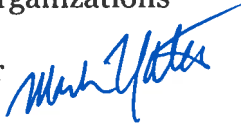




ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Notice of ZOOM Public Hearing

To: Interest Persons and Organizations

From: Mark A. Yates, Director 

Date: **January 14, 2021**

Subject: **Zoom** Public Hearing on TxCDBG 2021-2022 Colonia Fund: Construction (CFC)

Attached is a **“virtual”** public hearing notice regarding a Texas Community Development Block Grant - **2021-2022 Colonia Fund: Construction Program**. The hearing is a Zoom scheduled session on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. from Offices of the Economic Development & Community Affairs Department located at 1100 E. Monroe, Brownsville, Texas, Room 105.

The public hearing marks the start of the application process for the 2021-2022 Texas Community Block Grant Program. The County can apply for no more than \$1,000,000 in grant funds. The purpose for the public hearing is review the CDBG national program objectives, community participation plan, and solicit projects from Cameron County eligible utility companies and CDGB unentitlement communities. Commissioners Court will be asked to select a best scoring project on or about February 2, 2021. The CDBG application is due May 1, 2021. Funds must be used to benefit low and moderate-income persons and project priority is given to EDAP-funded water or sewer systems, first-time public water service, first-time public sewer services activities, housing activities, drainage activities.

If you have a project that you would like to have considered for funding, please complete the attached project request form and mail to the attention of Raul Garcia at 1100 E. Monroe Street, Rm. 105, Brownsville, Texas 78520 or email to rgarcia@co.cameron.tx.us. Project request forms will be accepted up through Friday, January 22, 2021 to meet a deadline to present projects to Commissioners Court on February 2, 2021.

We have sent this notice to you because your name or the name of your organization is included in an open mailing list maintained by this office to encourage citizen participation in the TxCDBG application process. If the notice does not apply to you or your organization, please feel free to pass it along to anyone that might be interested. Also, if you do not wish to be on our mailing list, please advise.

Public Hearing on TxCDBG 2021-2022 Colonia Fund: Construction (CFC)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96041338820?pwd=Y0xWMIJyYnZtU3J3RHJCM2NvNUNQdz09>

Meeting ID: 960 4133 8820

Passcode: 243415

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

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888 788 0099 US Toll-free

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If you have any questions, please call Raul Garcia, CD Coordinator, at (956) 544-0828.

Attachments

**CAMERON COUNTY
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
2021-2022 COLONIA FUND: CONSTRUCTION (CFC)
APPLICATION TIMETABLE**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
December 22, 2020	CC authorizes TCDP Public Hearing
January 13, 2021	TCDP public hearing notice to newspaper
January 14, 2021	ED&CA Dept. sends public hearing notice using open mailing list
January 17, 2021	Newspaper advertises TCDP public hearing
January 21, 2021	ED&CA Dept. conducts public hearing
January 22, 2021	Complete Project Digest Form Due
February 2, 2021	CC selects TCDP project(s)
February 2, 2021	TCDP public notice of activities to newspaper
February 6, 2021	Newspaper Publishes Activities Notice
February 28, 2021	Low & moderate income surveys completed for application
March 2, 2021	CC adopts TCDP application resolution
April 1, 2021	ED&CA completes TCDA application package
April 16, 2021	Submit Application
May 1, 2021	Application Due Date

Dates shown on application timetable are subject to change. For questions or comments call the Cameron County Economic Development & Community Affairs Department at (956) 544-0828. (1-13-21draft)

CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
2021-2022 Colonia Fund: Construction (CFC)
PROJECT DIGEST REQUEST FORM
(Request at rgarcia@co.cameron.tx.us a copy of this form in word-format)

PROJECT REQUESTED (please describe) _____

PROJECT LOCATION and MAP (include name of colonia and map): _____

TOTAL PROJECT COST: _____

GRANT REQUEST: _____, Local Match: _____ (EQUAL - Total Project Cost)

TOTAL PERSONS BENEFITING LOCATED WITHIN PROJECT AREA: _____

ESTMATED NUMBER OF LOW & MODERATE INCOME PERSONS BENEFITING: _____

SUBMITTED BY:

Name: _____

Organization: _____
(if applicable)

Email: _____

Business Address: _____

Phone: _____

Submit this form to the Attn: Raul Garcia via email, rgarcia@co.cameron.tx.us or address: Raul Garcia, CD Coordinator, Economic Development & Community Affairs Dept., 1100 E. Monroe, Brownsville, Texas 78520, Ph: 544-0828, Fax: 544-0891, no later than Friday, January 22, 2021.

TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

2021-2022 Colonia Fund: Construction (CFC)

Outline of Application Guide

Copy of the guide can be found in the TDA and LRGVDC website.

Application Submittal and Deadline Requirements

- Due May 1, 2021 before 11:59 p.m.
- New online grant management system (TDA – Grants Online)
- TDA encourages communities to spend the next few months selecting a project and documenting beneficiaries

Amount of Grant Funds Requested

- \$1,000,000
- Minimum \$150,000
- Each application must include one or more “stand-alone” projects
- Administration cap 16% not to exceed \$60,000
- Engineering cap 25% not to exceed \$85,000

Eligible Activities

- Projects to benefit colonia residents
- If work is proposed outside of colonia, the applicant must demonstrate that: the work is necessary in order to adequately serve the colonia resident and other conditions (page4).

TxCDBG eligible activities include:

- Water System Improvements
- Wastewater System Improvements
- Drainage Improvements
- Housing Rehabilitation
- Gas System Improvements
- Road/Street Improvements
- Fire Protection Facilities
- Accessibility Improvements to Public Buildings

- Solid Waste Disposal/Landfills/Transfer Stations
- Community/Senior/Social Service Centers
- Shelters for Persons With Special Needs

Colonia Designation

Each application activity must provide benefit to residents of a colonia that is eligible under the Gonzales Act. Clear documentation of a colonia(s) eligibility includes:

1. Documentation of the colonia's existence prior to 1090. Acceptable documentation includes:
 - Documentation of subdivision platting; and other recommendations (see page 5).

Scoring Criteria – Maximum Points 365 Across 5 Elements

1. Community Need - 15 Points (Maximum)
2. Project Design Criteria – 350 Points (Maximum)
 - Benefit to Low Moderate-Income Persons 49 points
 - Project Priority – 195 Points
 - Cost per Beneficiary – 30 Points
 - Comprehensive Approach – 30 Points
 - Project – Specific Design Criteria – Deduct from 5 – 20 points
 - Match Ratio – add from 0 – 20 points
 - County-Grant Recipient Past Performance – add points up to 16 points

See next to pages 8-10 on Scoring from the Application Guide

Project Priorities	195 Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities (service lines, service connections, and/or plumbing improvements) providing public access to EDAP-funded water or sewer systems 	195 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time public water service activities (including yard service lines) 	145 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time public sewer service activities (including yard service lines) 	145 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing activities 	140 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drainage activities 	135 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time water and/or sewer service through a privately-owned for-profit utility 	135 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion or improvement of existing water and/or sewer service 	120 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of approved residential on-site wastewater disposal systems for failing systems 	120 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street paving 	100 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All other eligible activities 	20 points
<p>A weighted average is used to assign scores to applications that include activities in the different Project Priority scoring levels. Using as a base figure the TxCDBG funds requested minus the TxCDBG funds requested for engineering and administration, a percentage of the total TxCDBG construction dollars for each activity will then be multiplied by the appropriate Project Priorities point level. The sum of these calculations determines the composite Project Priorities score.</p>	
Cost per Beneficiary	30 Points
<p>A formula is used to determine the cost per LMI beneficiary. The total TxCDBG funds requested is divided by the total number of low- to moderate-income persons benefitting from the project. Points are then awarded in accordance with the following scale:</p>	
Up to \$3,000 per LMI Beneficiary	30 Points
\$3,000.01 to \$5,000 per LMI Beneficiary	25 Points
\$5,000.01 to \$10,000 per LMI Beneficiary	20 Points
\$10,000.01 to \$15,000 per LMI Beneficiary	15 Points
\$15,000.01 to \$20,000 per LMI Beneficiary	5 Points
\$20,000.01 to \$40,000 per LMI Beneficiary	0 Points
Greater than \$40,000 per LMI Beneficiary	Negative 5 points for each \$20,000 increment
Comprehensive Approach	30 Points
Application will provide water and/or sewer service to all residents of each colonia included in the application	30 Points
Application represents one phase of infrastructure work in a single colonia area AND all previous phase(s) of the project have been completed prior to application submittal.	30 Points
Application includes multiple activities to address needs in a single colonia	25 Points
Application includes infrastructure work in multiple colonia areas, but will not result in new or improved service to all residents of those colonias.	10 Points
None of the above	0 Points

