

# ***Grant Administrator Update***

Thursday,  
April 3, 2025  
10a-12p



*Agency under the Office of Lieutenant Governor Micah Beckwith*



# Mission

OCRA works with local, state and national partners to **provide resources** and **technical assistance** to aid communities in shaping and achieving their vision for community and economic development.






## Housekeeping

- ▶ This GA update is using 'Teams Webinar.' While using this webinar, you will not be able to use your audio or video.
- ▶ If you are having any issues connecting, reach out to [CDBG@ocra.in.gov](mailto:CDBG@ocra.in.gov) for assistance.

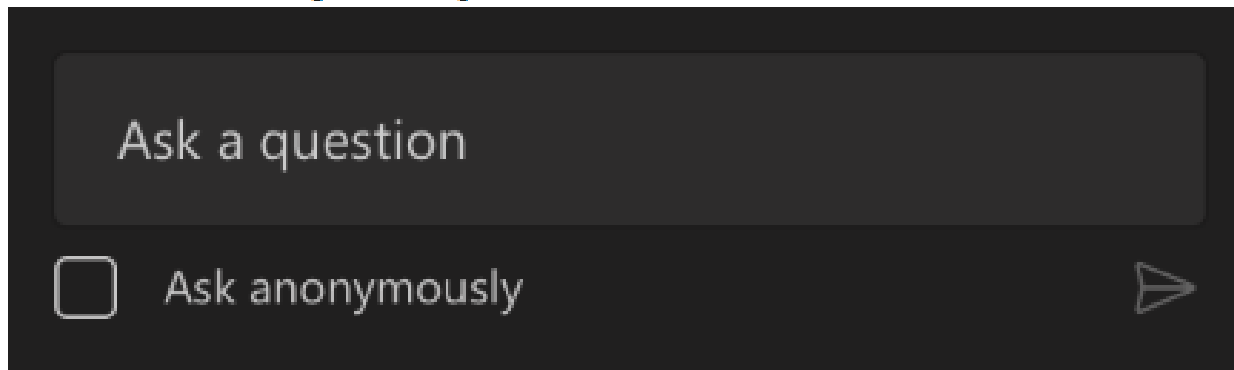
# Ask a question

If you're an attendee and want to ask a question, just:


Select **Q&A**  on the right side of the screen.

**Note:** The Q&A panel only appears if the [organizer](#) has set it up.

Type your question in the compose box, and then select **Send**. If you want to ask your question anonymously, select **Ask anonymously**.

A dark-themed screenshot of a Q&A interface. At the top is a large, rounded rectangular text input field with the placeholder text "Ask a question" in a light gray font. Below this field, on the left, is a checkbox followed by the text "Ask anonymously" in a light gray font. On the right side of the same row is a light gray paper plane icon, which serves as the "Send" button.

Ask a question

☐ Ask anonymously 

# GA Update Credit

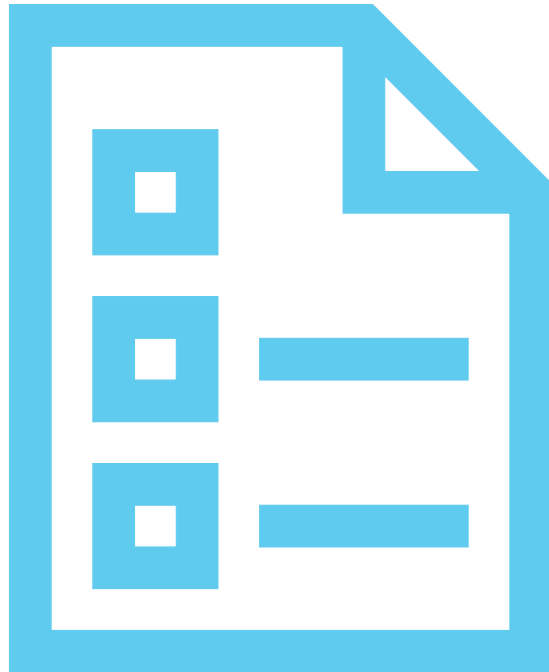


- ▶ By registering and participating in this GA Update, you are receiving credit towards your certification requirement.

