



Mayor John Laesch

# 2026 CITY OF AURORA GRANT PROGRAMS

**Presenter:**  
**Amy Munro, Redevelopment Coordinator**  
Community Development Division  
Community Services Department

City of Aurora  
Committee of the Whole

February 17, 2026



# Today's Agenda

- **2026 Grant Program Overviews**
- **Grant Program Eligible Activities**
- **Grant Application Process**
- **2025 Program Highlights**
- **2026 Funding Recommendation Next Steps**





## **2026 CITY OF AURORA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

### **SIX GRANT PROGRAMS**

#### **Federal**

- **Community Development Block Grant Program**
- **HOME Investment Partnership Program**
- **HOME-ARP Investment Partnership Program**

#### **State**

- **Opioid Use Disorder Grant**

#### **Local - Gaming Tax**

- **Affordable Housing Solution Grant**
- **Quality of Life Grant**

# CITY OF AURORA GRANT PROGRAMS



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (FEDERAL)

City residents, households, and neighborhoods that qualify as low-moderate income (e.g. 4-person household with income below \$95,900 qualifies as low-income for CDBG)

Neighborhood projects must serve a low-moderate income population percentage of at least 51%

HUD-defined Presumed Benefit groups:

- Abused children
- Elderly persons (62 years old)
- Battered spouses
- Homeless persons
- Severely disabled adults
- Illiterate adults
- Persons living with AIDS



## HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HOME) (FEDERAL)

City residents who qualify as low-income (with priority for households at or below 60% Area Median Income)

Renters living or seeking access to income-restricted affordable rental housing

Income-eligible homebuyers seeking affordable homeownership opportunities

Households served through HOME-assisted developments, including:

- Families
- Seniors
- Individuals with disabilities
- Other income-eligible residents



## HOME-ARP GRANT PROGRAM (FEDERAL)

- QP 1 – Homeless Individuals and families
- QP 2 – Individuals and families at risk of homelessness
- QP 3 – Individuals and families attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- QP 4 – Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability

\*QP=Qualified Population

# CITY OF AURORA GRANT PROGRAMS



## STATE OF ILLINOIS OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

Aurora residents and households impacted by opioid use disorder (OUD), substance use, or overdose risk.

- Residents at risk of overdose or opioid-related harm
- Individuals and families needing treatment access, recovery support, or behavioral health services
- Residents impacted by the criminal justice system due to opioid use
- Community members served through prevention, diversion, harm reduction, and treatment-related services



## AURORA AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOLUTIONS FUND (CITY GAMING TAX)

Aurora residents and households experiencing housing instability or facing barriers to affordable housing.

- Expand long-term sustainable housing options.
- Infill Housing
- Housing Rehabilitation,
- Education
- Landlord Outreach and Engagement
- Homeownership

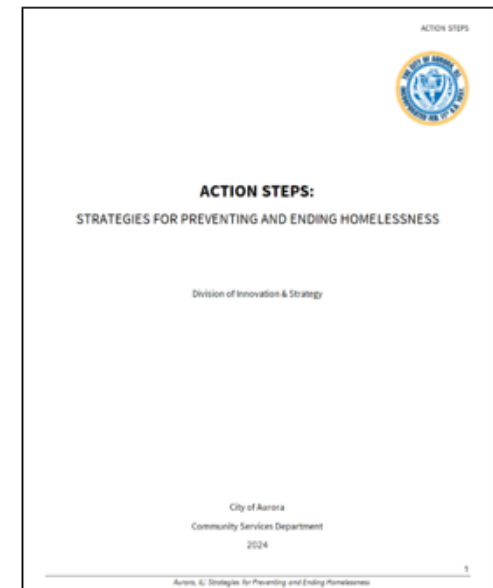
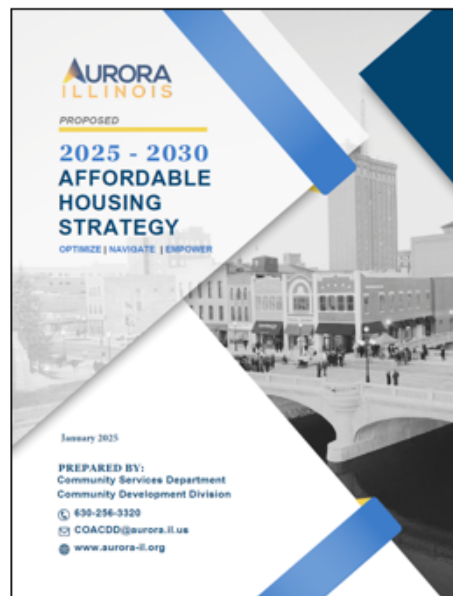
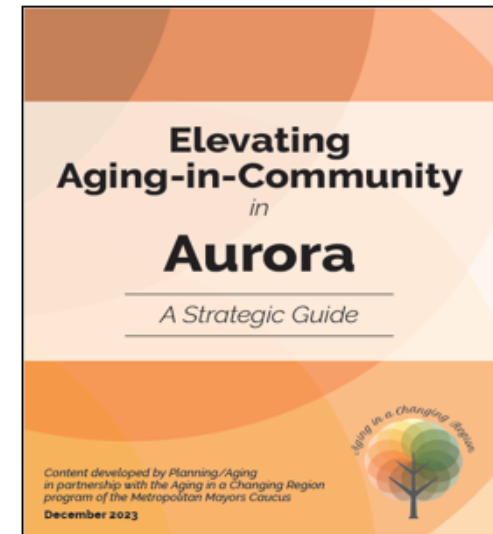