Project-Specific Design Criteria	
Of the 65 points available for this factor, deduct points as follows:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant requests assistance for first time water/wastewater service, and service provider has NOT waived connection fees for LMI beneficiaries 	Deduct 10 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant requests assistance for projects other than water/wastewater, and basic water/sewer needs have NOT been met for all residents of the colonia 	Deduct 20 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant requests assistance for OSSF activities, and received TxCDBG funding for OSSF installation since 2/1/2016 but did NOT fully expend the grant funds. 	Deduct 20 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant has experienced drought conditions since 2/1/2016, and the project does NOT address drought conditions or impact 	Deduct 5 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant requests assistance for a new water well, and has NOT completed a test well that demonstrates water of sufficient quality and quantity would be available for the proposed project at the well site 	Deduct 10 points
Match Ratio	
<i>Applicant(s) population is equal to or less than 5,000 according to the most recent Census:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match equal to or greater than 2% of grant request 	20 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match at least 1%, but less than 2% of grant request 	10 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match less than 1% of grant request 	0 points
<i>Applicant(s) population is equal to or less than 10,000 but over 5,000 according to the most recent Census:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match equal to or greater than 3% of grant request 	20 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match at least 2%, but less than 3% of grant request 	10 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match less than 2% of grant request 	0 points
<i>Applicant(s) population is equal to or less than 25,000 but over 10,000 according to the most recent Census:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match equal to or greater than 5% of grant request 	20 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match at least 3%, but less than 5% of grant request 	10 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match less than 3% of grant request 	0 points
<i>Applicant(s) population is over 25,000 according to the most recent Census:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match equal to or greater than 7.5% of grant request 	20 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match at least 5%, but less than 7.5% of grant request 	10 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match less than 5% of grant request 	0 points
The applicant's population is determined by reviewing the applicant county's most recently available U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate, Table B01003.	
Citizen Participation	
Five (5) points shall be received for applicants that conducted the public hearing, a component of the required citizen participation process, at least 90 days prior to the application deadline.	

Past Performance on previously awarded contracts (Awarded 2/1/2016 – 9/1/2020)

Methodology: Each applicant is initially awarded full points in each Past Performance score factor. Points are deducted based upon performance of an applicant on a previously awarded contract. The final Past Performance score will be the average of points for each contract awarded between 2/1/2016 – 9/1/2020.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timely submission of closeout reports <p>Five (5) points will be deducted for applicants that did not submit close-out report within 60 days from the end date of the contract.</p>	5 Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timeliness of environmental clearance <p>Zero (0) points will be deducted for applicants that completed the environmental review within 30 days of the environmental clearance milestone (210 days after the contract start date)</p> <p>One (1) point will be deducted for applicants that completed the environmental review within 60 days of the environmental clearance milestone (240 days after the contract start date)</p> <p>Three (3) points will be deducted for applicants that completed the environmental review within 90 days of the environmental clearance milestone (270 days after the contract start date)</p> <p>Five (5) points will be deducted for applicants that did not complete the environmental review within 90 days of the environmental clearance milestone (271+ days after the contract state date)</p>	5 Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maximum utilization of grant funds awarded <p>Zero (0) points shall be deducted for completed contracts that fully expended the grant funds, or deobligated less than the threshold amount (\$10,000).</p> <p>Five (5) points shall be deducted for contracts that deobligated an amount equal to or greater than the threshold for any reason.</p> <p>Exception: This scoring criterion will not apply to Texas Capital Fund Real Estate/Infrastructure contracts that completed the minimum necessary AND fulfilled 100% of the job commitment.</p>	5 Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timeliness of completing projects (i.e., extension of contracts) <p>One (1) point will be deducted for applicants that received an extension on a previous contract.</p>	1 Point

CDBG ORIGINS AND KEY PROGRAM RULES

- 1974 – Passed of the Housing and Community Development Act created the CDBG Program
- & U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Department (HUD) to administer the program.
- In 1982 States began to administer CDBG programs pertaining to “**Small**” **Cities/County**” classified as “non-entitlement” communities.
- Currently Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is State Department assigned
- Cameron County’s non-entitlement communities, eligible to apply to for CDBG funds directly to TDA:
La Feria, Primera, Combes, Santa Rosa, Palm Valley, Rio Hondo, Rancho Viejo, Los Fresnos, Port Isabel, Laguna Vista, South Padre Island, Indian Lake, Los Indios.
- Note: Public Utilities Entities are not eligible to apply for this funds, but can petition Cameron County to apply on their behalf.
- **The CDBG is governed by the Housing & Community Development Act’s** three National Project Objectives:
 1. Low/Moderate Area Benefit
 2. Slum/Blight Area Basis
 3. Urgent Need
- 2021-2022 CD Fund Program is created to focus on: *Low-to-Moderate Income Persons (LMI persons).*

51% of persons residing in the project’s targeted boundary area must Low-to-Moderate Income). Verified by CENSUS data or door to door LMI survey used.