**\*~ I CE CREDIT ~\***

- ▶ PPT will be sent to you via email
- ▶ PPT and recording will be on the webpage

# Questionnaire



Thank you!

During this meeting, you will receive updates from the following teams:

CDBG Team

Strategic Initiatives

Grant Services



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# Office of Community & Rural Affairs (OCRA)

## Team Updates



# OCRA Staffing Updates

- ▶ Fred Glynn
- ▶ Executive Director



Next Up Is...

**Steve  
St. John**

**Please give  
him a warm  
welcome!**

# OCRA Staffing Updates

- ▶ Steven St. John
- ▶ CDBG State Program Director



# OCRA Staffing Updates



Tanaha Simon  
CDBG Program Manager

Next Up Is...

**Dina  
Ferchmin**

**Please give  
her a warm  
welcome!**

# OCRA Staffing Update

- ▶ Dina Ferchmin
- ▶ Community Affairs Director



# New CL's



Johnny Kincaid  
Southwest Community Liaison



Taten Arnold  
Southeast Community Liaison



# New CL's





Teresa Ayer  
East Central Community Liaison



Lindsey Hammond  
Northeast Community Liaison

Next Up Is...



# **CDBG Updates**

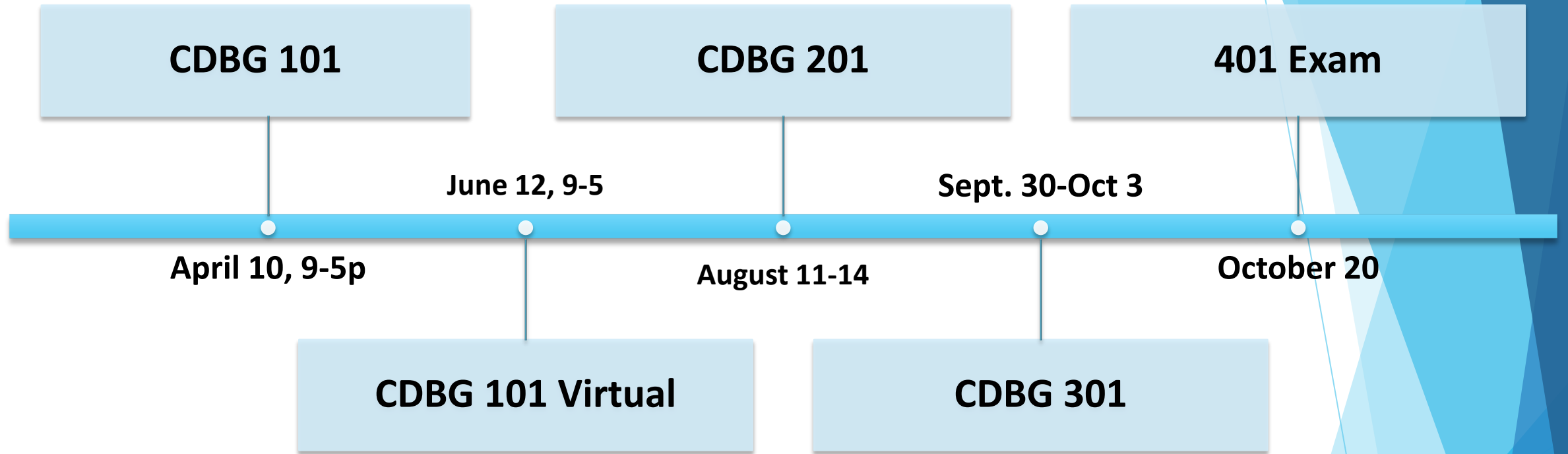
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# Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Team Updates

Mark Your Fall  
Calendars!

Next GA Update

Thursday, October 16, 2025,  
10a-12p



**The 2025 CDBG GA Training Schedule is Live!**

Register on our website:

<https://events.in.gov/event/2025-cdbg-grant-administrator-101-training>

Next Up Is...

