Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Fiscal Year 2015 Continuum of Care Program Competition Broadcast

Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs
July 20, 2015

Broadcast Overview

A. Policy Priorities

B. FY 2015 Tier 1 and Tier 2

C. Selection Criteria

D. What's New

E. Project Application

F. CoC Application

G. CoC Priority Listing

H. Appeals
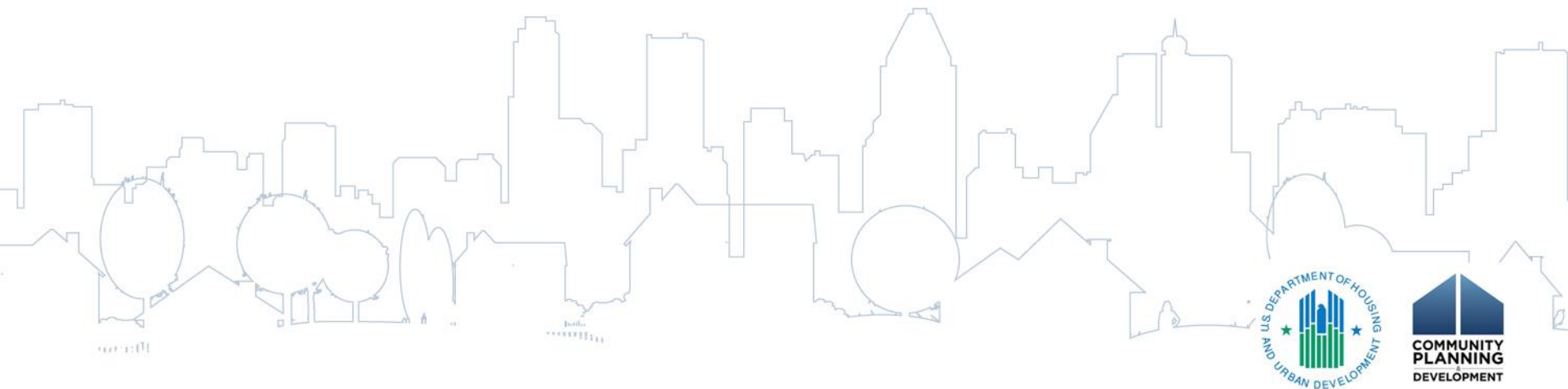
Policy Priorities

Policy Priorities

- NOFA includes 6 overarching policy priorities
  - Strategic Resource Allocation
  - Ending Chronic Homelessness
  - Ending Family Homelessness
  - Ending Youth Homelessness
  - Ending Veteran Homelessness
  - Using a Housing First Approach

Policy Priorities – Strategic Resource Allocation

- Comprehensive Review of Projects
- Maximizing the Use of Mainstream Resources
- Partnerships
- Transitional Housing

Policy Priorities – Ending Chronic Homelessness

- Increase beds and units in the CoC's geographic area

- Target beds and units to chronically homeless

- Review Notice CPD 14-012: *Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness in Permanent Supportive Housing and Recordkeeping Requirements for Documenting Chronic Homeless Status*.

Policy Priorities – Ending Family Homelessness

- Rapid Re-housing
  - Quick and stable housing
- Explore Affordable Housing Units
  - Work with the affordable housing community
- Permanent Housing Subsidies
  - Work with PHAs
  - Family Options Study
- Permanent Supportive Housing
  - Provides long-term support for families that need more assistance and supportive services

Policy Priorities – Ending Youth Homelessness

- Coordinating with youth specific providers
  - CoC funded
  - Non CoC funded
- Identify and serve youth sleeping in places not meant for human habitation
- Serving victims of trafficking
- Homeless Youth Rapid Rehousing Model
  - https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/resources-for-homeless-youth/rrh-models-for-homeless-youth/

Policy Priorities – Ending Veteran Homelessness

- Prioritizing Veterans
- Veterans who are not being served by VA programs
- Coordination
  - HUD Funding
    - CoC Program
    - HUD-VASH
  - Department of Veterans Affairs Funding
    - Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF)
  - TA through the Vets@Home Initiative

Policy Priorities – Housing First

- Remove Barriers

- Rapid Placement into Housing

- Voluntary Services

- Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System (Coordinated Entry)
  - www.hudexchange.info/resource/4427/coordinated-entry-policy-brief

