COUNTY OF UNION

PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Jeffrey P. Reber, Chairman Preston R. Boop, Vice-Chairman Stacy Richards, Secretary

Chief Clerk/Administrator Susan A. Greene

March 21, 2023

Dear Municipal Official:

The Union County Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce the opening of the Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. This program utilizes HUD funds through the Pennsylvania Entitlement Program as enacted by Pennsylvania Act 179. This Act further requires that the County serve as the local administering agency for these funds for all County municipalities with populations of less than 4,000.

For Federal Fiscal Year 2023, Union County estimates that it will receive \$249,429. Eligible activities include broad areas of housing, community infrastructure, economic development, and public services. Specific activities may include property acquisition, recreation, and senior facilities. Funds may also be used for public works, water and sewerage development/improvement, and the removal of architectural barriers. All projects must have a direct benefit to low- and moderate-income residents, elimination of slums and blight, and/or elimination of urgent threats to health and safety.

In order to receive input and to solicit proposals, a Public Hearing and Project Development Workshop will be held on May 17, 2023, at 6:00 PM, at the Union County Government Center, 155 North 15th Street, Lewisburg, PA, in the Community Room. If you have a disability or limited English proficiency and require an auxiliary aid or accommodations, please contact Andrea Genovese at SEDA-COG, 1-800-332-6701, 1-800-654-5984 TTY, 1-800-654-5988 TDD to discuss your needs. Translators will be available upon request. This meeting will provide information regarding the program, and, more importantly, will assist communities in developing their project requests including determination of project's eligibility for CDBG funding, and methods to determine if your project serves or provides a benefit to an area that is 51% or more low to moderate income people. Projects intended to eliminate blight, or an urgent health and safety threat do not need to meet this income requirement for consideration of funding.

Attached to this letter is the application preparation schedule, as well as a Project Summary form to be completed by applicants. We are requesting project information to determine project eligibility, fundability, cost, and schedule to ensure efficient development and construction should the project be funded by the Commissioners. We are requesting a map of the service area, the number of households served, and a list of addresses in the service area.

We are also asking applicants to secure and submit an estimate of probable cost and a schedule from an engineer. We will review the form and necessary project information at the workshop on May 17, 2023. Completed forms and attachments should be submitted via email to Angie Hunselman, <u>akemberling@seda-cog.org</u>, or faxed if email is not available to 570-524-9190, attention Angie, no later than June 14, 2023. Please contact Angie Hunselman at (570) 524-4491, extn. 7285 for assistance with completing the Project Summary Form or with any questions.

Following the workshop, the County Commissioners will be accepting proposals which will be evaluated based on need, impact, and completeness. Projects will then be prioritized by Union County for submission to DCED. Projects that are submitted with all requested documentation, including the estimate of probable cost, and from applicants who attended the Public Hearing and Project Development Workshop, will be prioritized for funding.

We strongly encourage you to attend the Public Hearing and Project Development Workshop. It will provide additional insight into the application process, as well as allow us to review your project in detail. We are excited about the benefits that this program may yield throughout Union County and look forward to seeing you at the meeting on May 17, 2023.

Sincerely,

Union County Commissioners

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Jeffrey P. Reber, Chairman

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Preston R. Boop, Vice-Chairman

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