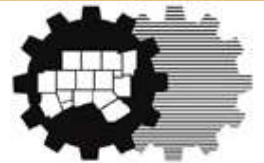# Texas Community Development Block Grant

North Central Texas Community Development
Fund Priority Project Public Meeting

June 27, 2022

Edith Marvin, P.E.

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Texas Department of Agriculture
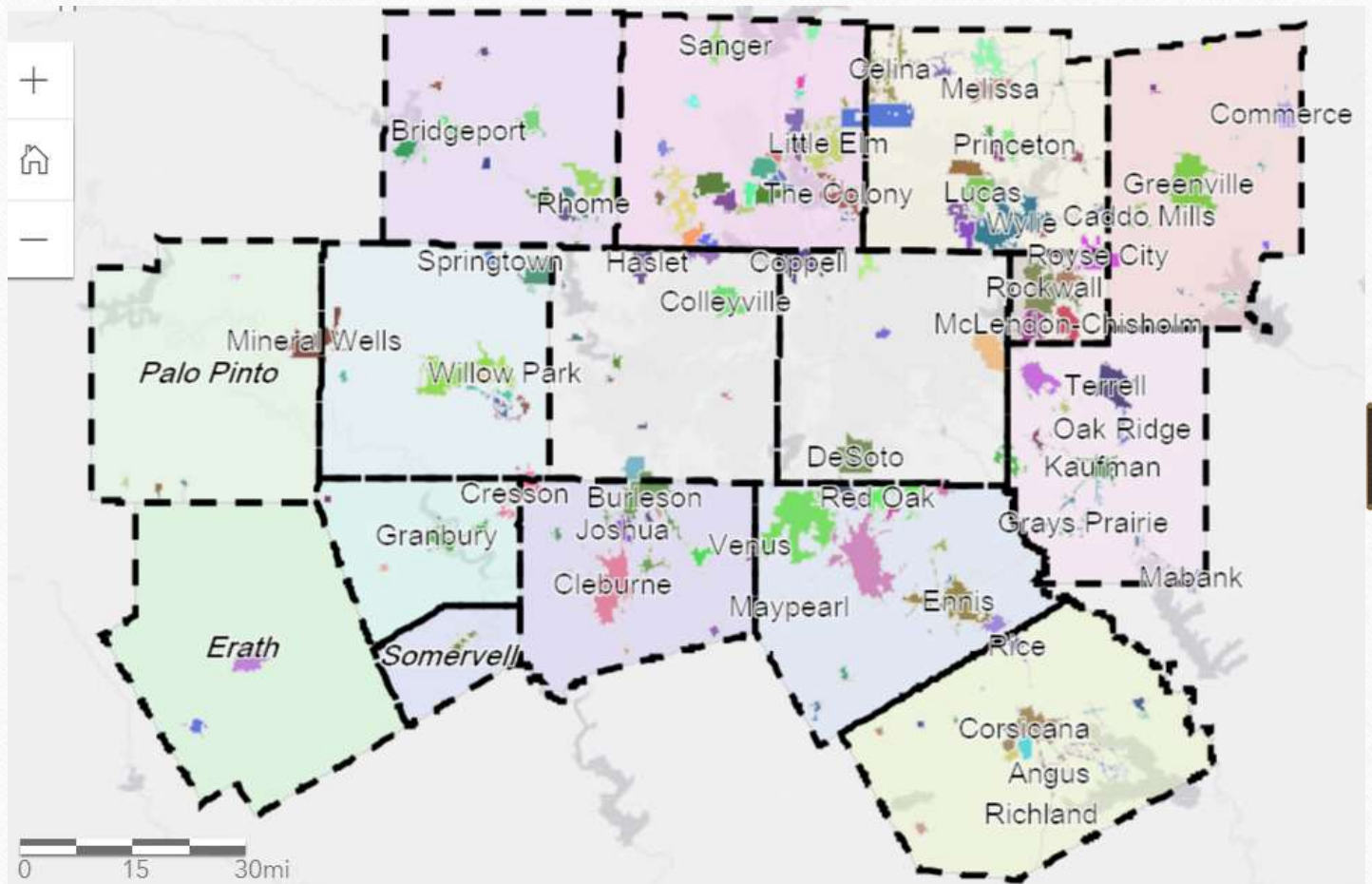# Texas Community Development Block Grant Program

- Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) provides rural communities the tools needed to assist communities and their businesses in prospering.

- TDA administers the [Texas Community Development Block Grant Program](#) (TxCDBG) to assist small cities and rural communities by providing decent housing, suitable living environments, and expanded economic opportunities principally for persons of low- to moderate-income.

- TxCDBG funds community projects such as utility infrastructure, disaster response, and unique local economic development projects.

- **Eligible applicants are non-entitlement cities under 50,000 in population and non-entitlement counties that have a non-metropolitan population under 200,000 and are not eligible for direct CDBG funding from HUD.**

Community Development Fund

- The Community Development Fund is the largest fund category in the TxCDBG Program.

