Annual Action Plan for the use of CDBG Program funds. The County of Hawai`i is, therefore, seeking eligible applicants to submit project proposals to be included in its 2017 Annual Action Plan to HUD.

The County expects to receive approximately \$2,500,000 for its CDBG Program.

In order to receive federal funding all applicants will be required to have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and be actively registered with current information in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) prior to applying for CDBG funding. The applicant will have to submit proof that they have a DUNS number and are actively registered in the CCR system with their project proposal packet.

Project proposals submitted to the OHCD must comply with the program criteria, meet eligibility requirements, program objectives, and be consistent with the County's priorities and objectives as contained in the County's 2015-2019 CP.

All original project proposals and two (2) copies must be received by 4:30 p.m. on January 11, 2017, by the OHCD, 50 Wailuku Drive, Hilo, Hawai`i 96720-2456 or OHCD Kona Office, 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740.

The proposal forms and federal guidelines covering the eligible activities will be available at the public hearings and at the following locations beginning October 17, 2016, Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on holidays. Proposal forms will also be mailed, upon request, after October 17, 2016.

OFFICE OF HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Hilo Armory
50 Wailuku Drive
Hilo, Hawai`i 96720
Phone: 961-8379

OFFICE OF HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
West Hawai`i Civic Center
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai`i 96740
Phone: 323-4305

In addition, copies of the County's current CP; Citizen Participation Plan and past performance of CDBG funds are also available at the Office of Housing and Community Development, 50 Wailuku Drive, Hilo, Hawai`i.

A brief description of the CDBG Program are as follows:

Community Development Block Grant Program:

Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383) created the CDBG Program, which became effective January 1, 1974. Under the CDBG Program, a community is able to develop a flexible, locally designed comprehensive community development strategy in order to address the program's primary objective: "...development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and suitable living environments and expanding economic opportunities principally for persons of low and moderate income."

Under the CDBG program, grants or loan assistance may be used by eligible public agencies, private non-profit organizations, and Community Based Development Organizations (CBDO), (non-profit organization) for the following activities provided that these activities either 1) principally benefit low and moderate income families, 2) aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight, or 3) meet other community development needs having a particular urgency.

Range of Eligible Activities for the use of CDBG Program Funds:

- * Acquisition of real property.
- * Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of public facilities.
- * Provision of public services, provided it is a new service or a quantifiable increase in a service now being provided and does not exceed 15% of the County's allocation.
- * Payment of the non-federal share in connection with other federal programs undertaken as part of the development program.
- * Assist privately owned utilities.
- * Code enforcement in deteriorated areas expected, together with public improvements and services, to arrest the area's decline.
- * Disposition of real property.
- * Clearance, demolition and removal of buildings and improvements.
- * Interim assistance to immediately arrest deterioration and alleviate emergency conditions.
- * Urban renewal completion.
- * Relocation payments.
- * Loss of rental income incurred in holding housing units for displacees.
- * Removal of material and architectural barriers restricting mobility of elderly and disabled persons.
- * Historic preservation.
- * Assistance to sub-recipients to carry out activities listed.
- * Renovation of closed school buildings.
- * Micro enterprise assistance.
- * Planning activities.
- * Rehabilitation of privately owned building and low income public housing.

OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COUNTY OF HAWAI`I

By: Susan K. Akiyama
Housing Administrator

William P. Kenoi, Mayor
County of Hawai`i

(Hawai`i Tribune-Herald: Oct. 3, 2016)
(West Hawai`i Today: Oct. 3, 2016)