

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
AND INTENT TO APPLY
FOR 2025 CDBG ENTITLEMENT FUNDS
FOR THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, TOWNSHIP OF CONEMAUGH, BOROUGH OF
SOMERSET AND TOWNSHIP OF SOMERSET; FOR CHANGES TO THE COUNTY OF
SOMERSET AND BOROUGH OF SOMERSET'S 2024 CDBG ENTITLEMENT
APPLICATIONS; FOR A BUDGET MODIFICATION TO THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET'S
2022 ENTITLEMENT FUNDS, and THE TOWNSHIP OF CONEMAUGH'S 2022 AND 2023
CDBG ENTITLEMENT FUNDS**

In accordance with the rules and regulations under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development, Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) regulations, notice is hereby given by the County of Somerset, as a CDBG Entitlement under the Pennsylvania Community Development Block Grant Program and on behalf of the Entitlement Townships of Conemaugh and Somerset, and the Entitlement Borough of Somerset, that Public Hearings will be held to discuss and receive public comment on eligible activities for the 2025 Entitlement CDBG Applications; changes to previously submitted 2024 Entitlement CDBG Applications for the County of Somerset and Borough of Somerset; a budget modification for the County of Somerset's 2022 CDBG Entitlement Funds; and budget modifications to the Township of Conemaugh's 2022 & 2023 CDBG Entitlement Funds. Citizens are invited to attend the hearings to express their views on eligible and proposed activities, as well as prior years' use of funding.

Public Hearings will be held at the following locations, dates, and times:

2025 ENTITLEMENT CDBG – FIRST PUBLIC HEARINGS:

County of Somerset – Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 3:00 P.M., at the offices of the Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County, Somerset County Office Complex, 300 N. Center Avenue, Suite 520, Somerset, PA 15501. 2025 Allocation is **approximately** \$262,896.

Township of Conemaugh – Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 5:00 P.M. at the Township Municipal Building, 1120 Tire Hill Road, Johnstown, PA 15905. 2025 Allocation is **approximately** \$123,261.00.

Borough of Somerset - Monday, February 24, 2025 @ 4:00 P.M. at the Borough Municipal Building, 340 W. Union Street, Somerset, PA 15501. 2025 Allocation is **approximately** \$115,545.00.

Township of Somerset – Thursday, March 13, 2025 @ 12:30 P.M. at the Township Municipal Building, 2209 N. Center Avenue, Somerset, PA 15501. 2023 Allocation is approximately \$180,949.00.

2024 ENTITLEMENT CDBG – CHANGES TO APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

County of Somerset – Changes to the 2024 Entitlement CDBG Application - Tuesday, February 25, 2025. at 3:15 P.M. at the offices of the Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County, Somerset County Office Complex, 300 N. Center Avenue, Suite 520, Somerset, PA 15501. The County's

2024 Entitlement CDBG Allocation is \$262,896. The County is removing a proposed activity for the Borough of Ursina (UV Light System) and updating the previously funded amount for the Borough of Garrett (Walker Street – Streetscape Improvements).

Borough of Somerset – Changes to the 2024 Entitlement CDBG Application - Monday, February 24, 2025. at 4:15 P.M. at the Borough Municipal Building, 340 W. Union Street, Somerset, PA 15501. 2024 Allocation is \$115,545.00. The Borough is eliminating originally proposed infrastructure improvements and reallocating these funds to the 140/150 W. Union Street property for Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation activities.

2022 AND 2023 ENTITLEMENT CDBG – BUDGET REVISIONS/MODIFICATIONS:

County of Somerset – Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 3:30 P.M. at the offices of the Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County, Somerset County Office Complex, 300 N. Center Avenue, Suite 520, Somerset, PA 15501. The County’s 2022 Entitlement CDBG funds are being re-allocated as follows: Re-allocating \$111,887 to the Ursina Borough - UV Light System Project, in conjunction with County 2020 and 2021 CDBG Entitlement funds, and reducing funds for the Garrett Borough – Walker Street Streetscape Improvement Project to \$106,439.00.