- This fund is available on a biennial basis for funding through a competition.

- Although most funds are used for Public Facilities (water/wastewater infrastructure, street and drainage improvements and housing activities), there are numerous other activities for which these funds may be used.

- Funds are allocated to each state planning region to ensure a broad geographic distribution of funds as described in the One Year Action Plan.

- Applications for the Community Development Fund are anticipated to be due Spring 2023

https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/CommunityDevelopmentFundApplicationGuide.aspx

Non-Entitlement Communities in North Central Texas

NCTCOG's Role for the FY2022-2023 Community Development Fund Grant

- NCTCOG is a contractor to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and supports activities associated with the TxCDBG Community Development Fund (CDF) Grant.

- NCTCOG provides technical assistance to our eligible member governments in the 16-county North Central Texas region related to the Community Development Fund.

- TDA released new rules for the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) on February 24, 2020.

- These new rules have modified NCTCOG's role slightly and has changed the process of determining project priorities and scoring.

Historical CDF Project Prioritization Process Summarized

TDA Contracted NCTCOG

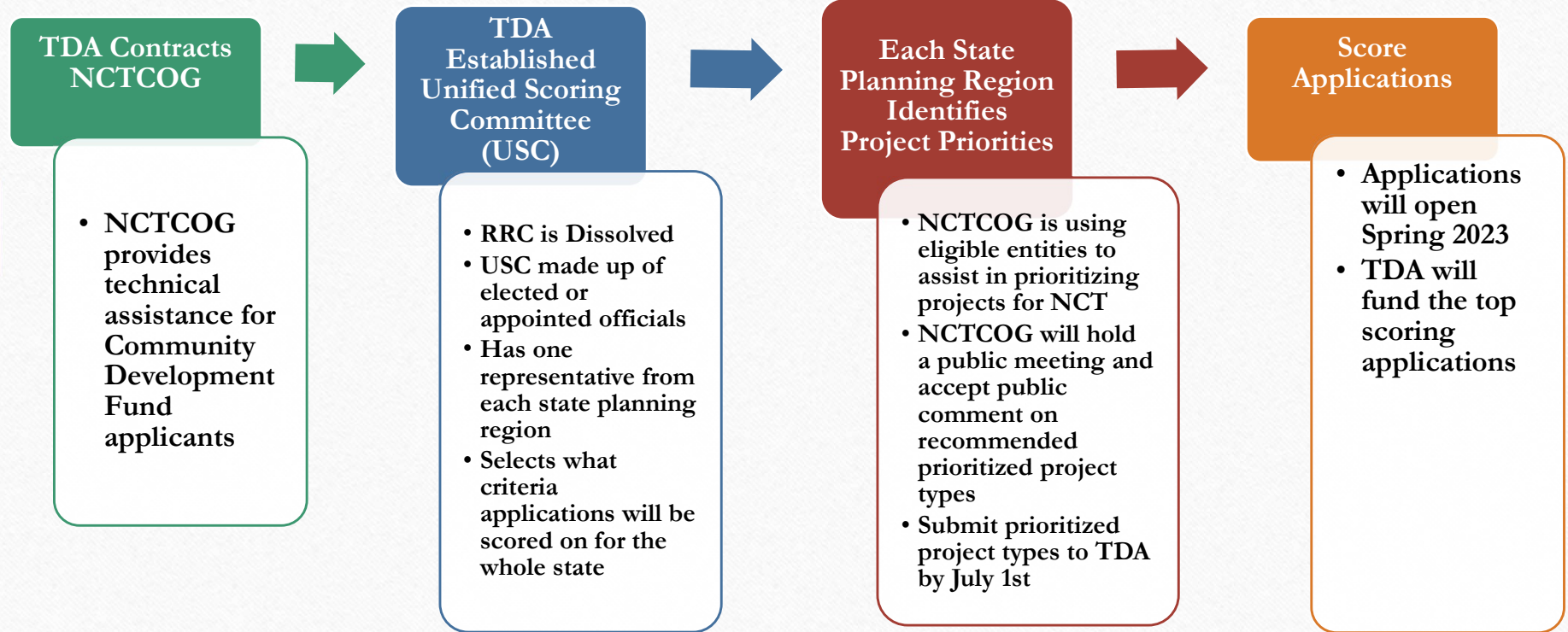- NCTCOG provided technical assistance for Community Development Fund applicants

Each COG region had a Regional Review Committee (RRC)

- Committee of elected officials
- Selected what project types would be prioritized for NCT region
- Selected what criteria applications would be scored on for NCT region

Score Applications

- NCTCOG would assist TDA in scoring regional applications
- TDA funded the top scoring applications

New CDF Project Prioritization Process

TDA Contracts NCTCOG

- **NCTCOG** provides technical assistance for Community Development Fund applicants

TDA Established Unified Scoring Committee (USC)

- RRC is Dissolved
- USC made up of elected or appointed officials
- Has one representative from each state planning region
- Selects what criteria applications will be scored on for the whole state

Each State Planning Region Identifies Project Priorities

- NCTCOG is using eligible entities to assist in prioritizing projects for NCT
- NCTCOG will hold a public meeting and accept public comment on recommended prioritized project types
- Submit prioritized project types to TDA by July 1st

Score Applications

- Applications will open Spring 2023
- TDA will fund the top scoring applications

Meeting Objectives

- Discuss the recommended Project Types that NCT would like to have priority funding.

