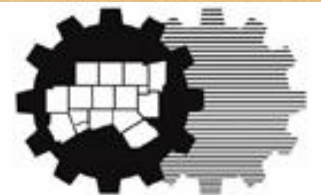


# Texas Community Development Block Grant

North Central Texas Community Development  
Fund Regional Priority Project Discussion

April 14, 2020

Olivia Kale



North Central Texas  
Council of Governments

# Texas Department of Agriculture

## Texas Community Development Block Grant Program

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- Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) provides rural communities the tools needed to assist communities and their businesses in prospering.
- TDA administers the [Texas Community Development Block Grant Program](#) (TxCDBG) to assist small cities and rural communities by providing decent housing, suitable living environments, and expanded economic opportunities principally for persons of low- to moderate-income.
- TxCDBG funds community projects such as utility infrastructure, disaster response, and unique local economic development projects.
- **Eligible applicants are non-entitlement cities under 50,000 in population and non-entitlement counties that have a non-metropolitan population under 200,000 and are not eligible for direct CDBG funding from HUD.**

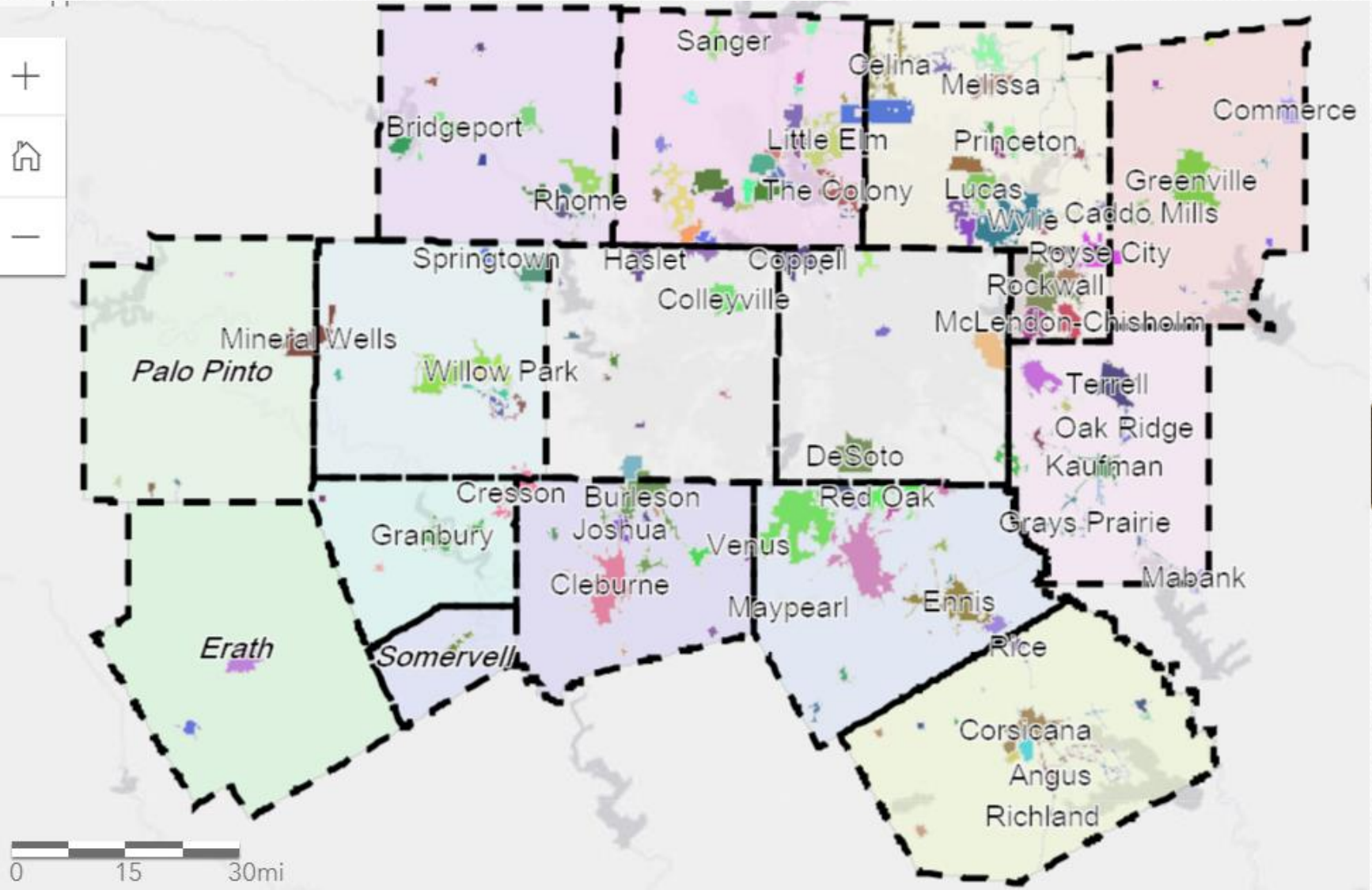
# Community Development Fund

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- The Community Development Fund is the largest fund category in the TxCDBG Program.
- This fund is available on a biennial basis for funding through a competition.
- Although most funds are used for Public Facilities (water/wastewater infrastructure, street and drainage improvements and housing activities), there are numerous other activities for which these funds may be used.
- Funds are allocated to each state planning region to ensure a broad geographic distribution of funds as described in the One Year Action Plan.
- Applications for the 2021-2022 Community Development Fund are anticipated to be due Spring 2021

[https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/CommunityDevelopmentFundApplicationGuide.aspx](https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/CommunityDevelopmentFundApplicationGuide.aspx)

