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COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER:
Esperanza Colio Warren

COUNTY COUNSEL:
Gregory P Priamos

CLERK OF THE BOARD:
Vanessa Delgado

**Agenda Item
Special Meeting of the
Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, March 31, 2026**

Item Number: 2.A

MEETING DATE: 03/31/2026
DEPARTMENT: COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Gracie Rodriguez
DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Esperanza Colio Warren

SUBJECT:

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE – E. COLIO WARREN

(To Be Heard at 9:00 a.m. or soon thereafter as the matter may be heard)

1. Receive an updated informational presentation on the 2025 California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application, including, but not limited to, the proposed grant activities; and
2. Hold a public hearing to further solicit citizen input regarding the 2025 NOFA - CDBG Grant application; and
3. Adopt a resolution approving an application for funding and the execution of a grant agreement and any amendments thereto from the 2025 funding year of the State CDBG program; and
4. Delegate authority to the County Executive Officer (CEO) and/or their designee(s) to complete, execute, and submit any and all documentation related to the CDBG Grant and proposed activities; to carry out all grant requirements; to accept the grant, if awarded; to enter into, execute, and administer the grant agreement and any subsequent amendments with the State of California; to execute Funds Requests and all required reporting forms necessary for the administration of the grant; and to execute all assurances, certifications, and related documents pertaining to the grant on behalf of the County.

SBC FILE NUMBER:119

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-41

AGENDA SECTION:

PUBLIC HEARING

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

On March 17, the Board of Supervisors held an initial public hearing to receive an informational presentation on the 2025 California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The presentation included an overview of available funding options, major eligibility requirements, and applicable funding and application limits. The Board also solicited public input on the County's 2025 CDBG application and provided direction to staff on the activities to pursue.

Based on this direction, staff are returning with recommended activities and are preparing an application totaling \$3,600,000 including:

- \$3,000,000 for the San Benito County Free Library Renovation
- \$300,000 for Food Assistance (including home-delivered meals) for seniors and individuals experiencing homelessness
- \$300,000 for a Youth Enrichment and Summer Employment Program for low-income youth

Staff now seek formal adoption of a resolution approving the application for funding under the 2025 State CDBG program, authorization to execute the grant agreement and any amendments thereto, and delegation of authority to the County Executive Officer (CEO) and/or designee(s) to carry out all necessary actions related to the CDBG program application.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has approximately **\$27,000,000** available through the 2025 Small Cities CDBG program for eligible non-entitlement local governments. The program is intended to support the development of viable communities through decent, affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities, mainly for the benefit of low- and moderate-income persons. The amendment moved the application window to **February 2, 2026, through April 3, 2026**. Awards are anticipated in 2026, with **expenditure deadlines set at 33 months from execution** of the standard agreement.

Eligible Applicants

Only **non-entitlement units of general local government**, generally, eligible cities and counties may apply directly. Tribes and nonprofits cannot receive direct awards from HCD, but may participate through subrecipient agreements, memoranda of understanding (MOU), or contracts with an eligible local government applicant. Applicants must also satisfy housing element and growth control requirements and be in good standing with HCD.

Available Funding Options

1. Public Service (\$300,000)

Include programs or activities that address community needs through services such as social, health, educational, or recreational assistance. These activities must primarily benefit **low- and moderate-income individuals or households** and meet a **CDBG National Objective**.

2. Planning (\$300,000)

Planning activities include the preparation of plans, feasibility studies, analyses, and strategies that help a jurisdiction identify community needs, evaluate potential projects, and develop implementable solutions for housing, infrastructure, economic development, or community services. Planning related to another activity is allowed, but only with **prior written authorization** from HCD and only if the applicant demonstrates feasibility and future financing.

3. Projects (\$3,000,000)

The NOFA identifies project types as:

- Public Facilities Projects
- Infrastructure Projects
- Housing Projects

4. Programs (\$1,500,000)

The two program types are:

- **Housing Programs**, which may include housing counseling, homeownership assistance, single-family rehabilitation, energy efficiency improvements, and code enforcement.
- **Economic Development Programs**, which may include direct financial assistance to for-profit businesses, technical assistance, and microenterprise assistance.

Program applications must show readiness through draft or final program guidelines, underwriting capacity or procurement steps, and a marketing strategy. Economic development applications also must demonstrate operational experience or a qualified partner approach.