- Discuss the recommended points that each Project Type is eligible to receive.

Changes to Community Development Fund Project Scoring

- Community Development Fund scoring is governed by the provisions of the TxCDBG Action Plan.

- Projects for the Community Development (CD) Fund are awarded based on a score out of 200 points.

Previously:
- 10% of score from the State
  - Performance from previous contracts
- 90% of score from the Regional Review Committee (RRC)
  - Scoring Criteria
  - Prioritize Projects

Now:
- 10% State Scoring
  - Past performance, etc.
- 25% Regional Project Priorities
- 65% Unified Scoring Committee (USC)
  - Scoring criteria

Project Type Prioritization

- 2018-2019 and 2020-2021 NCTCOG's RRC selected priority projects:

  - Water/Wastewater; Septic Tanks; Water/Wastewater Yard Lines; Roads/Streets; Drainage

  - No second or third priority projects were identified.

- If no priorities are selected by the region, the priorities identified on the Verified Scoring Guide will be applied by TDA.

  - Water Improvements, Wastewater Improvements, Street Improvements, Flood and Drainage Improvements, and Housing Rehabilitation

NCTCOG Previous Priority Project Types and Score

Priorities	Project Types	Points (out of 50)
1st	Water/Wastewater; Septic Tanks; Water/Wastewater Yard Lines; Roads/Streets; Drainage	45
2nd	All Other Eligible Project Types	15

TDA Default Priority Project Types and Score

Priorities	Project Types	Points (out of 50)
1st	Water Improvements, Wastewater Improvements, Street Improvements, Flood and Drainage Improvements, and Housing Rehabilitation	50
2nd	All Other Eligible Project Types	30

Eligible Project Types

Project types used in other planning regions

- Water/Wastewater
- Septic tanks
- First-time service water/ wastewater yard lines
- Roads/Streets
- Drainage
- Water/Sewer
- Yard lines
- Streets/roads and bridges
- Housing

- Fire Protection
- Housing Rehabilitation
- Water Supply
- Water Storage
- Water/Sewer Treatment Plant Improvements
- Community centers
- Neighborhood centers
- Senior Centers
- Parks and Recreation

- Fire & EMS
- Other Basic Utilities
- Electricity
- Gas
- Fire Facilities and Equipment
- Disposal of Solid Waste

Selection of Regionally Recommended Priority Project Types

- NCTCOG created a survey of all the eligible project types and sent it to non-entitlement communities in the region.

- The survey asked if communitites would like to keep the previous project types or select new ones. It gave respondents the opportunity to rank all eligible project types as 1st Priority, 2nd Priority, or not a priority.

- The survey was emailed to the region on May 10th , a reminder was sent on May 17th, and it was due on May 20th.

- The survey had 28 respondents once it closed.

- Only one comment was received from the City of Blue Ridge related to the needs of the city being sewer, streets, and water infrastructure.

Survey Results

1st Priority Project Types

Project Type	1st Priority Votes	2nd Priority Votes	Not a Priority Votes
Drainage	13	2	0
Streets/Roads, and Bridges	13	1	1
Roads/Streets	12	3	0
Water/Sewer	10	4	1
Water Storage	10	2	3
Water/Wastewater	9	5	1
Water Supply	8	2	5
Water/Sewer Treatment Plants Improvements	7	3	5
Parks and Recreation	6	6	3
Fire and EMS	6	4	5

After confirming with TDA, NCTCOG consolidated 1st priority project types to: Drainage, Streets/Roads, Bridges, Water/Sewer, Parks and Rec, Fire and EMS

Survey Results

2nd Priority Project Types

Project Type	1st Priority Votes	2nd Priority Votes	Not a Priority Votes
Senior Centers	2	8	5
Fire Protection	3	7	5
All Other Eligible Project Types	3	7	5
Community Centers	2	7	6

NCTCOG chose "All Other Eligible Project Types" for the recommended project types because it captures all the project types listed.

OK1

Recommended Prioritized Project Types for NCT

Priorities	Project Types	Points (out of 50)
1st	Drainage, Streets/Roads, Bridges, Water/Sewer, Parks and Rec, Fire and EMS	50
2nd	All Other Eligible Project Types	25

OK1   This is where I'd stop and open it up for public comment

Olivia Kale, 5/14/2020

Questions?

Thank You!

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