# Non-Entitlement Communities in North Central Texas

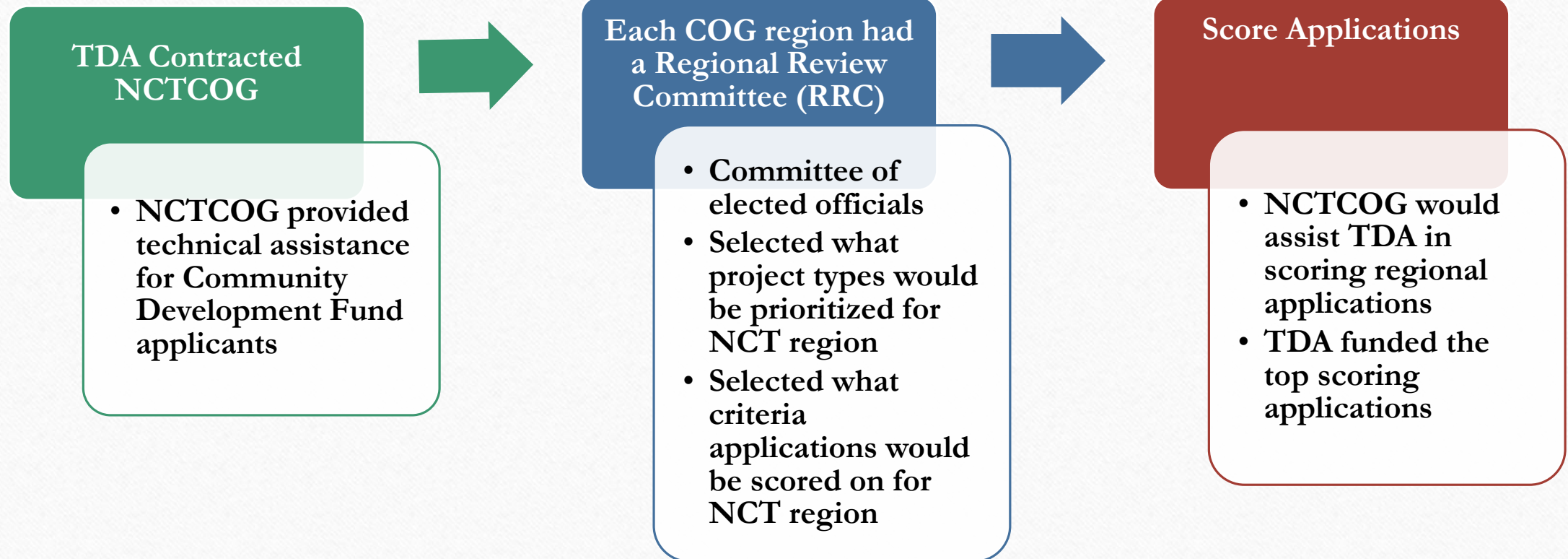


# NCTCOG's Role for the FY2021-2022 Community Development Fund Grant

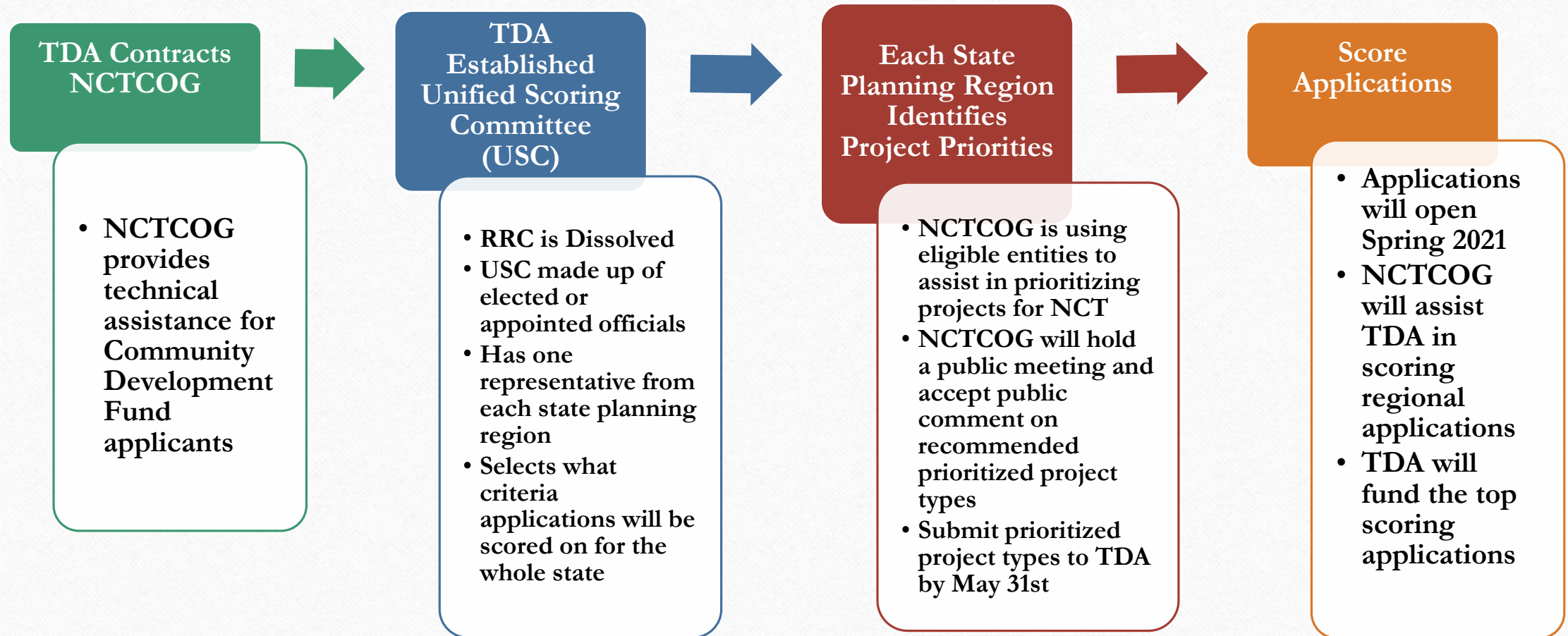
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- NCTCOG is a contractor to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and supports activities associated with the TxCDBG Community Development Fund (CDF) Grant.
- NCTCOG provides technical assistance to our eligible member governments in the 16-county North Central Texas region related to the Community Development Fund.
- TDA released new rules for the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) on February 24, 2020.
- These new rules have modified NCTCOG's role slightly and has changed the process of determining project priorities and scoring.

# Historical CDF Project Prioritization Process Summarized



# New CDF Project Prioritization Process



# Meeting Objectives

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- Select Project Types that NCT would like to fund in priority order
- Select Points that each Project Type is eligible to receive
- Identify an elected or appointed official who is willing to volunteer to serve on the Unified Scoring Committee
  - Must participate in meeting on May 6, 2020
  - Will carry North Central Texas's recommendations and thoughts to the State
  - Participation in several virtual meetings to discuss the statewide scoring process



# Changes to Community Development Fund Project Scoring

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- Community Development Fund scoring is governed by the provisions of the TxCDBG Action Plan.
- Projects for the Community Development (CD) Fund are awarded based on a score out of 200 points.