## QUALITY OF LIFE GRANT PROGRAM (CITY GAMING TAX)

Aurora residents are able to benefit from a wide variety of programs such as:

- Basic Needs
- Community
- Education & Youth Services
- Mental Health
- Museums
- Public Safety
- Senior Services
- Workforce Development
- Other activities considered on a case-by-case basis

# CITY OF AURORA 2026 PLANNING DOCUMENTS





# 2026 ESTIMATED CITY OF AURORA TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABILITY

| Type of Funding                                                             | Funding Availability |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Community Development Block Grant (Federal Funds)                           | \$1,400,000          |
| Home Investment Partnerships Program (Federal Funds)                        | \$1,600,000          |
| Home Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan (Federal Funds) | \$1,100,000          |
| Quality of Life (Gaming Tax)                                                | \$863,000            |
| Opioid Use Disorder (IL Settlement Funds)                                   | \$632,535            |
| Affordable Housing Solutions (Gaming Tax)                                   | \$600,000            |
| <b>Total Estimated Funding Available</b>                                    | <b>*\$6,195,535</b>  |

*\*Amount reflects prior year unexpended funds in addition to an estimated 2026 CDBG allocation in the amount of \$1.2 Million and an estimated 2026 HOME allocation of \$525,000*





## 2026 APPLICATION SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

| Grant Type                                                             | Total Funding Request | Funds Recommended  | Total Projects Applied |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)                               | \$2,075,664           | \$1,400,000        | 11                     |
| Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)                            | \$1,560,000           | \$560,000          | 2                      |
| Home Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) | \$992,795             | \$325,000          | 4                      |
| Quality of Life (QOL)                                                  | \$340,581             | \$203,000          | 58                     |
| Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)                                              | \$2,410,058           | \$863,000          | 4                      |
| Affordable Housing Solutions (AHS)                                     | \$1,225,405           | \$550,000          | 6                      |
| <b>Total</b>                                                           | <b>\$8,604,503</b>    | <b>\$3,901,000</b> | 85                     |

*\*Total projects applied represents all applications received, including those moved to other funding categories during review.*



***FY 2025/26 - APPLICATION OVERVIEW, ACTION STEPS & MILESTONES***

| Steps Completed                                | Date       |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Pre-Application Announcement Email - Notice #1 | 8/26/2025  |
| Beacon Newspaper Advertisement                 | 8/17/2025  |
| Community Resource Team Email Release          | 8/29/2025  |
| Community Resource Team Social Media Post      | 8/29/2025  |
| Pre-Application Announcement Email - Notice #2 | 8/29/2025  |
| Beacon Newspaper Advertisement                 | 8/29/2025  |
| Pre-Application Announcement Email - Notice #3 | 9/4/2026   |
| Pre-Application Virtual Workshop               | 9/9/2026   |
| Final Reminder Regarding Application Due Date  | 10/6/2026  |
| Application Due Date                           | 10/10/2026 |