- Client-centered Service Delivery

- Prioritizing Households Most in Need

- Inclusive Decision Making

FY 2015 Tier 1 and Tier 2

Amount Available

- $1.89 Billion available in FY 2015 funding
- Two tiered funding approach
  - Tier 1 = CoC's ARD less 15 percent
  - Tier 2 = Difference between Tier 1 and the CoCs ARD + the amount available for the CoCs permanent housing bonus
- Permanent Housing Bonus – 15 percent of FPRN
- CoC planning and UFA Costs – Not ranked

Establishing CoC's ARD

- ARD is established through the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW)

- 10-day grace period

- Final HUD-approved GIW

- No additions to ARD after grace period

  - An eligible renewal may apply but ARD will not be increased

  - <u>HUD</u> may delete projects from ARD if they are not eligible to renew (CoC is not penalized)

Calculation of Tier 1

- ARD and Tiers are set <u>BEFORE</u> statutory updates
  - HUD will conditionally select projects for award before updates to permanent housing projects based on FMR increases
- Tier 1 selected in order of CoC score
- CoCs should carefully determine the priority and ranking for all project applications in Tier 1 as well as Tier 2, which is described on the next slide.

Calculation of Tier 2

- Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and is the CoCs ARD + the amount available for the CoCs permanent housing bonus
- Tier 2 projects will receive a point value:
  - 60 Points for CoC Application score
  - 20 Points for CoC's ranking
  - 10 Points for the type of project
  - 10 Points for Housing First commitment
- Tier 2 projects will be selected by point value and in the order of CoC score.

Tier 2 - Scoring

- 60 Points – directly proportionate to the CoC Application Score
    - CoC Applications that score 198.5 out of the possible 200 points will receive the full 60 points.
- 20 Points – based on the CoC's ranking of project applications
    - Project applications ranked higher will receive more points
    - Maximum points for a project application ranked higher in Tier 2 by the CoC and request less than 5 percent of funds available in Tier 2

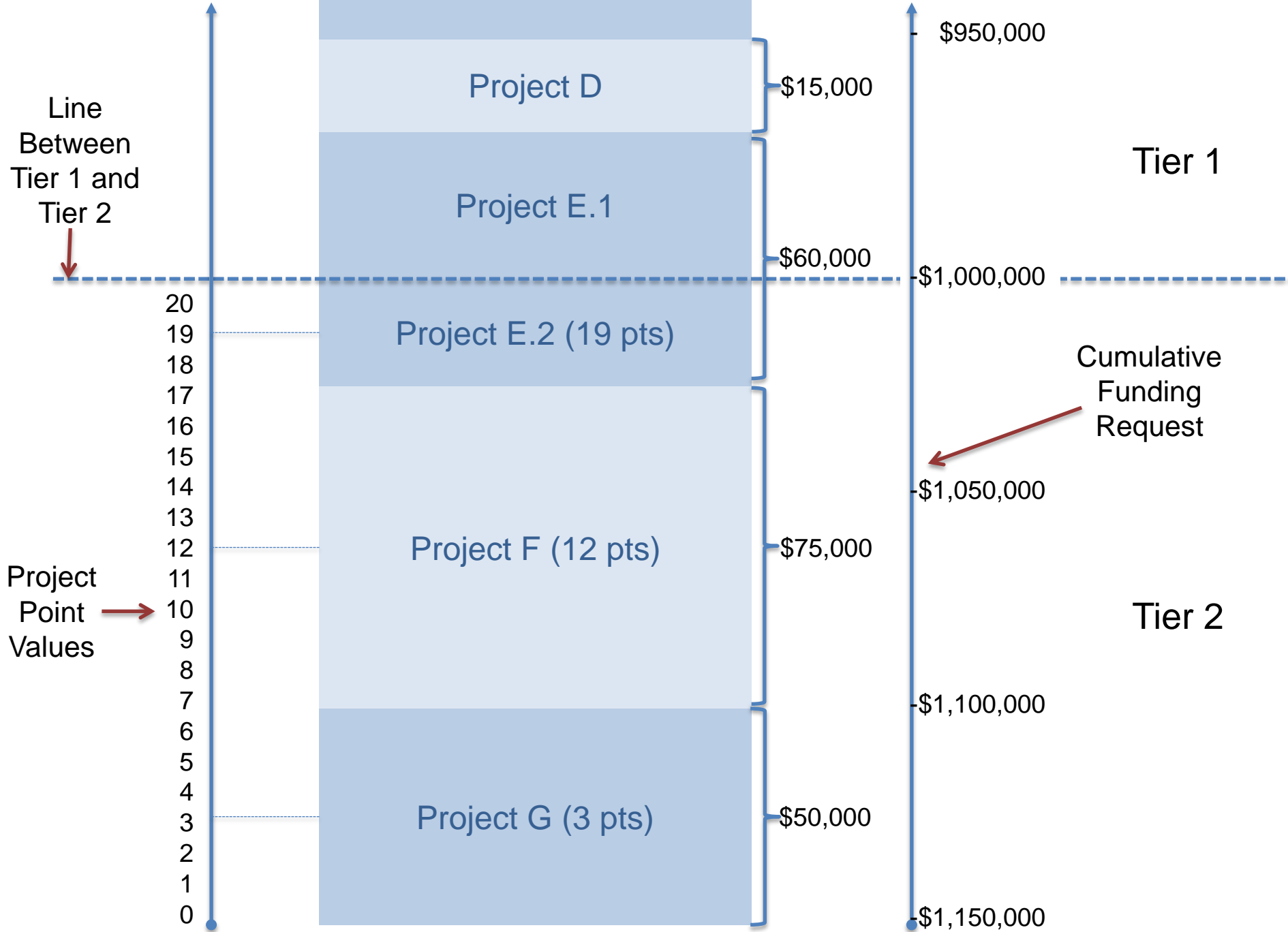# Tier 2 Scoring (cont.)