**Pame  
Guerrero**

**Please give  
her a warm  
welcome!**

# 2025 Round I is Open: Important Due Dates and Reminders

Proposals are due April 17, 2025

Submit via eGMS by 11:59pm ET

Pre-approval items must be submitted to OCRA by June 6, 2025.

Please email all requests to our CDBG shared inbox at [cdbg@ocra.in.gov](mailto:cdbg@ocra.in.gov).

Applications are due Friday, June 20, 2025.

Applications must be submitted via eGMS by 11:59 p.m. ET.

Remember to double check all contact details for those assigned an application role in eGMS.



1

Both Programs will open for applications on April 14, 2025.

2

Applications must be submitted in eGMS by 11:59 p.m. ET. on May 16, 2025.

3

Pre-approval items must be submitted to OCRA by May 2, 2025.

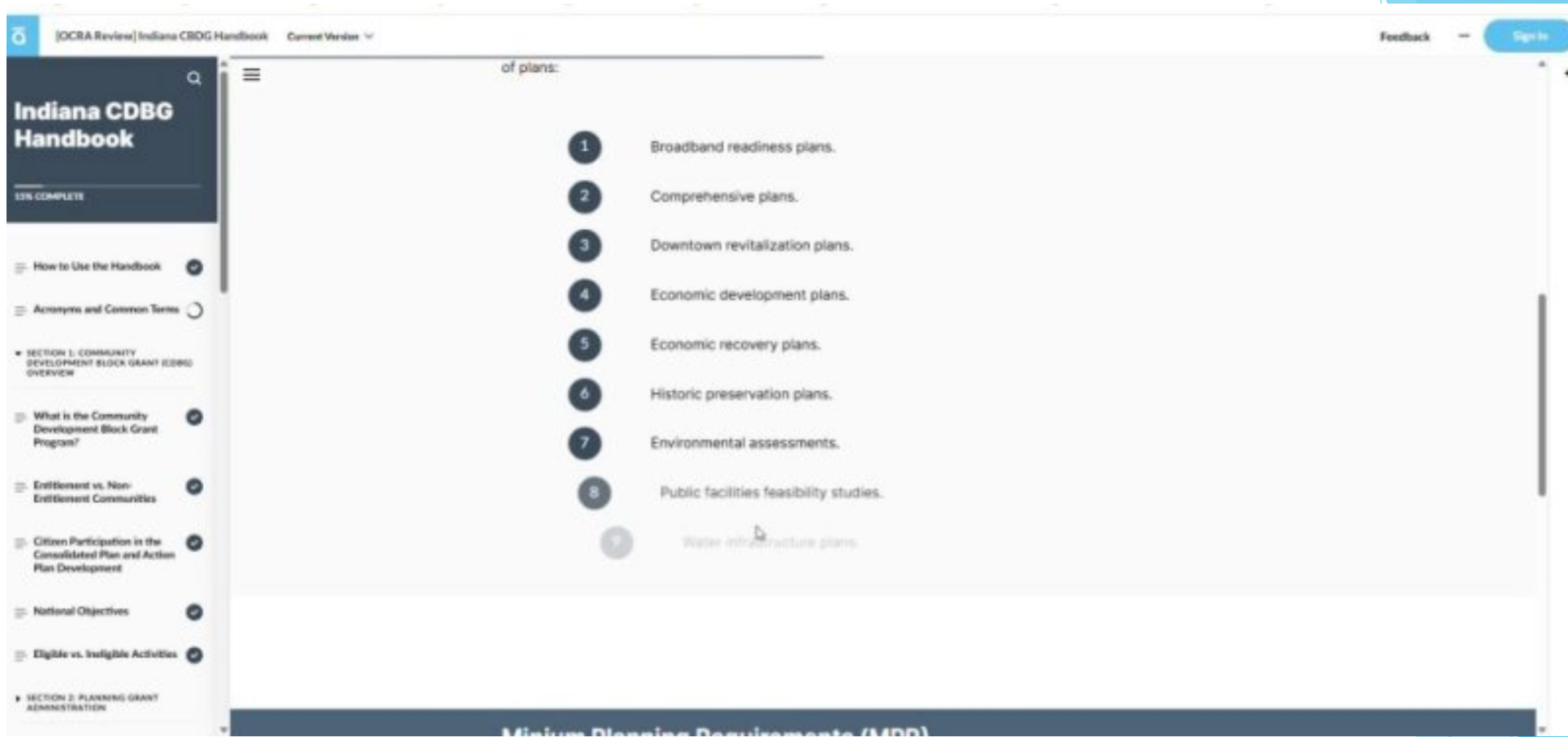
4

Please email all requests to our CDBG shared inbox at [cdbg@ocra.in.gov](mailto:cdbg@ocra.in.gov).

5

Remember to double check all contact details for anyone assigned an application role in eGMS.

## Q2 Planning and OOR Reminders



CDBG Handbook

► Progress Overview

# 2024 Action Plan Amendment



Bonus Points Changes: Regional Bonus Points will be replaced with Community Resilience Improvement Plan & Community Resilience Index Points



Planning Grant Program Specific Points will be consolidated



Point Reduction Policy will be adjusted



Adjustments to the local match percentage required for the Planning (PL) program to at least 8% rather than 10%



Set a \$7,000 flat fee rather than 8% rate for indirect costs associated with administration fees for managing CDBG grants within the planning program

# Bonus Points: Community Resilience Index



The Bonus Points policy will be revised moving us from Regional bonus points to the new Community Resilience Index for all CDBG programs.



The Community Resilience Index focuses on a community's potential for future economic growth, assessing it through various dimensions, including: Structure of the local economy, Entrepreneurship, Human capital, Labor force participation, Social Connectivity, Broadband, Wealth Gap & Homeownership



Grant application will receive a maximum of 25 points for the submission of a community resilience improvement plan and their corresponding point awarded value from the Community Resilience improvement plan Index as provided by Stats Indiana: <https://www.stats.indiana.edu/topic/cdbg.asp>.



