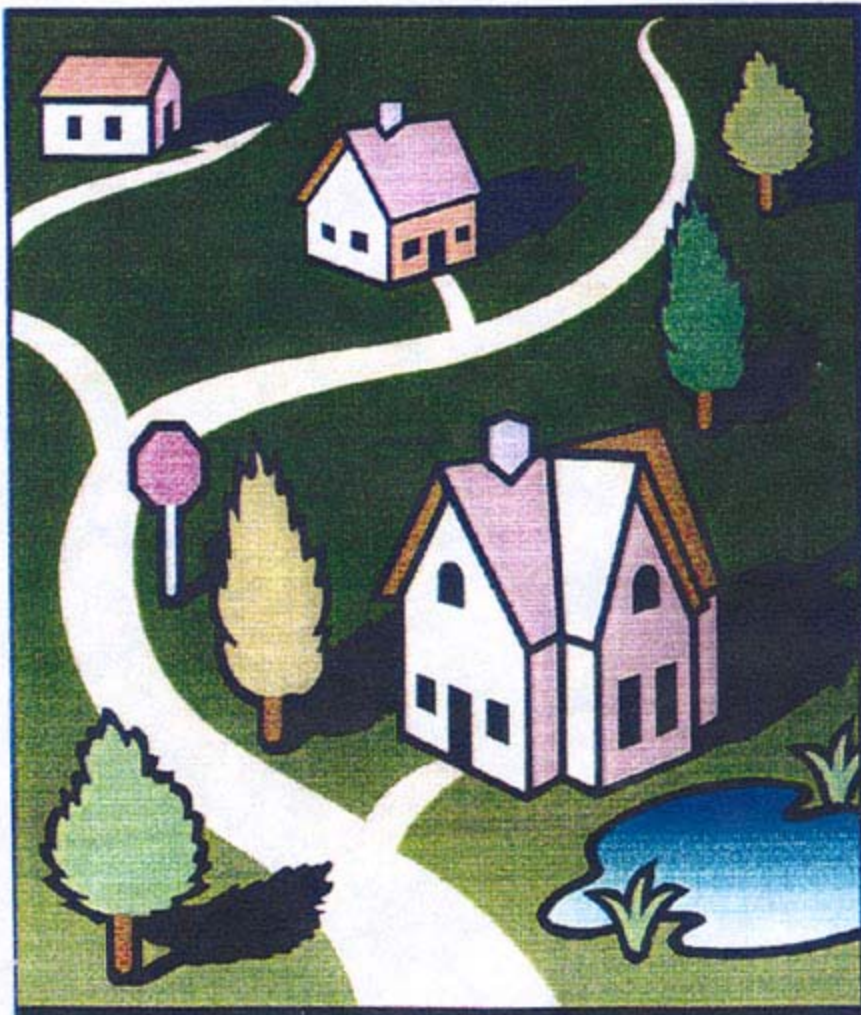




U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development

State Community Development Block Grant Program



**Guide to National Objectives and Eligible
Activities for State CDBG Program**



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20410-0001

THE SECRETARY

July 10, 2002

To Our Partners in Community Development:

For the past 20 years, the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program has been a source of versatile and comprehensive funding to help small cities and rural areas meet their housing and community development needs. This time-tested program has made it possible for states and communities to address local problems, take advantage of development opportunities, and provide an impressive range of benefits to low- and moderate-income citizens.

Because the State CDBG program is so comprehensive, the Department has created a **State CDBG Guide to National Objectives and Eligible Activities**. The guide is designed to make the program's requirements easier to understand and allow you to take full advantage of the program's flexibility. Patterned on our successful guide for the CDBG Entitlement program, our new State CDBG guide uses a clear and accessible format to outline the wide range of activities that can be used to implement your local strategic visions. It also includes eligibility information that you can use as interpretive guidance to help meet full program compliance as you maximize the program's benefits.

With the support of all of us at the Department of Housing and Urban Development – and the continued commitment of President Bush – states, small cities, counties and rural areas will be able to strengthen their communities and offer citizens the assistance and tools they need to improve their lives and create a brighter future for their families. We welcome any comments you may have to improve the State CDBG program and the Department's service to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mel Martinez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mel Martinez