- 10 Points – based on the type of project applications submitted and the population served
  - 10 points for:
    - Renewal and new permanent housing
    - Renewal Safe Haven
    - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
    - Supportive Services Only (SSO) for Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System
    - Transitional Housing exclusively serving homeless youth
  - 3 points for renewal Transitional Housing
  - 1 point for renewal Supportive Services Only
- 10 Points based on project applications that commit to the Housing First model
  - HMIS and SSO projects for centralized or coordinated assessment system automatically receive these 10 points.

Project Straddle
Between Tier 1 and Tier 2

- Tier 1 – up to the amount of funding that falls within the Tier 1 amount

- Tier 2 – may be funded based on the Tier 2 selection process

- If the Tier 2 portion of the project is not funded:

  - The project may be conditionally selected at the reduced amount based on the portion falling in Tier 1, and

  - Must still be feasible

    - Continue serving homeless program participants effectively

Line Between Tier 1 and Tier 2

Project D — $15,000

$950,000

Tier 1

Project E.1

$60,000

$1,000,000

20
19 Project E.2 (19 pts)
18
17
16
15
14 $1,050,000
13
12 Project F (12 pts) — $75,000

Cumulative Funding Request

11
Project Point Values → 10
9
8
7 $1,100,000
6
5
4
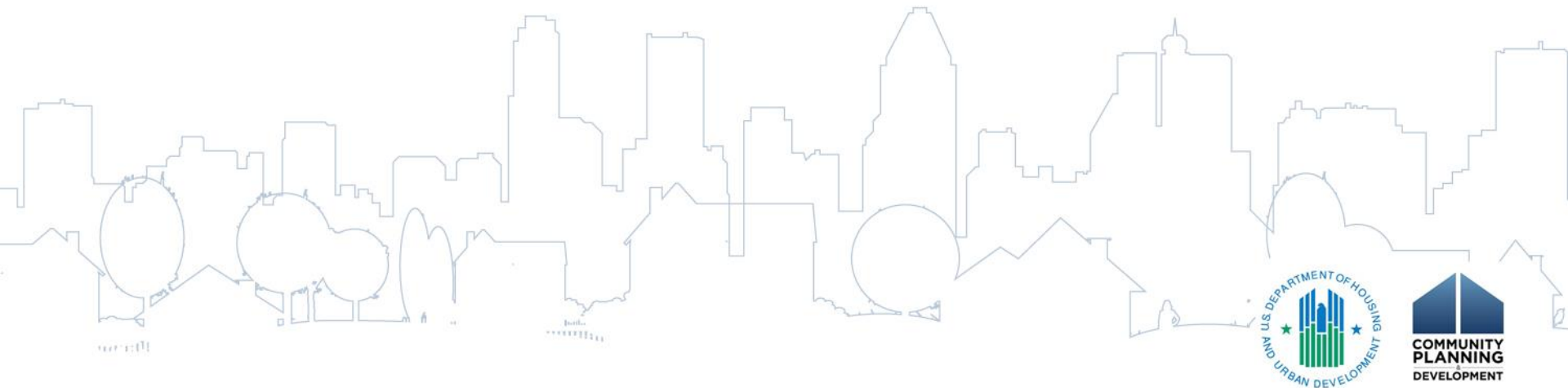3 Project G (3 pts) — $50,000

