## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## Town Board To Host Public Hearing For New Community Development Block Grant Program Five-Year Consolidated Plan

(Endwell, New York – February 22, 2024) — The Town of Union Town Board has scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 to provide interested organizations, agencies, and residents with an opportunity to make suggestions for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding that the town expects to receive over the next five years from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The hearing will be held at Town Hall, 3111 East Main Street in Endwell and will begin at 7:30 PM. Written comments or suggestions may also be submitted by e-mail to ckylor@townofunion.com

The town is required to prepare a new Consolidated Plan covering Federal Fiscal Years 2025 through 2029 (October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2030). The Consolidated Plan identifies needs in the community and outlines priorities and strategies for meeting those needs using CDBG and other potential funding sources. According to Town Supervisor Robert Mack, "In light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, public input is even more critical in identifying emerging trends or changes in needs since the last five-year plan was created in 2019." The hearing will also allow residents to identify and offer suggestions for addressing any barriers to affordable housing that may exist in the community.

The 2025 funding cycle marks the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the CDBG program. The town (including the Villages of Endicott and Johnson City) expects to receive \$1,200,000 in new CDBG funds covering the period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.

CDBG funding can be used to address a wide range of community needs such as:

- Street Reconstruction
- Park Improvements
- Public Services
- Code Enforcement
- Acquisition Of Real Property
- Housing Rehabilitation
- Homeownership Assistance
- Public Facilities and Improvements
- Clearance/Demolition
- Economic Development

Each eligible activity must also address one of three National Objectives established for the CDBG program by:

- Benefitting low and moderate-income persons;
- Preventing or eliminating slums or blight;
- Meeting other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.