



APPOMATTOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

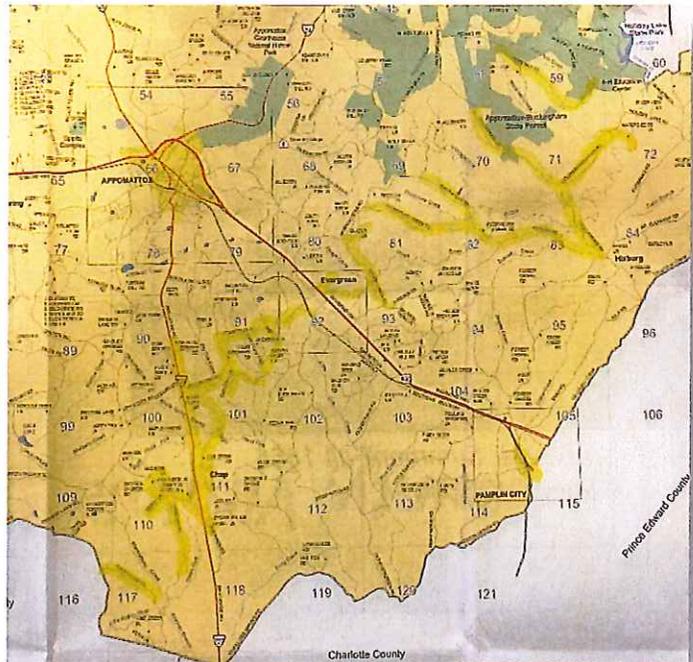
P.O. Box 863, Appomattox, VA 24522 Phone: (434) 352-2637
www.AppomattoxCountyVA.gov

Appomattox Tornado Recovery CDBG Urgent Need Fact Sheet October 3, 2016

1. PROJECT AREA

A February 2016 tornado hit the eastern side of Appomattox County creating damage through a 17-mile path that was ¼ mile wide causing damage to approximately 200 homes. Over the past several months, and more specifically during September 16-20, volunteers coordinated through the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church worked to reach out to all of the impacted residents.

The survey found that many of the residents that sustained damage had already made repairs, are working with or have already settled with their insurance companies, or have moved away.



2. NEED FOR CDBG INVESTMENT

Soon after the tornado people from all over the world stepped up looking for ways to help. Faith based and community service organizations such as the American Red Cross, Lynchburg Community Action Group, Virginia Baptist General Assembly, United Methodists, Gleaning for the World, and United Way of Central Virginia responded immediately and have organized into a Long Term Recovery Committee to coordinate efforts and share resources. Houses were repaired,

displaced persons found new homes and destroyed property was replaced through the generosity and coordinated efforts of many individuals and organizations.

Despite this good and important work, there is still a need to serve individuals and families in the destruction area. Some families are still separated and some individuals are still in housing located outside of the neighborhoods they once considered home. There is still a need for CDBG Urgent Need assistance in the tornado impacted area.

3. PROJECT PRODUCTS

This project is proposed to:

- *Provide up to \$75,000 to replace or repair a home destroyed by the tornado*
- *Provide up to \$25,000 to replace or repair a rental home destroyed by the tornado*
- *Provide assistance for woody waste and stump removal*
- *Repair or replace damaged wells or septic systems*

4. PROJECT OUTCOMES

The improvements made by the CDBG Urgent Needs Grant will be important for stabilizing neighborhoods and helping those families return to safe, adequate housing.

5. TIMETABLE

The grant application will be submitted by the end of October. It is likely that the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development will act on the application by the end of November.

All expenditures made through the grant will be done through a competitive bidding process so it is likely that work will start to rebuild or repair homes after January 2017.

6. CAPACITY

Appomattox County has contracted with the Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council to administer the grant, if awarded. Mr. Matt Perkins, the Administrative Program Coordinator, will manage the project. Matt is currently working with the Town of Appomattox on the Meadowlark Community Development Block Grant project. As needed, LGC Executive Director Gary Christie will assist.

The Local Government Council has extensive experience managing CDBG projects for the non-entitlement communities of Region 2000.

Hurt and Proffitt of Lynchburg will assist with any engineering services needed, such as well or septic system repairs or replacement. Mr. Brian Goldman, of Goldman Design, will serve as the Housing Rehabilitation Specialist.

The Appomattox Long Term Recovery Committee will continue to be involved serving on the CDBG Project's Management Team and complimenting the work of the Urgent Need Grant with their own resources.

7. READINESS

Once the grant is awarded from DHCD the County can move quickly to get repair work out to bid and contractors secured. During November contractors will be prequalified so that they can move quickly to give us prices on the work needed.

A Participation Agreement will be secured from each person that we expect to participate in the program. Once the grant is awarded, a more detailed application will be completed which will discuss insurance and other payments that the DHCD funds will supplement.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

An environmental review has not yet taken place but will be done during the month of November in order that work can proceed after the first of the year.

9. HOUSING INSPECTION

Since the tornado in February 2016 volunteers from the County and faith based groups have been to the areas affected by the tornado assisting individuals and families recover. Melissa Yuille of the Lynchburg Community Action Group has been maintaining information on each of the impacted homes in a database that includes, among other things, information on the condition and damage of homes. During our most recent survey of the communities affected by the tornado, our volunteers collected additional information and provided the project team with updated information on conditions of the homes, repairs and occupancy.

The Housing Rehabilitation Specialist will review and get projected cost estimates for each housing need for inclusion in the grant application. The Rehabilitation Specialist will develop two complete inspection and cost estimate reports that are suitable for sending out to bid immediately upon notice that the grant is approved and the environmental work has been completed.

10. HOW WERE THE TARGETED HOMES PRIORITIZED FOR REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE?

Priority was given to uninsured persons then to under-insured persons.

11. IS HOMEOWNERSHIP CREATION PART OF THIS GRANT AWARD?

There are currently no plans in this application to create home ownership in a situation where there was not home ownership before.

If the opportunity arises, we will utilize the Lynchburg Community Action Group to assist with home ownership training.

12. ARE INVESTOR-OWNERS PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROJECT?

Investor-owners may participate in the project. If successful, landlords could receive as much as \$25,000 per unit to replace or restore a rental home which was destroyed by the tornado.



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P.O. Box 863, Appomattox, VA 24522 Phone: (434) 352-2637
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Mr. Gary F. Christie, Executive Director
Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council
828 Main Street
12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24503

Re: Urgent Need CDBG Grant Application

Dear Mr. Christie:

Appomattox County intends to apply for an application for CDBG funding under the Urgent Need Program to repair or rebuild houses, wells, septic systems and to provide other appropriate services in the eastern portion of the county impacted by a tornado in February 2016.

Attached is a fact sheet which will provide more information about our project.

Thanks.

Sincerely,
Susan Adams, *County Administrator*