Tier 2

2
1
0 $1,150,000

Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria and Prioritizing Projects

- Order of selection outlined in the NOFA

- Selection process for Tier 1 and Tier 2 are different

- Knowing selection process is especially important for strategic project placement

Overview of Selection

- CoC Planning
- UFA Costs
- Projects Fully in Tier 1
- Projects in Tier 2
  - See Section VII.A.2.d. of the NOFA for the selection of project applications based on point value received

How a Missing Project on the GIW Impacts Tier 1

- Final HUD-approved GIW = Final ARD
- Eligible renewal projects not included on GIW may apply but ARD will not be increased
- Eligible renewal projects not on final HUD-approved GIW are selected last in each tier
- If ranked in Tier 1, will require bigger across the board cuts or will push one or more renewal projects into Tier 2, putting them at risk

What's New for FY 2015

What's New for FY 2015 – New Projects

- Permanent Housing Bonus – up to 15 percent of a CoC's FPRN
  - Permanent Supportive Housing to serve 100 percent chronically homeless families and individuals
  - Rapid rehousing to serve individuals and families coming directly from the streets
- Projects created through Reallocation
  - Permanent Supportive Housing for chronically homeless individuals and families
  - Rapid Rehousing for individuals and households with children
  - Homeless Management Information Systems
  - Supportive Services specifically for centralized or coordinated assessment system

Project Application

Project Application Overview

- Project Application accessed via *e-snaps*
  - Online grant application for the CoC Program
  - Accessible via the HUD Exchange at www.hudexchange.info/e-snaps
  - Complete or update the Project Applicant Profile BEFORE accessing the project application
    - Ensure required attachments are current and correctly completed

Project Application Overview (cont.)

- Project application charts, narratives, and attachments

- SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance

- Documentation of Applicant and Subrecipient Eligibility:
  - HUD-2880
  - HUD-50070
  - SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying (if applicable)
  - Code of Conduct

Project Application Overview (cont.)

- Renewal projects:
  - Request funding for eligible Renewal projects
- New Projects:
  - Request funding for new Projects created through reallocation and Permanent Supportive Housing Bonus
  - Request funding for new CoC Planning grants
  - Collaborative Applicants designated by HUD as a Unified Funding Agency (UFA) for the FY 2015 CoC Program Competition may apply for UFA costs
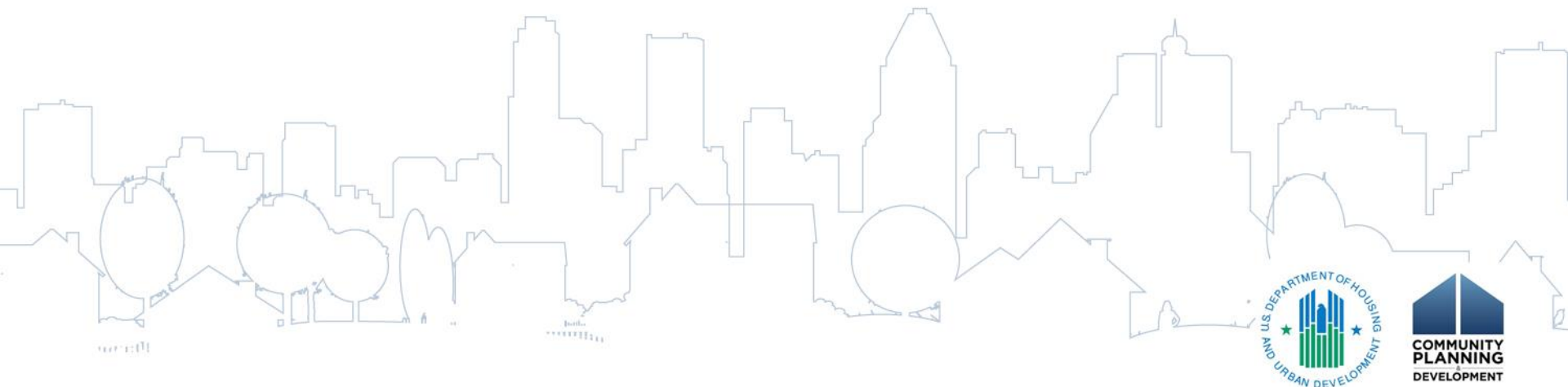
Project Application - Renewals

