

### **Rural Slum and Blight Removal Grant**

**Purpose:** The Rural Slum and Blight Removal Grant supports local governments and/or non-profit organizations in addressing dilapidated and blighted properties and/or facilities in rural areas.

**Mission:** The Department of Commerce leads the efforts to attract, retain, and expand wealth and improve the quality of life for the people of North Dakota.

#### **Program Objectives:**

- Increase the availability of development ready properties in rural North Dakota.
- Improve the quality and safety of communities.
- Improve vibrancy of communities by eliminating slum and blight.
- Encourage partnerships and collaboration between local organizations, businesses, and government entities.
- Foster community development and revitalization efforts in rural regions.

**Eligibility:** Slum and Blight Removal Grant may support the following types of grants to non-profits and/or local governments in North Dakota:

- **Eligible Entities** – City, County, Nonprofits, Economic Development organization (JDA, regional Councils, EDC, CVB) and local tribal entities
- **Eligible Activities**
  - Purchase and removal of blighted properties
    - If applicant does not own the property at the time of applications must have a purchase agreement
    - Must present plan for future use of rehabilitated lot
  - Remove hazards or structures from blighted properties
  - Up to \$10,000 per business for improvements if located in a mixed-use facility

\*Any rehabilitation costs after blight removal will be applicant's responsibility\*

**How much funding is available?** Up to \$300,000 per community

**Rural** shall be defined as any community or region, based on the application, with a population of less than 10,000.

**Matching Requirements:** Matching funds are encouraged but not required.

#### **2024 Timeline:**

- **OPEN: Tuesday, March 5**
- **CLOSE: Thursday, April 18**
- **Award: Tuesday, May 7**

**Project Timeline:** All projects must be completed within 18 months of award notification.