Applicants must submit the community resilience improvement plan to the CDBG Program Manager approximately 1-2 weeks prior to the application submission deadline, which will be announced each round or quarterly.

# Q3 & Q4 Planning Grants- Program Specific Points

## ▶ **Supplemental Input and Community Engagement**

- ▶ A maximum of 25 points will be awarded to communities that exceed the basic requirements of submitting letters of support, surveys, and holding two public hearings to document public engagement and input. These additional points recognize those that demonstrate meaningful public engagement and collaboration, indicating they took additional steps to solicit feedback from the community. This can involve activities such as community workshops, promotion, meetings with key stakeholders, citizens participation in committees and other methods to ensure broad participation towards the community's application process.
- ▶ 0 points- no additional engagement methods
- ▶ 10 points- 1 to 2 additional engagement methods
- ▶ 25 points- 3 or more additional engagement methods

## ▶ **Connection to Previous Planning Efforts and Implementation**

- ▶ A maximum of 25 will be awarded to communities that effectively demonstrates their engagement with previous planning initiatives. This includes providing documentation indicating how the current plan relates to a previous planning effort of the community applying or documenting the successful execution of a previous planning grant.
- ▶ 0 points- no previous planning efforts or documentation of execution of previous planning grant
- ▶ 25 points- previous planning efforts or documentation of execution of previous planning grant

# Point Reduction Policy

- ▶ OCRA will allow communities to apply for one, two, or three utility systems under the utility study planning grant. The point reduction policy will apply to communities requesting additional funding for utility systems that were not previously studied under a recent utility planning award. We encourage communities not to apply for each utility system separately.
- ▶ A community can choose to address all utility systems—Wastewater, Stormwater, and Drinking Water—concurrently in a master utility plan or conduct a two-utility plan study depending on the utilities that are controlled by or of interest to/by the community.



