

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TO: Mayor Blad
City Council Members

FROM: Christine Howe - Grants Manager, Planning & Development Services

DATE: For Meeting of October 16, 2025

SUBJECT: CDBG Program Year 2026 Needs Hearing and Idaho CDBG Project Update

In accordance with the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), the City holds a public needs hearing to allow members of the community and local organizations to comment on what they see as housing and community needs. The Needs Hearing also informs the City's Annual Action Plan for the upcoming CDBG Program Year which will begin April 1, 2026.

In addition, this Needs Hearing will provide an opportunity for an update on the Idaho Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) project, Pocatello Parks for resiliency, that is funded through the State.

The City's Consolidated Plan extends from program years 2022 through 2026. The Consolidated Plan outlines the CDBG program goals that will guide the directives for the five years covered by the Plan. As part of the Plan, the City adopts an Annual Action Plan (AAP) which serves as the strategic plan to complete the Consolidated Plan objectives. As part of the AAP development process, the City solicits applications for funding from local non-profit agencies and holds this public needs hearing. The City held a Technical Assistance meeting for interested public service agencies on September 10, 2025. Fourteen agency representatives were in attendance. The City anticipates receiving applications in excess of the available HUD funding, which is anticipated to be similar to previous years' allocations of approximately \$350,000. Therefore, this needs hearing will help identify funding priorities not explicitly detailed in the Consolidated Plan. In addition, the City is using this Needs Hearing to solicit input specifically on affordable housing needs that will inform current and future grant applications to HUD or other related agencies.

In addition to soliciting comments on the PY2026 Annual Action Plan, this public hearing provides an opportunity to update the public on the ICDBG project, Pocatello Parks for Resiliency. The City is nearly complete with the Upper City Creek vault toilet installation. In addition, the project will fund a single stall ADA-compliant restroom at Lower Ross Park Pleasureland and two single stall ADA-compliant restrooms at Optimist/Tydeman Park. The projects were competitively procured and construction is underway. Total project costs for all facilities are approximately \$360,000 and the projects will be complete by November 2026.

In accordance with the City's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan, the purpose of this hearing is to provide an opportunity for organizations and citizens to comment and provide input on any housing and community development needs they may have identified to achieve the goals of providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and opportunities to expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. This will inform the Program Year 2026 Annual Action Plan and other spending priorities for housing, public service, public infrastructure, or public facility activities.

No action is necessary at this time. Applications for PY26 funding will be reviewed by the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee, and their recommendations will be forwarded to you for consideration at your January 15, 2026 meeting.

PY26 Needs Hearing Comments

The City received a comment in response to the PY26 Needs Hearing. The individual called the Grants Manager and stated that they would like poverty to be considered in the program, make sure the programs are not fixed for a few and leave out the poor, and that the programs do not overlook the people in need.