Applicants may request funding for eligible Renewal projects:

- **All eligible renewals** – PH-PSH, PH-RRH, TH, SH, HMIS, and SSO
  - Requested funding must match the final HUD-approved GIW
  - S+C renewing for the first time may request increase in units that are leased; however, had to be requested and approved on the GIW
- If awarded under the CoC Program, SHP, and S+C programs:
  - Must be currently in operation
  - Expire in Calendar Year 2016 with a grant agreement executed by 12/31/2015.
- Any FY 2009 projects that has not renewed yet must come in for renewal in FY 2015

Project Application - Renewals (cont.)

- Renewal project applications are limited to 1-year grant terms and 1-year of funding; however:
  - A renewal **project-based rental assistance** project or projects that has **operating costs** may request up to a 15-year grant, but may only request 1-year of funding

Project Application – New Projects - Reallocation

- Project applicants may reallocate funds to create the following New projects:
  - PH-PSH for 100% chronically homeless individuals and families
  - PH-RRH for individuals, families with children, homeless unaccompanied youth and persons fleeing domestic violence
  - Dedicated HMIS – HMIS Lead must apply
  - Dedicated SSO for Coordinated Entry
- Request funding for new CoC Planning grants
- Unified Funding Agency (UFA) designated for the FY 2015 CoC Program Competition may apply for UFA costs

Project Application – New Bonus Projects

- Bonus Amount for each CoC equals 15% of Final Pro Rata Need

- HUD is allowing applicants to apply for two types of New bonus projects for the FY 2015 CoC Program Competition:
  - PH-PSH for the chronically homeless, AND
  - PH-RRH for individuals, families with children, homeless unaccompanied youth and persons fleeing domestic violence

Project Application – Special Instructions

- FY 2008 Rapid Re-Housing Families Demo Projects
  - When the NOFA is released, HUD will issue a FAQ specifically for these 23 projects regarding possible changes
- Project applications, including renewals, have additional scored items:
  - Reducing barriers to housing
  - Prioritization
  - Housing First
  - Dedicated Chronically Homeless units and beds

Project Application – Special Instructions (cont.)

- Additional questions have been added to capture information on applicant capacity for renewal AND new projects:

  – Project eligibility

  – Timeliness submission of:

    - Annual Performance Reports (APRs)
    - eLOCCS draws – quarterly draws required
    - Unresolved HUD and OIG findings
    - Performance

Project Application – Budget: Match & Leverage

- Match and Leverage are two distinct categories of program funds – see Subpart D of the 24 CFR 578
- Match
  - All component types, must provide at least 25% of Match (cash and/or in-kind) of the total grant request, including Admin costs, but excluding leasing
  - Match documentation should be submitted with the project application and will be required before the execution of a grant agreement
- Leverage
  - Leverage is <u>above and beyond</u> Match
  - Leverage funds may be used for any program related cost
  - Match and Leverage CANNOT be double-counted – must be distinct and separate funding
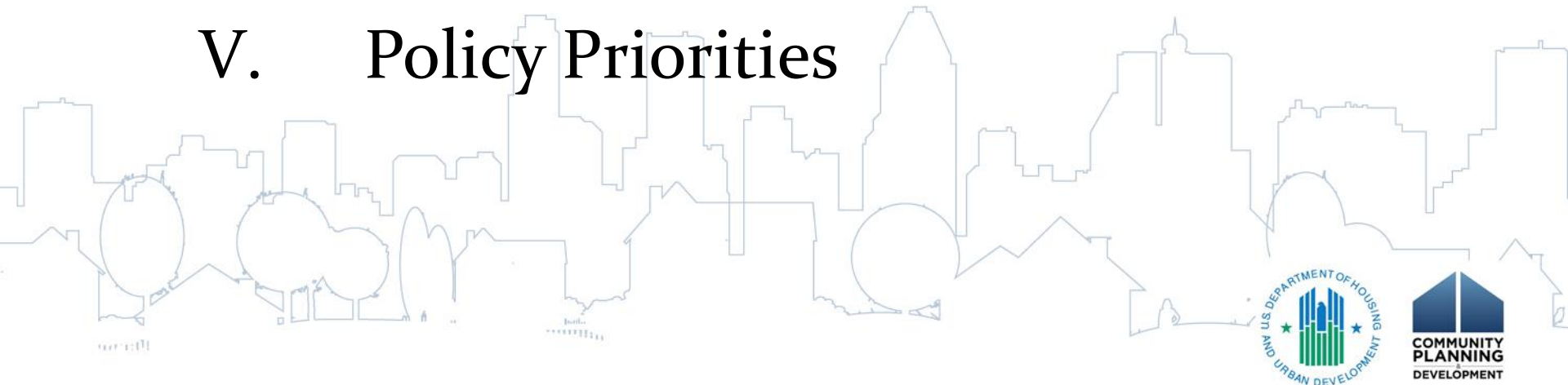
Project Application – Last Words