Township of Conemaugh – Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 5:15 P.M. at the Conemaugh Township Municipal Building, 1120 Tire Hill Road, Johnstown, PA 15905. The Township is reallocating \$40,000 remaining in 2022 Entitlement CDBG funds and \$102,736 of 2023 Entitlement CDBG funds to undertake Removal of Architectural Barriers at the Township Municipal Building for the two (2) existing restrooms.

In addition to the above allocations, delivery and administrative costs will be retained by the Redevelopment Authority for the management and administration of these projects. Details of these projects, as well as any other potential projects will be made available at the public hearings.

The Public Hearings will discuss the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program in general, the needs of the non-entitlement municipalities within the County of Somerset, as well as the entitlement municipalities which include Conemaugh Township, Somerset Borough, and Somerset Township, and the County’s and all entitlement municipalities’ performance under the previously funded CDBG Program years, and to discuss the required Three-Year Community Development Plan of these municipalities.

The County, as applicant, will be preparing and submitting applications/modifications/revisions, as mentioned above on behalf of the Townships and Boroughs to DCED for the CDBG Entitlement funds. The County will offer all residents, local agencies, and interested parties with the opportunity to become involved in the planning process. These Public Hearings will gather information and input on the needs of the Non-entitlement Areas of the County and the Entitlement Townships and Boroughs.

At least 70% of the available funding must be used for activities which benefit low-and-moderate income persons. The proposed activities must benefit at least 51% low-moderate income persons in the service area to qualify as a low-moderate income project.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the Entitlement CDBG Program: water and sewer line replacement and improvements; housing rehabilitation; construction of affordable housing; construction/reconstruction of public/community facilities; recreational facilities; public services that are new or provide quantifiable increases in the delivery of services; street improvements; historic preservation; removal of architectural barriers; code enforcement; economic development; acquisition and relocation; clearance and demolition; and general administration, planning, audit if required, and preparation of the CDBG application.

If the County of Somerset or the Entitlement Municipalities would undertake activities that result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the County of Somerset's policy for minimizing such displacement would be in effect. The County of Somerset and the Entitlement Municipalities are responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted because of the use of CDBG funds within the municipality of the displacement.

If special accommodations are needed for persons with disabilities, those with hearing or vision impairments, or those with limited English proficiency, in order to participate in these public hearings, please contact Patricia A. Adamczyk, Deputy Executive Director, Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County, by phone at (814) 443-2780, by email at patty@somersetredevelopment.org, or by mail at 300 N. Center Avenue, Suite 520, Somerset, PA 15501, at least two days in advance of the public hearing to allow for the necessary arrangements to be made. Persons with hearing and/or speech impediments may contact the Redevelopment Authority through the PA Telecommunications Relay Services at 1-800-654-5984, or by dialing 7-1-1.

All residents, local agencies, and interested parties are encouraged to attend these public hearings and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written comments concerning the needs of the Non-entitlement Areas of the County and Entitlement Townships and Boroughs, and the use of Entitlement and Competitive CDBG funds, as well as any past projects undertaken with CDBG funds. Written or oral comments may be directed to the attention of Mr. Steven R. Spochart, Executive Director, Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County, by phone at (814) 443-2780, by email at steve@somersetredevelopment.org, or by mail at 300 N. Center Avenue, Suite 520, Somerset, PA 15501, within ten (10) days after the public hearings.

Upon completion of the required second public hearings for the 2025 Entitlement CDBG funds, the applications will be submitted to the Somerset County Commissioners for their review and approval, at their regular meeting to be held on September 23, 2025, at 10:30 A.M., in the Commissioner's Board Room located in the County Office Building, 300 N. Center Avenue, Suite 500, Somerset, PA 15501. Once approved by the Commissioner's, the Redevelopment Authority will submit the application electronically to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development no later than 5:00 P.M. on October 31, 2025. **NOTE: Should these dates change, further clarification will be provided in the second Entitlement CDBG public hearing notice.**

Steven R. Spochart, Executive Director
Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County