

B. Citizen Participation

Chapter 8 File Maintenance

Applicants must meet the citizen participation requirements at 24 CFR 570.486 and NYS Homes and Community Renewal's Citizen Participation Plan as amended, which require Applicants to follow a citizen participation plan. Prior to submitting a CDBG application, Applicants must issue a public hearing notice and hold one public hearing (one in each jurisdiction of a joint application) allowing for citizen feedback on the community and economic development needs of the applicant community and any proposed project(s).

Citizen Participation Compliance Materials must include the following:

- Municipal resolution(s) authorizing public hearing
- Public hearing notice
- Affidavit of publication of public hearing notice
- List of attendees
- Public hearing minutes
- Evidence of conspicuous public posting

Following an award of NYS CDBG funds, the Recipient must hold a second (performance) public hearing to report project accomplishments, following the same guidelines provided above.

When issuing the notice and holding the public hearing, please note the following:

- All hearings must also be conducted in accordance with the New York State Open Meetings Law
- The municipality must provide a minimum seven (7) day period between the publication of the hearing notice and the hearing itself. Note that the date of publication is day "zero."
- The hearing notice must be conspicuously posted in one or more public locations at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the actual hearing. This may also be accomplished by posting to the municipal website
- The hearing must be conducted by a quorum of the legislative body of the municipality only, not by a sub recipient, department or arm of the applicant
- The notice for the hearing must specifically mention the municipality's intent to apply for NYS CDBG funds and the current program year
- The notice must identify all activities that the Applicant may be applying for during current program year, which may include Housing, Public Infrastructure/Facilities, Economic Development, or Community Planning
- Public hearings must be held in a location accessible to persons with disabilities and/or provide reasonable accommodations to allow all interested parties to participate
- The municipal resolution authorizing the public hearing, the hearing notice, affidavit of publication, list of attendees, hearing minutes, and evidence of conspicuous public posting must be included as an attachment to the application
- A copy of the application must be available for public inspection at the municipal office(s).