- Any application submitted for a project that is eligible, but was not listed on the HUD-approved GIW will have to be funded from the approved ARD.
  - ARD will not be increased by HUD for projects not on the GIW.
- Projects must serve applicable participants based upon the component type selected
- HUD reserves the right to reduce or reject a funding request:
  - Usually based upon a history of poor financial performance
  - Serving ineligible participants
  - Major capacity issues
  - Deemed not feasible to operate on the funding of the conditional award if reduced

Overview of the CoC Application

I. The Basics

II. Scoring Criteria Overview

III. Changes to CoC Application

IV. Technical Highlights

V. Policy Priorities

The Basics

- The approved Collaborative Applicant must submit the Consolidated Application on behalf of the CoC.

- The CoC Application is just one of two parts of the CoC Consolidated Application and both parts **MUST** be submitted.

- 200 point scale
  - 3 Bonus Points
- Use the CoC Application Detailed Instructions

Scoring Criteria Overview

FY 2015 NOFA Application Review Criteria

1. CoC Coordination and Engagement – 49 points
2. Project Ranking, Review and Capacity – 26 points
3. HMIS – 18 points
4. Point-in-Time Count – 9 points
5. System Performance – 38 points
6. Performance and Strategic Planning – 60 points
7. Bonus points – 3 points

Changes to the CoC Application: Structure of Questions
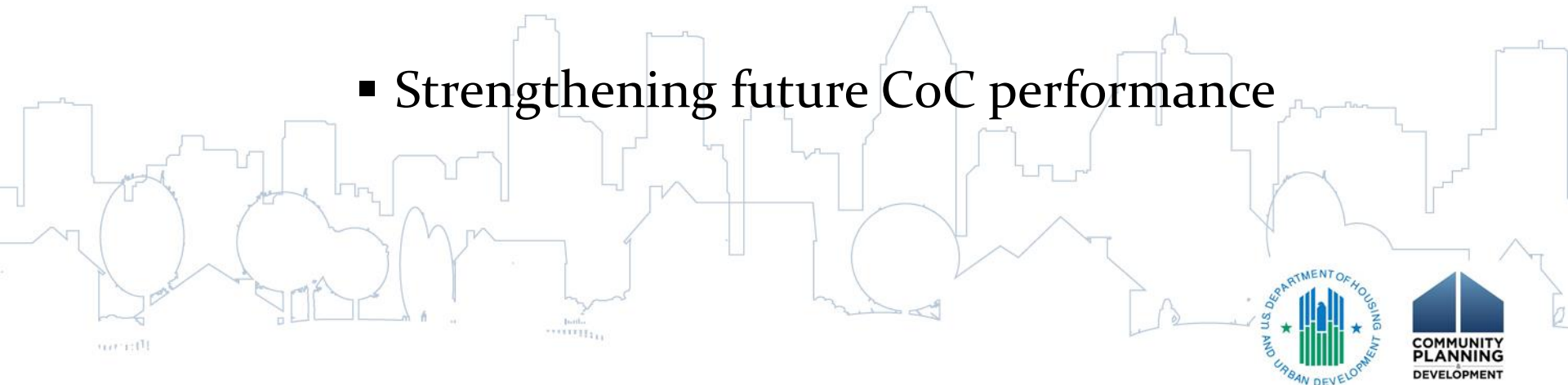
- Overall, a more cohesive flow

