



January 9, 2025

2025 COSCDA Program Managers Conference – TENTATIVE AGENDA (subject to change) March 17-18, 2025

Sunday – March 16

4:00 – 6:00 pm

COSCD A Board Meeting – Open to all conference attendees

Monday – March 17

7:30 – 8:30

Registration

Coffee/Tea Service Provided

8:30 – 9:45 am

Welcome and Opening Plenary

Welcome: Alison George, COSCDA President

Proposed Speakers: New HUD Leadership
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (to be invited)

Washington Update: Jenna Hampton, Director of Advocacy and Federal Programs, COSCDA

9:45 – 10:00 am

Networking Break (Coffee/Tea, No Refreshments)

Program Track Breakout Sessions A 10:00 – 11:30 am

Community Development Session	Housing Session	Homelessness Session	Disaster Recovery Session
Capacity Building & Monitoring Strategies for Subgrantee Oversight	HUD Monitoring of States for Housing Trust Fund (Tentative)	Understanding 2-Year NOFO Process & Guidance on Monitoring Subrecipients	Universal Notice: Guidance & Implementation

11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Lunch on Your Own

Program Track Breakout Sessions B 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Community Development Session CDBG-CV: Guidance on Expenditure Rates, Lessons Learned & Preparing for Closeout	Housing Session Guidance to Assure NSPIRE Compliance	Homelessness Session Stella Modeling: Version M Explained & Compared	Disaster Recovery Session Pre-Disaster Housing Initiative: Housing Planning before Disaster Strikes
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2:30 – 2:45 pm
Networking Break (Coffee/Tea, No Refreshments)

Joint Sessions 2:45 – 4:00 pm

Joint Session – Option 1 URA Rule: Addressing the 2024 Revisions	Joint Session – Option 2 Recovery Housing Program (RHP): How States Administer these Funds
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4:00 – 4:15 pm
Networking Break (Coffee/Tea, No Refreshments)

4:15 – 5:15 pm

Plenary Session
HUD’s Environmental Review Updates & Opportunities to Assist Subrecipients/Subgrantees

5:30 – 6:30 pm

Legislative Awards & Networking Reception
(Drinks & Hors d’Oeuvres)

6:30 pm

Dinner on Your Own

Tuesday – March 18

Joint Sessions 8:30 – 10:00 am

Joint Session – Option 3

BABA Updates and Experience in the Field

Joint Session – Option 4

Strengthening the Con Plan Process Addressing Resilience & Increasing Public Participation

10:00 – 10:15 am

Networking Break (Coffee/Tea, No Refreshments)

Program Track Breakout Sessions C 10:15 -11:45 am

Community Development Session

Funding Infrastructure with Data-Driven Decisions

Housing Session

Best Practices for Monitoring HOME & HOME-ARP Subrecipients & Grantees

Homelessness Session

Addressing Obstacles to Success of Rapid Rehousing

Disaster Recovery Session

Closeouts & Managing Program Income

11:45 – 1:15

Regional Breakout Lunches – All Conference Attendees
(Lunch provided)

1:15 – 2:45

New Directions for the 119th Congress

Panel Discussion of Congressional Members and/or Key Staff (to be invited)

Conference Wrap Up / Strategic Plan Update

Tess Humbree, Executive Director

2:45 – 3:00 pm

Networking Break (Coffee/Tea, No Refreshments)

3:00 – 4:30 pm

**Community Development
HUD Senior Officials**

**Housing
HUD Senior Officials**

**Homelessness
HUD Senior Officials**

**Disaster Recovery
HUD Senior Officials**

4:30 pm

Adjourn

Session Descriptions

Plenary and Joint Sessions

Monday, March 17, 8:30 AM

Welcome and Opening Plenary

With the change of Presidential administration, we expect there will be significantly new priorities and directions at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). We will seek to have a speaker from HUD's top leadership who can outline where HUD is headed and what to expect. Also, COSCDA's Director of Advocacy and Federal Programs will provide an update on legislative activity in Congress as well as regulatory and administrative actions.