- CDBG – Civil Rights Requirements for Grant Recipients [Must Establish]
 - ✓ Encourage Citizen Participation (e.g. public hearings, public notices announcement English and Spanish)
 - ✓ Established Community Citizen Complaint Policy and Procedures
 - ✓ Advocate Fair Housing and Employment of LMI persons in jobs generated by CDBG funded projects
 - ✓ Etc.

Cameron County, Texas
Public Hearing Notice

Notice is hereby given that the County of Cameron, Texas will conduct a “Zoom” public hearing regarding the 2021-2022 Colonia Fund: Construction Program (CFC), a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday January 21, 2021 from the office of the Economic Development & Community Affairs Department (ED&CA) located in Room 105 of the Cameron County Courthouse (Dancy Building), 1100 E. Monroe St. Brownsville, Texas. The public hearing will give individuals an opportunity to discuss CDBG funding categories, rural fair housing and community development needs, eligible CDBG activities, use of past TxCDBG funding, and the County’s citizen participation plan. The County encourages all citizens to participate in the grant application process and present requests for project funding at the public hearing. Citizens wishing to make comments or citizens unable to attend the hearing may submit written comments, questions or project requests to the Economic Development & Community Affairs Department, County Courthouse 1100 E. Monroe St. Room 105 Brownsville, Texas 78520 or to rgarcia@co.cameron.tx.us and or call (956) 544-0828. Individuals with disabilities requiring special accommodations to participate in this TCDP public hearing should contact the County’s Personnel Office at (956) 544-0827 at least 48 hours in advance.

The Public may access this Public Hearing via Zoom at:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96041338820?pwd=Y0xWMIJyYnZtU3J3RHJCM2NvNUNQdz09>

Meeting ID: 960 4133 8820

Passcode: 243415

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Condado de Cameron, Texas
Aviso De Audiencia Pública

Por la presente se da aviso de que el Condado de Cameron llevará a cabo una Audiencia Pública virtual con respecto al 2021-2022 Fondos de Colonia (CFC) de Construcción de Programa de Desarrollo Comunitario de Texas- Solicitud de subvención. La audiencia pública se llevará a cabo a través de conferencias Zoom a las 5:30 p.m. el jueves 21 de enero 2021 en el primer piso de la oficina de Cameron County Courthouse (Dancy Building) el Departamento de Desarrollo Económico y Asuntos Comunitarios localizado en 1100 E. Monroe Street en la oficina #105 Brownsville, Texas. La audiencia pública dará a las personas una oportunidad para discutir las categorías de financiación del programa CDBG, la vivienda de la feria rural y necesidades de desarrollo comunitario, actividades elegibles del CDBG, también el uso de fondos anteriores de TxCDBG y el plan de participación ciudadana del Condado. El Condado alienta a todos los ciudadanos a participar en el proceso de audiencia pública y presentar solicitudes de financiación de proyectos en esta audiencia pública. Ciudadanos que deseen hacer comentarios o ciudadanos que no pueden asistir a la audiencia pueden presentar comentarios por escrito, preguntas o solicitudes de proyectos al Departamento de Desarrollo Económico y Asuntos Comunitarios del Condado de Cameron localizados en 1100 E. Monroe Street oficina #105, también estamos disponibles por teléfono (956) 544-0828 o por correo electrónico a Raul Garcia rgarcia@co.cameron.tx.us Las personas con discapacidades que requieren adaptaciones especiales para participar en la audiencia pública de TCDP deben comunicarse con la Oficina de Personal del Condado al teléfono (956) 544-0827 con al menos 48 horas de anticipación. El público puede acceder a esta Audiencia Pública a través de la conferencia Zoom. Para unirse a la reunión de zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/96041338820?pwd=Y0xWMIJyYnZtU3J3RHJCM2NvNUNQdz09>

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