Application count limit

Each jurisdiction may submit up to **three applications**, but only in these combinations:

- 1 Project + 1 Program + 1 Public Service or Planning
- 1 Project + 2 Public Service/Planning
- 1 Program + 2 Public Service/Planning

Two projects, two programs, three public service applications, or three planning applications are not allowed.

Jurisdiction funding cap

A jurisdiction may not request more than \$3,600,000 in grant funds in aggregate across all applications, and the maximum combined award per jurisdiction is also **\$3,600,000**. This cap does **not** apply to Colonias and Native American set-asides. Program Income does not count toward the jurisdiction cap.

General Administration limit

Applicants may request up to 7 percent of the total CDBG grant funds requested for General Administration. For Program Income funds, the GA limit is 17 percent of annual PI receipts for the most recently completed Department program year.

Proposed CDBG Funding Applications as directed by the Board of Supervisors

The County of San Benito anticipates submitting applications under the 2025 California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for activities that align with eligible CDBG uses and address identified community needs. The County anticipates applying for funding in a total amount not to exceed **\$3,600,000**, consistent with the maximum allowable request per jurisdiction under the NOFA.

The County anticipates pursuing funding for the following activities:

Library Expansion, including a Community Warming and Cooling Center (\$3,000,000)

Libraries serve as vital community hubs and resilience centers, particularly during emergencies and extreme weather events. The San Benito County Free Library currently operates as a designated Warming and Cooling Center, providing a safe and accessible space for residents during extreme heat and cold events. CDBG funding would support the expansion of the existing library facility and provide matching funds for state-allocated resources. The expansion would enhance the library's capacity to serve residents and improve access to safe, climate-resilient spaces for low- and moderate-income households, who may otherwise lack adequate shelter during extreme weather conditions.

Homeless Services (\$300,000)

Funding is proposed to support the operation of the County's Homeless Shelter, including supportive services for individuals experiencing homelessness. Services may include case management, housing navigation, and access to supportive resources that assist individuals in transitioning to stable housing and improving overall well-being.

Youth Services (\$300,000)

Funding is proposed to support the Dream Catcher Program, a youth-focused initiative that provides

enrichment opportunities and supportive services for children and youth from low- and moderate-income households. Program activities may include youth development programming, summer youth employment, mentoring, educational support, and other services designed to promote positive outcomes and opportunities for local youth.

The County may allocate funding among one or more of these eligible projects and/or public service activities based on demonstrated community need, program readiness, and compliance with CDBG eligibility requirements. All activities included in the County's application will meet a CDBG National Objective, principally benefiting low- and moderate-income persons, consistent with federal CDBG regulations.

Community input

The grant application requires a minimum of two (2) public hearings at separate phases of the project. The first public hearing is to inform the community about available funding opportunities and activities based on the 2025 NOFA issued by HCD. The second public hearing must be at the government body to adopt a resolution for the final application. In an effort to comply with the minimum requirements, on Tuesday, March 17th at 5:30 PM the Board of Supervisors held a Public Hearing at their Special Meeting at 481 4th St. and Monday, March 23, at 5:30 p.m., the San Benito County Free Library, 470 Fifth Street, held a public meeting to discuss possible applications for funding under the 2025 State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and to solicit citizen input on possible activities to be included in the application.

The application submission deadline is **April 3, 2026**.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Receive an updated informational presentation on the 2025 California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application, including, but not limited to, the proposed grant activities;
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3. Adopt a resolution approving an application for funding and the execution of a grant agreement and any amendments thereto from the 2025 funding year of the State CDBG program
4. Delegate authority to the County Executive Officer (CEO) and/or their designee(s) to complete, execute, and submit any and all documentation related to the CDBG Grant and proposed activities; to carry out all grant requirements; to accept the grant, if awarded; to enter into, execute, and administer the grant agreement and any subsequent amendments with the State of California; to execute Funds Requests and all required reporting forms necessary for the administration of the grant; and to execute all assurances, certifications, and related documents pertaining to the grant on behalf of the County.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Agenda Fact Sheet - CDBG Grant](#)

[Appendix C Resolution of the Governing Body \(Required\)](#)

[Appendix D CDBG Application Certifications and Statement of Assurances](#)

[2025 NOFA CDBG Presentation March 17, 2026](#)

[2025 CDBG Notice of Funding Availability](#)

[Hollister Free Lance Public Hearing Notice - Spanish 03.31.26](#)

[Hollister Free Lance Public Hearing Notice - English 03.31.26](#)