# Point Reduction Policy Examples

- ▶ **1<sup>st</sup> Example:** Community submits and is awarded a Wastewater Drinking Water (WDW) grant in 2020. When applying for a WDW grant in 2025, they would be subject to a point reduction of 50 pts. In 2026 they would have no point reduction.
- ▶ **0 – 5 years since previous funding – -50 points**
- ▶ **2<sup>nd</sup> Example:** A community submits and is awarded a utility study grant in 2020 for a single utility study. When applying for another planning grant for a single, two, or master utility study in 2025, they would be subject to a point reduction of 50 pts. In 2026, they would have no point reduction for a single, two, or master system utility.
- ▶ **0 – 5 years since previous funding – -50 points**



# 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan & 2025 Action Plan



Program Specific Points will be adjusted for the user rate benchmark for Wastewater Drinking Water (WDW) program.



WDW - Combined utility rates for the ongoing operation and maintenance activities of the wastewater, drinking water, and/or stormwater systems.

0 points – Less than \$55 combined user rates  
10 points – \$55-\$100 combined user rates  
25 points – More than \$100 combined user rates



Supporting communities housing development needs through the planning program



Facilitating proactive resilience building in communities through the planning program.



Expanding the Blight Clearance Program to include residential buildings

# 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan & 2025 Action Plan



Facilitate the rehabilitation and restoration of historic buildings through the Public Facilities Program.



Support green infrastructure within the Main Street Revitalization and Public Facilities Programs.



In addition to the changes proposed in the 2024 Action Plan Amendment

Next Up Is...

**Armica**

**Hello  
there!**

Office of Community and Rural Affairs  
Planning Grant: Program Specific Points Form

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**Instructions**

To qualify for additional program-specific points on a CDBG Planning Grant Program application, please fill out this form. You must utilize the most recent Grant Evaluation Criteria Program Specific Points found on our [Planning webpage](#), in the Application Instructions (see page 9), to provide the required information.

An application can receive a maximum of 50 points from this section. Submit completed program-specific points form to OCRA via INeGMS as part of the application submission by the application due date. For any questions, please reach out to [cdbg@ocra.in.gov](mailto:cdbg@ocra.in.gov).

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**Grant Applicant Information**

LUG Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Type: \_\_\_\_\_

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Community Input and Collaboration (A maximum of 25 points)

Connection to Previous Planning Effort (A maximum of 15 points)

Implementation of Previous Plan or First-time Plans (A maximum of 10 points)

# Planning Program Specific Points Form Q2

This form will be located on our [CDBG  
Resources](#) webpage

A few more  
reminders!

