# SPECIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PROJECT ELIGIBILITY FORM

Applicant Name:	Use the same name as in Part 1 Project Information.
Project Name:	_ Use the same name as in Part 1 Project Information.

This classification includes projects which are designed to create or retain employment and encourage investment. CDBG funds may be used to undertake certain economic development activities. These activities include: Acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, rehabilitating, or installing commercial or industrial buildings, structures, and other real property equipment and improvements, including railroad spurs or similar extensions; Economic development projects undertaken by nonprofit entities; And, assisting a private, for-profit business through grants, loans, loan guarantees, and/or technical assistance.

Projects in this category will be evaluated by the number of jobs created by the project and the degree of private investment the project will generate. The municipal officials where any economic development project is located or the economic development organization conducting the project must apply for the project if it is to be considered for CDBG funding.

Special Economic Development projects applications MUST go through underwriting and extensive review before approval can be made. Therefore, it is unlikely that an application for a project of this type will be funded in FY2025. If you are interested in applying for a Special Economic Development Project, please complete this project eligibility form and contact the Community Development Program at 724-770-2040 for further information.

All Special Economic Development projects assisted with CDBG funds will be required to report the household income, racial, ethnic, female and disabled characteristics of the persons who occupy the jobs that are created or retained. In addition, businesses assisted will be required to have or obtain a DUNS or UEI number. This information is not required during submission of the application.

Job pirating is prohibited under Section 588 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998. Job pirating refers to the use of federal funds to lure or attract a business and its jobs from one labor market to another. CDBG funds may not be used to assist for-profit businesses, including expansions, as well as infrastructure improvement projects or business incubator projects designed to facilitate business relocation IF: The funding will be used to assist directly in the relocation of a plant, facility or operation; And, the relocation is likely to result in a significant loss of jobs in the labor market area from which the relocation occurs.

HUD requires a statement from the assisted business as to whether the assisted activity will result in the relocation of any industrial or commercial plant, facility, or operation from one low moderate area (LMA) to another, and, if so, the number of jobs that will be relocated from each LMA. If the assistance will not result in a

Part 2: Project Eligibility Form

relocation covered by this section, HUD requires a written certification from the assisted business that neither it, nor any of its subsidiaries, have plans to relocate jobs, at the time the grant agreement is signed, that would result in a significant job loss as defined in this rule; and that the County will be reimbursed for any assistance provided to, or expanded on behalf of, the business in the event that assistance results in a relocation prohibited under this section.

In addition, financial underwriting of a special economic development project must be completed before a project can be eligible. This underwriting must be evaluated upon the following criteria: Project costs must be reasonable; All sources of project financing must be committed; To the extent practicable, CDBG funds are not substituted for non-federal financial support; The project is financially feasible; To the extent practicable, the return of the owner's equity investment will not be unreasonably high; And to the extent practicable, CDBG funds are disbursed on a pro-rata basis with other finances committed to the project.

All special economic development activities must adhere to HUD Public Benefit Standards. An activity is considered by HUD to provide insufficient public benefit and cannot be assisted with CDBG funds if: The amount of CDBG assistance exceeds \$50,000 per full-time equivalent (FTE), permanent job (created or retained) or \$1,000 per Low moderate income (LMI) person to which goods and services are provided by the activity. In addition, an activity would be considered to have an insufficient benefit if it consists of or includes: General promotion of the community (as a whole); Assistance to professional sports teams; Assistance to privately-owned recreational facilities that serve a predominantly higher income clientele where the benefit to users clearly outweighs the benefit of jobs created or retained; Acquisition of land for which a specific use has not been identified (i.e., land banking); Or assistance to a for-profit business owner that is the subject of unresolved findings of noncompliance related to previous CDBG assistance.

All Special Economic Development Activities funded in one year by the County must Create or retain at least one full time equivalent, permanent job per \$35,000 of CDBG funds used; Or, provide goods and services to an area where the number of LMI persons served by the assisted business amounts to at least one LMI person per \$350 of CDBG funds used. Specific exceptions to these requirements exist and will be determined by the Community Development Program as part of the underwriting process.

Part 2: Project Eligibility Form

**Anticipated Budget or Costs:** CDBG funds are allocated to projects based on cost estimates provided in the application. All costs must be verified by professional projections or estimates.

Attach verification for each item listed.

Budget or Cost Item	Amount	Is verification of cost attached?
	\$	☐Yes ☐No
Total Cost:	\$	

**Expected Resources**: Fully complete the following chart. List ALL the funding sources that will be used to complete the project.

Use of CDBG funds to leverage other grants or local resources is expected.

Attach proof of each funding source for all non-CDBG funds such as copy of check, letter or other document that shows that the applicant received the funding or that the applicant will receive the funding. If organization is using an undocumented source of funds such as donations, a letter from the Director explaining how and when the funding will be raised must be included.

Funding Source	Amount	Is funding on hand?	Proof
	\$	☐Yes ☐No	
CDBG (requested in this application)	\$		
Total Funding:	\$		

Address(es) where project is locate	<b>d:</b> HUD requires the address(es)
where the activities will be undertaken.	If the project is in multiple locations, list all
addresses.	

Municipality(ies) where project is located: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete description of all activities included in the project.** Provide a detailed but concise narrative description. Describe all of the aspects of the project in sufficient detail so that a person not familiar with the project will understand it.

Part 2: Project Eligibility Form