Monday, March 17, 2:45 PM

Joint Session – Option 1

URA Rule: Addressing the 2024 Revisions

This session will focus on the significant changes in the revised final rule for the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act that became effective as of June 3, 2024. These changes increase the relocation benefits, provide new occupancy requirements, new acquisition and other procedures, including changes for replacement requirements under section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act. The session will review the new requirements and highlight HUD's resources/tools to assist states in complying with the new rule.

Monday, March 17, 2:45 PM

Joint Session – Option 2

Recovery Housing Program (RHP): How States Administer these Funds

Several COSCDA members will share their experience and highlight how they manage HUD's Recovery Housing Program to assist persons recovering from opioid and other substance addictions. The presentations will cover their priorities, application process, and partnerships to coordinate the use of these funds. While there will be information about program requirements, the session is designed to showcase the work of states and their program activities.

Monday, March 17, 4:15 – 5:15 pm

HUD’s Environmental Review Updates & Opportunities to Assist Subrecipients/Subgrantee

HUD staff will present on changes and updates for implementation of environmental reviews and how states and local recipients of HUD funds should fulfill the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). There are both changes that HUD is implementing for the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) and judicial decisions potentially impacting federal agencies in regulating environmental review procedures. This session will also highlight HUD’s updated Tribal Directory Assessment Tool (TDAT) to assist grantees and applicants in complying with tribal consultation requirements. This session will also include an opportunity to examine the impact of environmental review procedures on acquisitions and other difficult to navigate proposed projects.

Tuesday, March 18, 8:30 AM

Joint Session – Option 3

BABA Updates and Experience in the Field

This session will focus on real project experiences that adhere to the BABA procurement requirements. HUD staff will be invited to share relevant updates on how to implement BABA and any waivers that are available. COSCDA members will have an opportunity to ask questions anonymously prior to the conference which will be addressed during this session.

Tuesday, March 18, 8:30 AM

Joint Session – Option 4

Strengthening the Con Plan Process Addressing Resilience & Increasing Public Participation

HUD staff will outline new tools that help states improve their planning efforts on resilience to natural disasters and help increase public participation in developing the Con Plan. COSCDA members will share their experience and offer advice for more effective planning in the use of community development, housing, and homelessness resources.

Tuesday, March 18, 1:15 PM

New Directions for the 119th Congress

The President and HUD are not the only key leadership that impacts federal programs. This session will have a panel of Congressional staffers to highlight the priorities and anticipated actions of the legislative branch. This information will help COSCDA members advocate effectively to meet housing and community development needs.

This session will also include closing remarks from COSCDA’s Executive Director.

Community Development Breakout Sessions

Breakout Session A

Monday, March 17, 10:00 AM

Capacity Building & Monitoring Strategies for Subgrantee Oversight

States take different approaches to oversee their CDBG subgrantees. These strategies fall into 2 basic categories that COSCDA members will highlight to assure subgrantee compliance: capacity building activities such as training & technical assistance and monitoring activities that proactively support projects. This session will offer input from HUD staff to share recommendations on how states can improve their compliance.

Breakout Session B

Monday, March 17, 1:00 PM

CDBG-CV: Guidance on Expenditure Rates, Lessons Learned & Preparing for Closeout

This session will include states that offer guidance on lessons learned in undertaking new activities through the CDBG-CV allocation and HUD's experiences with these funds. The session will offer guidance for states needing to complete expenditures. It also cover the importance and process of completing closeout of CDBG-CV awards.

Breakout Session C

Tuesday, March 18, 10:15 AM

Funding Infrastructure with Data-Driven Decisions

The Method of Distribution to award CDBG funds can rely on different data sets and procedures to select the best use of public funds. COSCDA members will share examples of how they use both quantitative and qualitative data to consider and approve infrastructure grants.

Tuesday, March 18, 3:00 PM

Briefing with HUD Senior Officials

The Director and senior staff from the Office of Block Grant Assistance will provide updates on program guidance, regulations, and the funding outlook affecting the Community Development Block Grant, as well as CDBG-CV funding and critical compliance issues. State attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss with HUD any issues of importance to them.

Housing Breakout Sessions

Breakout Session A

Monday, March 17, 10:00 AM

HUD Monitoring of States for Housing Trust Fund (Tentative)

The HUD Office of Affordable Housing Programs staff anticipates that its checklists to monitor states for the Housing Trust Fund will be issued before the conference. HUD staff will present an overview of the checklists and how HUD will use them. HUD may also review any concerns about how the program is operating.