Headers for application

Previous Efforts

Scope of work should always tie to the  
community

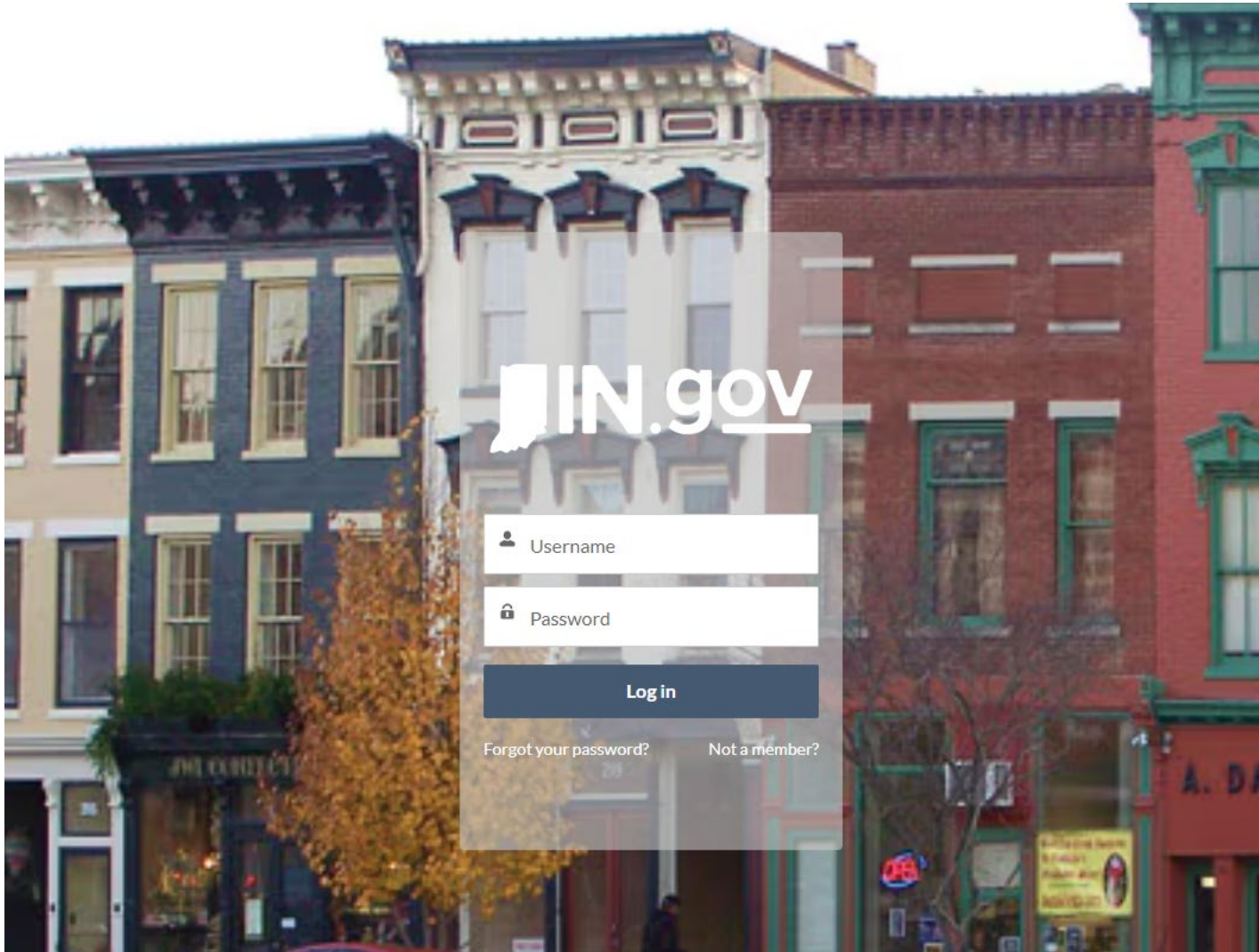
3 viable options



# Continuing Education Log Now Available

- ▶ New changes starting now!
- ▶ IN.gov portal
- ▶ Enter your CE credits here going forward
- ▶ Monthly checks / End of the year audits
- ▶ Screenshots available
  
- ▶ Contact Grant Administrator for access
  - ▶ [Kajohantges@lg.in.gov](mailto:Kajohantges@lg.in.gov)
  
- ▶ Email us with questions at [cdbg@ocra.in.gov](mailto:cdbg@ocra.in.gov)

# IN.gov Login





# IN.gov Portal



Welcome to Indiana Grants Management!



# New CEC Log



Home

Account Details

Income Surveys

Continuing Education Log





Home

Account Details

Income Surveys

Continuing Education Log



OCRA Trainings

All



Updated

LIST VIEWS

2025 Continuing Education Credits



All

My Continuing Education

Recently Viewed

New

Printable View

Search this list...



Host



Location





OCRA Training  
CDBG Training 101

Edit Delete Clone

Grant Administrator



OCRA Training Name

CDBG Training 101



Start Date

1/14/2025



End Date

1/14/2025



Number of Credits

2



Files (0)

Add Files

Upload Files

Or drop files



Home

Account Details

Income Surveys

Continuing Education Log



OCRA Training  
CDBG Training 101

Grant Administrator



Start Date

1/14/2025



OCRA Training Name

CDBG Training 101



End Date

1/14/2025



Number of Credits

2



Edit

Delete

Clone



Files (0)

Add Files

 Upload Files

Or drop files



Next Up Is...

