



# City of Lake Charles, Louisiana

## HUD CDBG-DR Funding

### Public Hearing #1

### Questions and Answers

Date July 6, 2023 – 1:00 PM Allen P. August Multipurpose Center, 200 Moeling Street, Lake Charles LA 70601

20 members of the public attended the meeting

Questions	Answers
Can the City look toward North Lake Charles for projects like covering open ditches and repairing sewer lines. North Lake Charles area has old infrastructure that needs to be upgraded.	Lake Charles will use funds from a Hazard Mitigation grant to address the open ditches. The City will be considering infrastructure improvements not only in North Lake Charles but the entire City. This may include the replacement of water and sewer lines as well as improvements to the water and wastewater treatment plants.
Some of the Streets were construction in the 1940's and have ditches above rocks. Can these conditions be addressed through this program	Lake Charles has mitigation funds available to address the condition of the ditches. The City is considering using a portion of the CDBG-DR funds to replace/repair streets and sidewalks where current conditions require restoration.
The City formerly maintained an indoor Olympic size swimming pool. Having this pool would be an opportunity to provide swimming lessons.	A swimming pool would be considered a recreation project and, given the requirements of the CDBG-DR grant program, it would difficult to make this activity eligible for funding.
Can a Micro-Lending program be introduced for businesses in the City	The City is currently considering certain economic development initiatives for this funding. A Micro-Lending program will be considered. There is also the OCD Small Business Loan program currently available. For more information visit this website: <a href="https://www.restore.la.gov/small-business-loan-program">https://www.restore.la.gov/small-business-loan-program</a>
We support the idea of revitalizing the community. Everyone here has a job to do. Get	The City of Lake Charles is committed to obtaining as much public input as possible to ensure the

<p>on the Street and tell people to let the City know project ideas for the programs.</p>	<p>City is considering all suggestions for projects from the public before deciding on final project selection. Anyone not able to attend either of the public hearings, or even if one did attend the meeting in person, written comments can be submitted, via email to <a href="mailto:communitydevelopment@cityoflc.us">communitydevelopment@cityoflc.us</a> or via mail to the Office of Community Development, P.O. Box 900, Lake Charles, LA 70602</p>
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# City of Lake Charles, Louisiana

## HUD CDBG-DR Funding

### Public Hearing #2

### Questions and Answers

Date July 6, 2023 – 6:00 PM City Hall, Cancell Chambers, 326 Pujoe Street, Lake Charles LA 70601

13 members of the public attended the meeting

<p>I don't think that Low and Moderate Income (LMI) should determine who gets the money, because we were all affected by the disaster. We all pay taxes.</p>	<p>Since the funding originates from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), all projects must meet federal requirements. HUD requires that these projects benefit LMI areas. There are projects however, that benefit the entire community but are still compliant with regulations.</p>
<p>What does the City have in mind for projects? Would power lines underground be an eligible project?</p>	<p>In certain instances, installing underground powerlines can be eligible. Each project being considered would need to have a tie-back to the storm. It would also be necessary to investigate the demographics in the areas that may be considered for this activity.</p>
<p>We need to use this money for housing repairs, training people how to take care of their homes and police training.</p>	<p>The funding being made available to the City is limited to infrastructure and economic development activities.</p> <p>For homeowners that are seeking assistance, they can access funding through the Restore program. Contact information is provided below:</p> <p>For anyone seeking funding assistance for home repairs, please contact <a href="http://restore.la.gov">restore.la.gov</a> or call (866) 735-2001 or visit the Lake Charles Office, located in the Magnolia Building:          1011 Lakeshore Drive, Suite 306          Lake Charles, LA 70601          Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday</p>

	<p>8:00 am to 5:00 pm (closed Noon to 1:00 pm for lunch) No appointment necessary.</p> <p>In certain instances, police training can be considered eligible. At least 51% of the trainees must qualify as LMI.</p>
<p>What does improvement to industrial corridor mean? Parks? I would recommend parks being built in the central and north part of Lake Charles. Would also like to see providing free equipment for recreation sports. Also need to work on drainage.</p>	<p>Improvements to an Industrial Corridor is an eligible activity under this program and can include rehabilitation activities limited to exterior improvements. Park construction/improvements are also an eligible project depending on the location of the park. The purchase of any equipment, including sporting goods, is not an eligible activity.</p> <p>Two parks are currently being built in North Lake Charles with other funds. Anita Park on the corner of Anita Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street is about to break ground. There will be a splash pad there. Nelly Lutcher Park is being built at Enterprise Blvd and S. Division Street. It is at 40% construction complete. It will have a stage for performances and hookups for food trucks.</p> <p>Both parks are expected to be complete by end of this year.</p>
<p>There will be a new North Lake Charles economic district all the way to 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Can we use this money for economic development along the I10 Corridor? Can the funds be used to train carpenters?</p>	<p>Economic development activities are directly related to the creation or retention of jobs, 51% of which need to be available to LMI individuals. Any economic development initiatives taking place within the I10 Corridor that meet the above criteria will be considered eligible and will be taken under consideration by the City.</p> <p>Training is an eligible activity as long as 51% of the students qualify as LMI.</p>
<p>Are Downtown Façade Improvements being considered?</p>	<p>Façade Improvements are considered eligible as long as the facades being proposed meet all funding criteria.</p>