# 2026 GRANT APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND ACTIVITIES

## COMPLETENESS AND QUALITY OF THE APPLICATION

### ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY & EXPERIENCE

#### STAFF CAPACITY

#### GRANT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

#### FINANCIAL CAPACITY

#### PROGRAM CAPACITY

#### PAST PERFORMANCE

### PROJECT IMPACT

#### ABILITY TO SERVE AURORA RESIDENTS

#### ALIGNMENT WITH CITY GOALS AND STRATEGIES

#### ADDRESSES COMMUNITY NEEDS

#### PROGRAM IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

#### PERFORMANCE METRICS

#### DUPLICATION OF SERVICES

### FINANCIALS

#### BUDGET (INCLUDING SOURCES AND USES)

#### ABILITY TO OPERATE OR CARRY ON PROJECT WITH A REDUCED AMOUNT OF FUNDS

#### FUNDING IMPACT



2025

# Program Highlights



# HOME-ARP 2024 & 2025 Programmatic Summary

| Organization                               | Description                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Association for Individual Development     | Provided street outreach to <b>259 homeless individuals</b>                                                          |
| Hesed House                                | Provided housing search or placed <b>33 households</b> in affordable rental housing.                                 |
| Loaves & Fishes                            | Provided <b>10 Households</b> emergency rental assistance.                                                           |
| Mutual Ground                              | Provided housing case management to <b>94 clients</b> .                                                              |
| Prairie State Legal Services               | Provided <b>79 households</b> with legal services to prevent homelessness.                                           |
| VNA Health Care                            | Provided comprehensive health care to <b>843 uninsured households</b> that are homeless, or at risk of homelessness. |
| Total Individuals/Households Served: 1,318 |                                                                                                                      |

## PROJECT PROFILE



### 2024-2025 Funded Projects:

- Case Management
- Housing Search & Placement
- On-Site Substance Abuse
- Domestic Violence Counselors
- Parking Lot Re-pavement
- Shelter Expansion



## HESED HOUSE

A national model for ending homelessness – one person, one family at a time. They are the second-largest homeless shelter in the State of Illinois, and the largest shelter outside of the city of Chicago.

|                                                                                     |                                              |                                                                                       |                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
|  | <b>2024-2025 City Funding</b>                |  | <b>\$631,833</b>   |
|  | <b>2025 CDBG-CV State of IL DCEO Funding</b> |  | <b>\$1,762,875</b> |
|  | <b>Total City Funded</b>                     |  | <b>\$2,394,708</b> |

## PROJECT PROFILE



Safety & Accessibility Modifications

## Rebuilding Together Aurora

To deliver high quality, lasting, home repairs and accessibility modifications for low-income homeowners impacted by disability.

2024 - 2025 City Funding

\$200,000

## PROJECT PROFILE



## Aurora Regional Fire Museum

The Aurora Regional Fire Museum is located in Aurora's old Central Fire Station. Two floors of exhibits chronicle the history of the Aurora Fire Department, fire service in our region, and explore fire safety and prevention.

2024 - 2025 Quality of Life

\$85,000

## PROJECT PROFILE



## Wayside Cross Ministries

Wayside Cross will offer academic enrichment and youth leadership development for under-resourced children in East Aurora School District (EASD) 131.

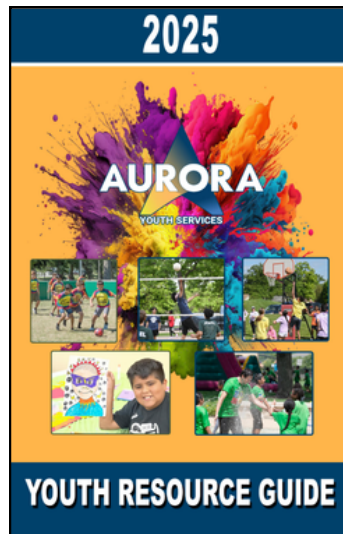
 **2024 - 2025 Quality of Life**

 **\$29,000**



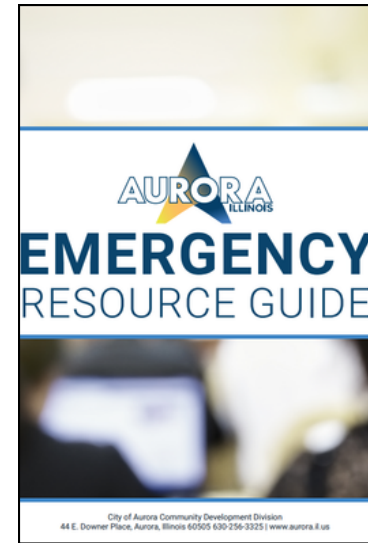
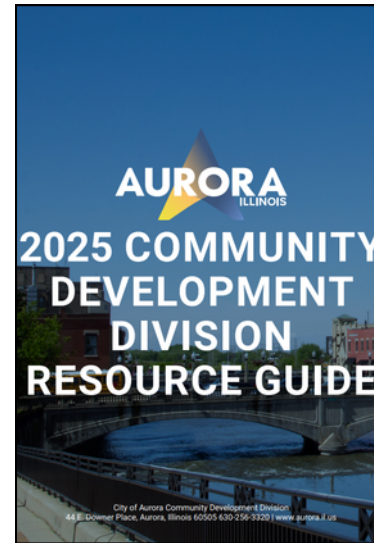
# CITY OF AURORA RESOURCE GUIDES