**Tanaha  
Simon**

**Please give  
her a warm  
welcome!**

# Construction Application: WDW

- **Combined rate = wastewater and drinking water rates**

## **M. Maximum Grant Amounts**

The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) has established maximum grant award amount(s) for each project type outlined below.

### **Wastewater & Drinking Water (WDW) Program:**

Maximum grant amounts for Wastewater and Drinking Water are based upon user-rate information, as follows:

Maximum Grant Amounts	Rates for 4,000 gallons		
	User Rates (Over \$50)	User Rates (\$30 to \$50)	User Rates (Under \$30)
Projects over \$1 million in total project cost	\$750,000	\$700,000	\$650,000
Projects under \$1 million in total project cost	\$700,000	\$650,000	\$600,000

Grant amounts for communities with existing systems are based on the current combined rates (water, wastewater) at the time of application, and grant amounts for communities constructing new systems will be based on a verified rate study included in a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER).

The amount of CDBG funds granted will be based on a \$5,000 cost per project beneficiary.

# 2025 Round 1: MSRP open for applications!

## Main Street Revitalization Program

### Program Overview

The Main Street Revitalization Program aims to assist Indiana Main Street communities to fund streetscape projects intended to revitalize their downtown area.



### Project total cost

- If the project cost is **over** \$2 million, the community can request up to **\$600,000**
- If the project cost is **less** than \$2 million, the community can request up to **\$500,000**
- The community is required to make 20% match

### MSRP Updates

- Facades will no longer be funded in MSRP.
- Applications are being accepted during the 2025 CDBG Round 1 process. Awards will be made on a competitive basis.
- In the past five years, the community must have completed a Downtown Revitalization Plan meeting OCRA's minimum plan requirements.
- If a community has an alternative plan that meets OCRA's requirements for a downtown revitalization plan, they may use the alternative plan, with approval from the CDBG program director.