- Types of Questions:

MORE....	Fewer....
• Quantitative Data • Numeric fill-ins • Dropdown menus • Checkbox selections	• Narratives and open-ended questions

Changes to the CoC Application: Critically evaluating projects

Project review ranking and selection:

- Emphasis on reviewing APRs

- Review, ranking, and selection criteria

- Tier 1/Tier 2 selections

- Strengthening future CoC performance

Changes to the CoC Application:
More emphasis on strategic use of resources

- Adoption of Housing First approach

- Low barrier projects

- Adoption of the order of prioritization for PSH ([Notice CPD-14-012](#))

- Factors to prioritize households with children and unaccompanied youth (Refer to p. 4-5 of HUD's [Coordinated Entry Policy Brief](#))

- Severity of needs in project review, ranking and selection

- Prioritizing Veterans ineligible for VA Healthcare services

Changes to the CoC Application: **Emphasis on Key Relationships**

- Youth service providers

- Victim service providers

- Con Plan and ESG jurisdictions

- Public Housing Agencies (PHAs)

- VA Medical Centers and SSVF providers

Technical Highlights:
HMIS, Data Quality and Data Sources

- Revamped HMIS Section
- Emphasis on the Importance of Data Quality
- Data Sources for CoC Application:
  - Project Applications (3 questions)
    - Adoption of Housing First
    - Low barrier projects
    - Targeting PSH for chronic homelessness
  - APRs
  - Project monitoring reports
  - HMIS
  - Point-in-Time Count (PIT)
  - Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
  - Public Housing Agencies (PHA)

Policy Priorities
Performance and Strategic Planning

"No one should experience homelessness – no one should be without a safe, stable place to call home"
Opening Doors, Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, 2015

Opening Doors:

- *Youth Goal:* End homelessness for families, youth and children in 2020.

- *Households with Children Goal:* End homelessness for families, youth and children in 2020.

- *Chronic Homeless Goal*: End chronic homelessness in 2017

- *Veterans Goal*: End homelessness among Veterans in 2015

Policy Priority: Youth

Opening Doors Youth Goal: End homelessness for families, youth and children in 2020.

Focus areas:

- Serving unsheltered youth (up to age 24)
- Increasing funding for youth-dedicated projects
- Developing factors to prioritize unaccompanied youth for housing and services
- Strategies to address the unique needs of homeless youth
- Addressing youth trafficking and other exploitation
- Collaboration with youth service and education representatives
- Ensuring access to educational services

Policy Priority: Households with Children

Opening Doors Households with Children Goal: End homelessness for families, youth and children in 2020.

Focus areas:

- Decreasing the number of families experiencing homelessness since 2014

- Developing factors to prioritize households with children for housing and services

- Rapidly re-housing families within 30 days of becoming homeless

- Increasing the number of Rapid Re-housing units available to serve families

- Preventing involuntary separation of families

- Collaborating with education representatives

- Ensuring access to educational services

Policy Priority:
People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness

Opening Doors Households with Children Goal:
End chronic homelessness in 2017.

Focus areas:

- Decreasing number of people experiencing chronic homelessness

- Increasing dedicated and prioritized PSH beds for chronic homelessness

- Adopting the orders of priority for PSH outlined in Notice [CPD-14-012](#).

- Demonstrating that strategies set forth in the FY2013/FY 2014 CoC Application were accomplished.

Policy Priority: Veterans

Opening Doors Households with Children Goal:
End homelessness among Veterans by the end of 2015.

Focus areas:

- Decreasing number of homeless Veterans
  - Since 2014
  - Historically (since 2010)
- Identifying, assessing, and referring Veterans to targeted resources (HUD-VASH, SSVF)
- Prioritizing Veterans with CoC funded resources for Veterans unable to access VA resources

CoC Priority Listing - Reallocation Forms

- Reallocation Forms permanently part of the CoC Priority Listing
  - Collaborative Applicants indicate whether it is reallocating eligible renewal projects through elimination or reduction to create new:
    - PH-PSH for 100 percent chronically homeless
    - PH-RRH
    - Dedicated HMIS
    - Dedicated SSO for Coordinated Entry

