





Kansas
Department of Commerce






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Welcome,

COSCDA colleagues!

Today's Agenda

- Program Promotion and Collaboration
- Funding of Last Resort
- Inquiries Received
- Projects Funded
- Project Examples
- Summary

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Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Urgent Need Program



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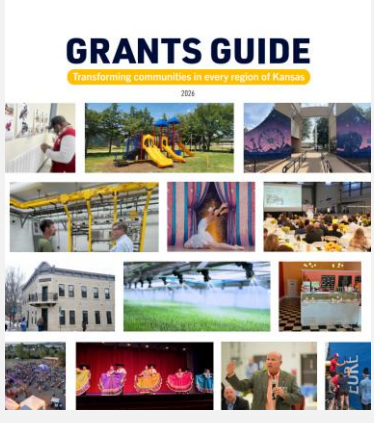
Program Promotion and Collaboration

- Going on the road – through roadshows we visit all six regions of Kansas
- Networking with our existing CDBG recipients, grant admins, and other interested parties
- Promoting programs in Kansas Commerce's Grants Guide
- Circulating program guidelines to provide an abbreviated timeline for the grant award
- Working with Kansas Department of Emergency Management and other state agencies







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Funding of Last Resort

HUD funding criteria for recipients:

1. Address an immediate threat
2. Condition is of recent origin (6 months for Kansas)
3. The condition is certified as urgent and impacts community health or welfare
4. Inability to finance the activity on their own
5. There are no other sources of funding available

The typical stumbling block we see for urgent need requests is the “lack of available funding”

*** Purposely difficult to meet ***



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Inquiries Received

- Staff reviews inquiries and discusses the urgent need with the community—most do not meet minimum standards to submit an application

- Some examples:
  - Multiple collapsed downtown building roofs
  - Hole in local bridge serving a small community
  - Property damage from softball-sized hail



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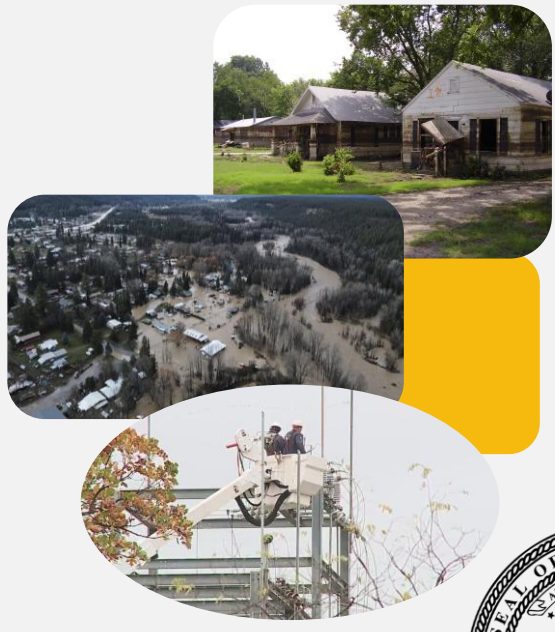
Inquiries Received, Cont'd.

- Other examples:
  - Flooding causing residential and commercial building damage
  - A transformer failing during a storm and the small community lost power



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Projects Funded

- Many fixed commercial building roof collapses
- Example projects:
  - Replaced a suspended water line damaged during a storm
  - Assisted with damage to housing units during a large flood
  - Converted homes to propane after a fire swept through a local power plant. The damage at the plant caused the entire town to lose its natural gas service (heating source)



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Projects Funded, Cont'd.



- Several requests over the years to assist with tornado damage
- A large downtown building had a devastating fire that destroyed four storefronts
- A sewer main break impacting the wastewater treatment for a small community
- Water main breaks impacting the supply of clean, potable water for communities

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Older Projects Funded

- Sewer line collapses/lift station failure (5)
- Water tower collapses or repairs (2)
- Tornado damage repairs (many)
- Lagoon repairs (2)
- Booster pump repairs (2)
- Building demolition due to fire
- Home buyouts due to flood damage



Linwood, KS

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Funding Levels of Past Projects

- Replaced exposed water line crossing a river - $180,185
- Replaced 2 booster pumps - $106,750
- Repaired an aerial sanitary sewer encasement - $347,500
- Removed and replaced broken sewer line under state highway - $198,390
- Rebuilt engine and transmission of a fire tanker truck - $19,249
- Demolished 6 downtown buildings destroyed by fire - $331,000
- Bought out homes damaged by flood - $385,090
- Stabilized shared walls with a collapsed building - $400,000
- Repaired wastewater treatment lagoons - $245,747

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Project Example #1

Herington, KS - Wastewater Blower Replacement - $94,413

- The blowers at the wastewater plant failed
- This directly impacted the health of the community as waste could not be properly processed
- Installation of blowers allowed the community to properly process wastewater and become compliant with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (regulatory agency)
- Community chose certain replacement blowers to be compatible with their anticipated long-term solution for the plant



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Project Example #2

Grinnell, KS – Water Meter Installation - $56,237

- The community suffered from a devastating EF3 tornado that tore through the middle of this small town
- The CDBG assistance helped re-install water meters for several residences and businesses
- CDBG bought the meters and associated equipment and city staff installed
- This funding helped with the immediate recovery effort with the long-term plan to rebuild the town and bring back displaced residents and businesses



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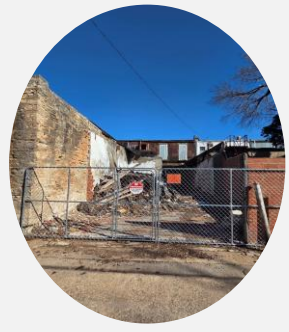
Project Example #3

Caldwell, KS – Downtown Building Demolition - $100,000

- The roof of a dilapidated downtown building was ripped off during a storm
- The building became unstable without the roof
- The collapsed building is impacting the structural integrity of the adjoining buildings
- The city has since secured ownership of the property
- Demolition of the remaining structure with CDBG funds and then the long-term plan is to create a pocket park in the cleared downtown lot





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Summary

- Difficult to meet the program thresholds
- Proving lack of available funds is a typical stumbling block
- To help with securing timely assistance, Commerce has abbreviated the grant application timelines
- The program provides flexibility to the community and Commerce on how to assist a community deal with a devastating event
- Funded projects have a significant impact on the community



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Thank you!

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