## **Previously:**

- 10% of score from the State
  - Performance from previous contracts
- 90% of score from the Regional Review Committee (RRC)
  - Scoring Criteria
  - Prioritize Projects

## **Now:**

- 10% State Scoring
  - Past performance, etc.
- 25% Regional Project Priorities
- 65% Unified Scoring Committee (USC)
  - Scoring criteria

# Project Type Prioritization

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- 2018-2019 NCTCOG's RRC selected priority projects:
  - Water/Wastewater; Septic Tanks; Water/Wastewater Yard Lines; Roads/Streets; Drainage
  - No second or third priority projects were identified.
- If no priorities are selected by the region, the priorities identified on the Verified Scoring Guide will be applied by TDA.
  - Water Improvements, Wastewater Improvements, Street Improvements, Flood and Drainage Improvements, and Housing Rehabilitation
- NCTCOG is recommending selection of first, second, and third priority project types for the region

## NCTCOG Previous Priority Project Types and Score

Priorities	Project Types	Points (out of 50)
1 <sup>st</sup>	Water/Wastewater; Septic Tanks; Water/Wastewater Yard Lines; Roads/Streets; Drainage	45
2 <sup>nd</sup>	All Other Eligible Project Types	15

## TDA Default Priority Project Types and Score

Priorities	Project Types	Points (out of 50)
1 <sup>st</sup>	Water Improvements, Wastewater Improvements, Street Improvements, Flood and Drainage Improvements, and Housing Rehabilitation	50
2 <sup>nd</sup>	All Other Eligible Project Types	30

# Eligible Project Types

Project types used in other planning regions

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- Water/Wastewater
- Septic tanks
- First-time service water/wastewater yard lines
- Roads/Streets
- Drainage
- Water/Sewer
- Yard lines
- Streets/roads and bridges
- Housing
- Fire Protection
- Housing Rehabilitation
- Water Supply
- Water Storage
- Water/Sewer Treatment Plant Improvements
- Community centers
- Parks
- Neighborhood centers
- Senior Centers
- Parks and Recreation
- Fire & EMS
- Other Basic Utilities
- Electricity
- Gas
- Housing
- Fire Facilities and Equipment
- Disposal of Solid Waste

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# Prioritized Project Discussion

Priorities	Project Types	Points (out of 50)
1 <sup>st</sup>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>		
3 <sup>rd</sup>		

FY2018/2019 NCT Priority Projects: Water/Wastewater; Septic Tanks; Water/Wastewater Yard Lines; Roads/Streets; Drainage

# United Scoring Committee (USC) Representative

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- Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) created the USC
  - One representative from each planning area
  - Members are elected or appointed officials of non-entitlement communities
  - Selects the scoring criteria for applications
- Identify an elected or appointed official who is willing to volunteer to serve on the Unified Scoring Committee
  - Must participate in virtual meeting on May 6, 2020
  - Represent North Central Texas's recommendations and thoughts to the State
  - Participation in several virtual meetings to discuss the statewide scoring process

# Scoring Criteria Feedback to USC

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**Which of these is most important to you?**

TDA has described the primary goals of scoring criteria in past years as:

- 1) Ensure all communities have an opportunity to receive funding
  - 2) Help communities with few resources
  - 3) Help communities that are using the resources they do have.
- Of the criteria previously used by your RRC, which should your nominee advocate most strongly for?
  - Of the criteria previously used by your RRC, did any have unintended consequences?
  - Of the criteria previously used by your RRC, is it most important that these ideas are generally reflected in the Committee's decisions? Are there criteria where the specific calculation is very important to your communities?
  - Are there objective, verifiable criteria your region has not previously used that could be valuable to the Committee?

# Scoring Criteria

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2018-2019 NCTCOG's RRC selected the below scoring criteria:

Need/Distress: **Total points 67.5**

- What is the poverty rate (poverty percentage) of the census geographic area? **Maximum points 30**
- What is the per capita income of the census geographic area? **Maximum points 22.5**
- What is the unemployment rate for the census geographic area based on the appropriate county data? **Maximum points 15**

Resources: **Total points 67.5**

- What is the applicant's match amount? **Maximum points 15**
- What is the cost per beneficiary for the total beneficiaries covered by the project? **Maximum points 7.5**
- Has the applicant been funded in the previous 3 Community Development/Community Development Supplemental (CD/CDS) Fund biennial application cycles? **Maximum points 30**
- Is this project funding to provide first-time public water or first-time public sewer service? **Maximum points 15**



Questions?

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# Thank You!

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**Olivia Kale**

Environment & Development Planner  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
okale@nctcog.org  
817.695.9213

**Mia Brown**

Senior Environment & Development Planner  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
mbbrown@nctcog.org  
817.695.9227

**Edith Marvin**

Director of Environment & Development  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
emarvin@nctcog.org  
817.695.9211

**Tamara Cook**

Senior Program Manager  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
tcook@nctcog.org  
817.695.9221