

**Help Oelwein qualify for a
\$500,000 grant!**



LOCAL SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED

The City of Oelwein is planning to undertake major water system improvement projects, initially starting in Spring 2026. To keep rates as low as possible, the City can apply for up to \$500,000 through a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the State of Iowa to help fund the improvements. **This is a GRANT that does NOT have to be paid back.**

The major requirement to apply for these funds is that at least 51.1% of household income be at or below 80% of the County Median Household Income level. To determine this, we need the enclosed survey completed and returned.

The questionnaire does not identify individual households or individuals and is totally anonymous. This data will be compiled and reviewed by Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission (UERPC), not city staff. **The cooperation of residents in completing this survey is very important and will be greatly appreciated.**

The survey will involve three questions as follows:

1. Support for the Project - A high response of yes shows that the community is committed to the project.
2. Household Income – Households only need to state if the household income is above or below the income level for a given household size, not actual income.
3. Race Information

The household income question is the most important. A major requirement for funding is at least a 51% Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) benefit, meaning that at least 51% of the households in Oelwein must have income below 80% of the County Median Income. If that threshold is not met, the City is NOT eligible to even apply for these grant dollars.

There is a high level of competition among communities throughout the state for these grant dollars. Approximately only 25% to 30% of those that apply will actually be awarded a grant. Support of the project and meeting income guidelines are crucial to the success of the application, and we need your help.

Please complete the enclosed survey and return it to Oelwein City Hall in 1 of 3 ways:

1. Mail it in the postage paid envelope by April 15, 2025 to the Oelwein City Hall
2. Drop it in the Utility drop box available at Oelwein City Hall.
3. Hand deliver the survey to one of the Oelwein City Hall staff members.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to talk with City Administrator, Dylan Mulfinger at 319-283-5440 or dmlfinger@cityofuelwein.org.

Thank you for your help with this much needed endeavor!



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