## Youth Services



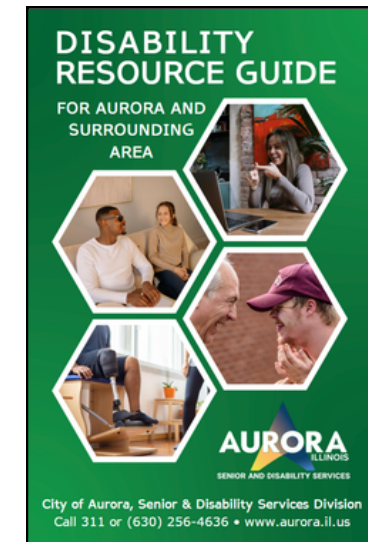
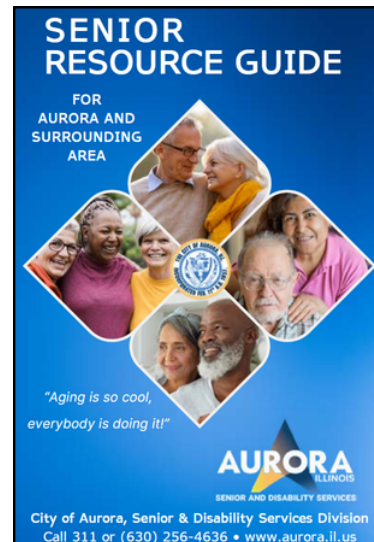
[WWW.AURORA.IL.US/RECREATION-AND-AMENITIES/YOUTH-ACTIVITIES-AND-SERVICES](http://WWW.AURORA.IL.US/RECREATION-AND-AMENITIES/YOUTH-ACTIVITIES-AND-SERVICES)

## Community Development



[WWW.AURORA.IL.US/PROPERTY-AND-BUSINESS/DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNITY-DEVELOPMENT](http://WWW.AURORA.IL.US/PROPERTY-AND-BUSINESS/DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNITY-DEVELOPMENT)

## Senior & Disabilities Services



[WWW.AURORA.IL.US/CITY-SERVICES/SENIOR-AND-DISABILITY-RESOURCES/SENIOR-RESOURCE-GUIDE](http://WWW.AURORA.IL.US/CITY-SERVICES/SENIOR-AND-DISABILITY-RESOURCES/SENIOR-RESOURCE-GUIDE)



# NEXT STEPS

## REMAINING APPROVAL PROCESS

## CITY PROCESS

### Thursday January 15, 2026

- Block Grant Working Committee Recommendations

### Sunday, January 18, 2026

- Public Notice

### Monday, January 19, 2026

- 30-Day Public Comment Period Begins

### Friday, January 30, 2026

- Public Hearing

### Tuesday, February 10, 2026

- Public Health, Safety & Transportation Committee Review  
*Due to lack of quorum, referred to New Business under Committee of the Whole*

### Tuesday, February 17, 2026

- Public Comment Period Ends at 4:00 P.M.
- Committee of the Whole Review/Approval

### Tuesday, February 24, 2026

- City Council Approval

### March 2026

- Submit Action Plan to HUD
- Execute contracts and agreements for all 2026 CDBG, HOME-ARP, OUD, AHS, and QOL awardees

### Spring 2026

- Conduct onsite monitoring to ensure project compliance with all City guidelines

### Summer 2026

- All 2026 grant recipients serving City residents

### December 2026

- Project Closeouts



# Thank You

## QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION?



AMY MUNRO, REDVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Community Services Department ■ 630-256-3320 ■ [MunroA@aurora.il.us](mailto:MunroA@aurora.il.us)

Chris Ragona, Director of Community Services

Adam Grubbs, Management Assistant

Elizabeth Carrizales, Office Coordinator

Lizette Mendoza, Project Assistant