Breakout Session B

Monday, March 17, 1:00 PM

Guidance to Assure NSPIRE Compliance

National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE) are replacing the Housing Quality Standards that were in place for many years. NSPIRE has already been implemented for a couple HUD programs. The HUD Office of Affordable Housing expects to issue an updated notice that govern the HOME Program and Housing Trust Fund. This session will include HUD guidance on how to implement NSPIRE and may include a couple states' initial experience with the new standards.

Breakout Session C

Tuesday, March 18, 10:15 AM

Best Practices for Monitoring HOME & HOME-ARP Subrecipients & Grantees

This session will have COSCDA members present how they organize and undertake their monitoring of housing subrecipients and grantees. This session will primarily focus on the experience and examples of states. Additional information from a program perspective will be provided by either HUD or a technical assistance provider.

Tuesday, March 18, 3:00 PM

Briefing with HUD Senior Officials

The Director and senior staff from the Office of Affordable Housing Programs will provide updates on program guidance, regulations, and the funding outlook affecting the HOME Program and Housing Trust Fund. State attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss with HUD any issues of importance to them.

Homelessness Breakout Sessions

Breakout Session A

Monday, March 17, 10:00 AM

Understanding 2-Year NOFO Process & Guidance on Monitoring Subrecipients

HUD is implementing a 2-year NOFO process to replace the requirement for annual applications. Leadership from the HUD Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) will summarize how the new process is working. That staff also will highlight recommended steps and procedures for COSCDA members when monitoring their subrecipients.

Breakout Session B

Monday, March 17, 1:00 PM

Stella Modeling: Version M Explained & Compared

Stella modeling uses community's data on homelessness, combinations of project types, and performance goals to calculate the inventory of housing, shelter, and services needed to fully meet the community's needs. A newly released version M of Stella modeling will be described and compared to the prior version. The breakout will also include state presentations on how they use Stella modeling.

Breakout Session C

Tuesday, March 18, 10:15 AM

Addressing Obstacles to Success of Rapid Rehousing

This session will include a few states offering their experiences and difficulties in fulfilling the requirements of Rapid Rehousing, particularly in light of limited housing supply and rent limitations. This session will include discussion among attendees as well to gather information that can be used in discussions with HUD on implementing this priority for the Emergency Solutions Grant.

Tuesday, March 18, 3:00 PM

Briefing with HUD Senior Officials

The Director of the Office of Special Needs Programs will provide updates on program guidance, regulations, and funding outlook affecting HUD's Homelessness Programs. State attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss with HUD any issues of importance to them.

Disaster Recovery Breakout Sessions

Breakout Session A

Monday, March 17, 10:00 AM

Universal Notice: Guidance & Implementation

HUD anticipates issuing a new Universal Notice that will direct the implementation of recently awarded CDBG-DR funding. This session will highlight the changes in program requirements as well as review the potential flexibility available to grantees receiving funds before 2023. HUD also has new templates to assist states in managing these funds which will be covered in this session.

Breakout Session B

Monday, March 17, 1:00 PM

Pre-Disaster Housing Initiative: Housing Planning before Disaster Strikes

States can benefit from having plans in place to address housing needs before disaster strikes. FEMA and HUD have an initiative to help states prepare these plans and is particularly focused on those states that have not yet experienced disaster providing CDBG-DR funding. The session will also have information from states that completed such a plan. This initiative was outlined in this document: [Final Report](#).

Breakout Session C

Tuesday, March 18, 10:15 AM

Closeouts & Managing Program Income

HUD staff will review the process, checklist, and steps necessary to closeout CDBG-DR grant awards. This session will also include information about how states can use program income whenever that occurs and how it is managed after a DR project closeout. This session will assure that states know how to comply with HUD's program requirements.

Tuesday, March 18, 3:00 PM

Briefing with HUD Senior Officials

The Director of the Office of Disaster Recovery will provide updates on program guidance, regulations, and funding outlook affecting HUD's CDBG-Disaster Recovery program. State attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss with HUD any issues of importance to them.