CoC Priority Listing - Project Listings

- Four project listings:
  - New
  - Renewal
  - UFA Costs
  - CoC Planning
- Listing of all New and Renewal project applications approved by CoC in rank order
  - CoC assign each new and renewal project a unique rank number
- UFA Costs and CoC Planning projects are NOT ranked

CoC Priority Listing - Attachments

- HUD-2991 – Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan
  - Must have current date
  - Must be signed by the authorized official for the Con Plan jurisdiction
- Final HUD-approved Grant Inventory Worksheet
  - Approved during the FY 2015 CoC Program Registration process, or
  - Approved during the 10-day grace period after the FY 2015 CoC Program Competition NOFA was posted

Appeals

Solo Applicant Appeals

- Project Applicant denied the right to participate in a reasonable manner
- Received rejection notification in writing from the CoC outside of *e-snaps*
- Requirements for submitting a Solo Application in *e-snaps*
- Next Steps
  - Evidence to support appeal – snapsappeals@hud.gov
  - CoC response – snapsappeals@hud.gov
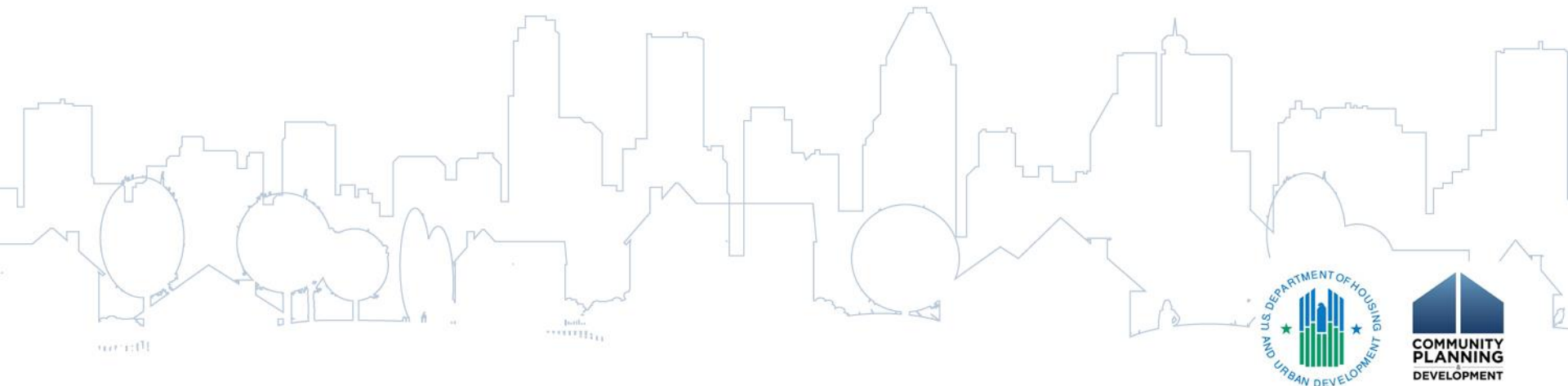 - HUD decision and notification of decision

Denied or Decreased Appeals

- Only available to project applicants that were ranked within the CoC's maximum ARD amount available

- Must submit written appeal to HUD – snapsappeals@hud.gov

  - Must provide a copy to the authorized representative from the CoC's designated Collaborative Applicant

  - Must include evidence demonstrating HUD error

Consolidated Plan Certification and Competing CoC Appeals

- Consolidated Plan Certification
  - A jurisdiction refuses to provide a signed HUD-2991
- Competing CoC
  - There are no competing CoCs in the FY 2015 CoC Program Competition

Helpful Hints and Reminders

Helpful Hints and Reminders

- Read the CoC Program Interim Rule as well as all sections of the General NOFA and CoC Program Competition NOFA thoroughly

- Utilize all detailed instructions and training materials when completing each part of the CoC Consolidated Application

- Ensure that data entered in the CoC Application matches data reported in HDX for the PIT and HIC

- Make sure all projects on the priority lists have unique ranking numbers

- Use a separate spreadsheet to rank your projects so you can keep track of the Tier 1 amount

Tools and Resources

Tools and Resources

Visit the HUD Exchange (www.hudexchange.info) to access the following resources:

- *e-snaps* Ask a Question (AAQ)

- Application Instructional Guides

- Application Detailed Instructions

- FAQs

- This broadcast and slides archived

- Listserv