*Eligible communities in the following slide*

# MSRP Eligible Communities

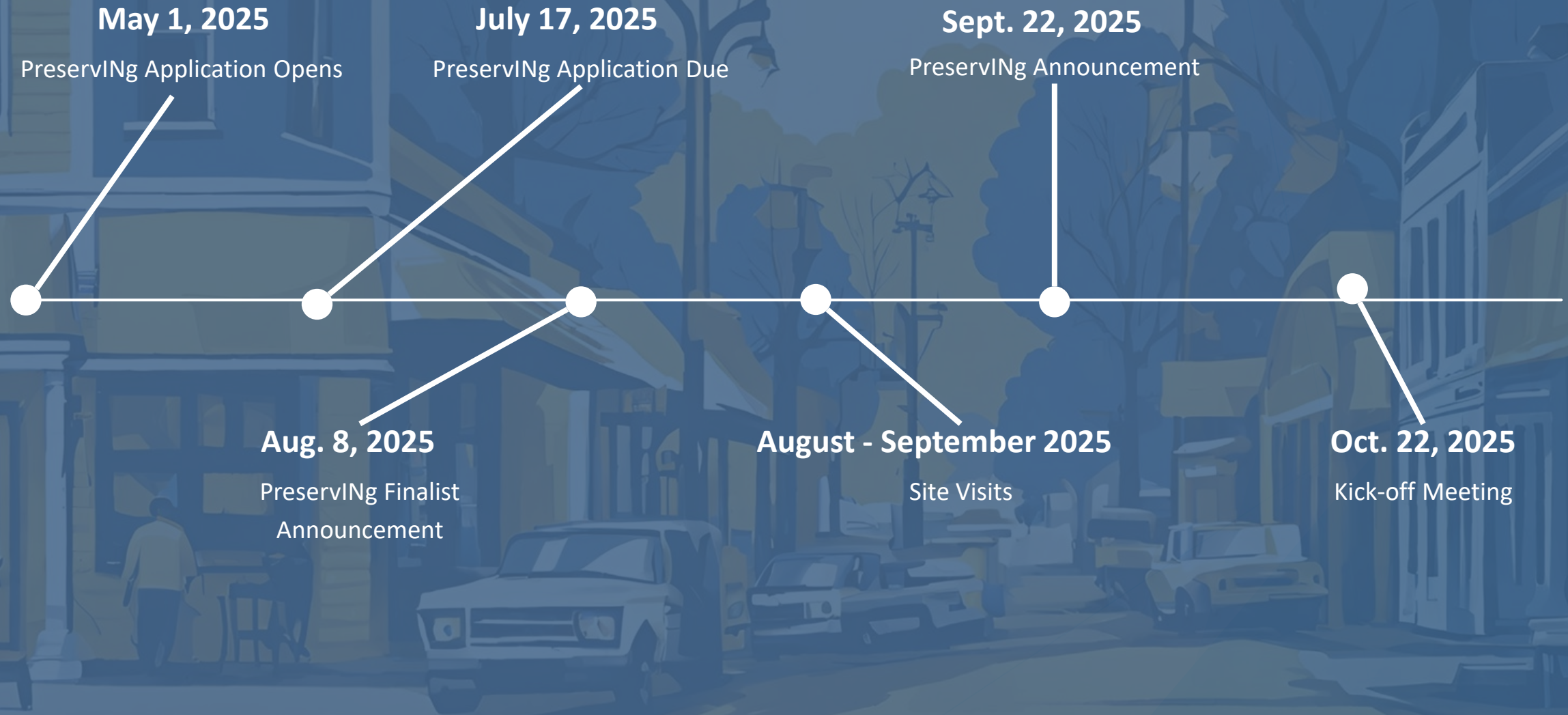
Angola	Lawrenceburg
Auburn	Lebanon
Aurora	Logansport
Batesville	Madison
Brookville	Monticello
Columbia City	New Castle
Corydon	North Manchester
Crawfordsville	North Vernon
Delphi	Pendleton
Dillsboro	Peru
Frankfort	Rushville
Franklin	Seymour
Greenfield	Shelbyville
Greensburg	Sheridan
Huntingburg	Tipton
Jasper	Wabash
Kendalville	

Next Up Is...

**Me,  
Armica**

**I'm back!**

# Timeline





An aerial photograph of a city, likely Indianapolis, showing a river (the White River) winding through the urban landscape. In the foreground, there's a dense residential area with many houses and trees. In the middle ground, there's an industrial area with several large silos and buildings. The background shows more city buildings and a bridge crossing the river. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue geometric pattern on the right side.

# Questions?

For Indiana Main Street

Email:

[IndianaMainStreet@ocra.in.gov](mailto:IndianaMainStreet@ocra.in.gov)

Next Up Is...

**Adam  
Moschell**

**Please give  
him a warm  
welcome!**





## Grant Services Updates

- Contract Approvals moving at a slower than usual pace. Grantees may want to expedite signing contracts to save time.
- Owner Occupied Resources coming soon. To suggest a template, training or other resource, please let Grant Services know.
- Owner Occupied Rehab administrative fees should not fall under Professional Services
- Reminder: Construction work or hours should not begin prior to Labor Release. Doing so can result in a finding.



## Grant Services Updates

- Planning Grant service area can be based on the Grantees community boundaries, not the intended beneficiaries of a later construction project.
- Effective July 1st, 2025: Retainage limits reduce from 5% to 3%.
- Due to administrative changes in government, several ER forms will be changing. Please stay alert for ER updates and contact Bryce Gorman if you have any questions.

Next Up Is...

**Armica**

**It's me  
again!**

# Stay connected!



Sign up for press releases and announcements at [bit.ly/OCRA-signup](https://bit.ly/OCRA-signup)

Find your regional Community Liaison's contact information:  
<https://www.in.gov/ocra/about/community-liaisons/>





OCRA

Office of  
COMMUNITY &  
RURAL AFFAIRS

# Questions?

Contact: [cdbg@ocra.IN.gov](mailto:cdbg@ocra.IN.gov)

Follow us on social media  
[@IndianaOCRA](#)