



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT (CDBG)**

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MEMO

DATE: September 9, 2024

To: Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Chair, Lands, Resources, & Economic Development Committee (LHED)

From: Scott Ciambor, CBJ Planning Manager

RE: FFY25 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

CBJ received one application for the FFY25 Community Development Block Grant for the Douglas Indian Association Tribal Government's Anax Yaa Andagan Ye Daakahidi: Where the Sun Rays Touch First Cultural Historic Education and Language Preservation Center. The application is in your packet.

Recommended Motion

Staff recommend the Douglas Indian Association as a co-applicant for the FFY25 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) competition through the [State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development](#) (DCCED). These are pass-thru funds from the [U.S. HUD Community Development Block Grant Program](#).

To meet grant application deadlines, staff encourages the LHED Committee to move a recommendation and a resolution of support to the next Assembly meeting.

Background

Each year the City and Borough of Juneau is eligible to sponsor a local project for single-purpose grants with a maximum of \$850,000 per community.

The goals of the Alaska Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) are to provide financial resources to Alaskan communities for public facilities and planning activities that address issues detrimental to resident's health and safety and reduce the costs of essential community services. The program may also fund Special Economic Development activities, which create jobs for low and moderate-income persons. More information can be [found on CDD's CDBG website](#).

In 2021, AWARE received funding for completion of a retaining wall.

Project Narrative

Douglas Indian Association (DIA) is beginning the development of the Anax Yaa Andagan Ye Daakahidi: Where the Sun Rays Touch First Cultural Historic Education and Language Preservation Center which houses Five New Educational Pathways that will serve Elders, Families and Youth.

The Center will provide a safe learning environment and will provide cultural historic education that is strongly integrated with a rich archive of elder and cultural video presentations as a primary resource, advance language learning and increase fluency for youth and their families, enhance the ability of educators to provide culturally responsive teaching informed by history, traditional ecological knowledge and fisheries science.

The project reawakens this historic area's cultural landscape and provides meaningful educational opportunities and pathways that enhance student retention, engagement in learning and academic success. The project seeks to create a safe place for language learning and cultural preservation for youth, families and Elders.

The total project cost is \$4,532,576. DIA has received a Department of Education Alaska Native Education Program for \$3,025,606 for the project. The CDBG request is \$850,000.

Timeline

With Assembly approval, CDD staff will work with DIA on preparing the final application for submittal based on the timeline below. Award announcements by DCEED are typically made in March.

CDBG Local Competition Timeline

- July 8, 2024, at 3:00 PM AKST: Public Information Meeting
- August 22, 2024, at 3:00 PM AKST: Local applications due
- August 26-30, 2024, Assembly Committee review, staff report and local application information prepared for the Assembly.
- September 9, 2024, Committee of the Whole: CDBG recommendation introduced.
- September 16, 2024, Public Hearing and Assembly approval of local application
- November 25, 2024, Physical copy of application mailed to Fairbanks.
- December 6, 2024, State CDBG final deadline
- CDD staff will work with the local applicant on the final submittal to ensure mailing by November 25, 2024