

CITY OF BOSSIER CITY



City of Bossier City
FY 2023 Annual Action Plan
For the Community
Development Block Grant Program

Prepared for Submission to the
U.S. Department of HUD

By the City of Bossier City Community
Development Department

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Thomas H. Chandler, Mayor

Original

October 18, 2022

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The 2023 Action Plan, for Community Development Block Grant Program funds, documents the continual fulfillment goals set forth in the City of Bossier City's Five Year Consolidated Strategy and Plan. This plan is prepared based on the National Objectives described in the Community Development Block Grant Legislation. The Consolidated Strategy describes the basic goals, which relate to the community and the requirements of the U. S. Department of HUD: (1) provide decent housing, (2) provide a suitable living environment, and (3) Expand economic opportunities. Bossier City's mission statement for this plan is to continue to enhance the living, education, and economic opportunities for all residents. Therefore, this helps provide empowerment through housing opportunities, neighborhood improvements and expanding economic development.

Initially when this plan was developed, the final funding amount was not known and the total amount of funding and the funding levels of all the activities shown are estimated amounts based on the total amount of funding received for 2022. Therefore, Bossier City is included the following contingency plan to give an explanation as to how this proposed plan will be adjusted to match the actual allocation given to the city. This plan cannot be submitted to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development until it is revised to conform to the actual allocated amount. This amount was not known until Congress approved the total budget amount and then HUD determined the amount each recipient would receive from the total amount by formula. In the case that the actual allocation amount is different than the estimated amount used to create the plan, the plan would be revised so that all proposed activities' budgets amounts will be proportionally increased or decreased, as the case may be, from the estimated funding levels to match actual allocation amounts. For 2023 the allocation has not been determined because Congress has not yet set the funding amount for CDBG. The activities' budgeted amounts will be been adjusted accordingly in this final draft of the 2023 Annual Action Plan.

The 2023 Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant Funds includes 16 projects. These projects represent the utilization of funds to serve the needs of the community of Bossier City, which include: housing rehabilitation, public service programs, and administration.

This plan is the product of public outreach. This public participation has included multiple public hearings, and consultation with agencies, groups, and organizations involved or interested in the provision of public services. A complete draft of this plan has been made available for public review and after the City Council final public hearing will have a 30-day comment period.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

This summary includes items provided elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location.

This Consolidated Plan contains goals, objectives and outcomes that address needs identified for homelessness, special needs, affordable housing, and non-housing community development, barriers to affordable housing, lead-based paint hazards, institutional structure, and coordination. These objectives include:

Eliminate Lead-Base Paint Hazards

Retain Affordable Housing-

Improve Living Conditions of Low/mod Children

Provide for the Public Service Needs of Special Populations

Provide Public Service Activities to Support Housing

Planning and Administration

These goals are supported by a collection of associated objectives and performance goals. These objectives seek to work toward meeting the goals stated, addressing the need for more affordable housing, housing rehabilitation, public facilities and infrastructure improvements, and social services. Specifics can be found in the Strategic Plan and Annual Action Plan.

The plan was advertised in the local newspaper. The complete documents are available for review in print form at the following locations: The preliminary plan will be available for review at the Bossier City Community Development Department, 100 John Wesley Blvd, Bossier City, LA, and a copy of the 2023 Draft Annual Action Plan is available for review on the city's website at www.bossiercity.org. The following activities are the activities to be included in the 2023 annual action plan:

(1) Lead Paint, (2) Housing Rehabilitation, (3) Emergency Housing Rehab, (4) Ramps & Critical Repairs, (5) Project Delivery Cost, (6) VOA Lighthouse, (7) Fire Prevention Activities, (8) Low Income Youth Sports Program, (9) Gift of Dance, (10) Community Services Transportation, (11) MCDC-Homebuyer Ed & Fin Literacy, (12) Plant A Seed In Our Youth Foundation, (13) Catholic Charities, (14) Dress for Success, (15) Micro-Business Loan (16) CDBG Program Administration,.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

As a recipient of CDBG program funds the City is required to submit a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Performance Report (CAPER) at the end of each program year. The CAPER summarizes the accomplishments of the ending program year and the progress made towards the goals established in the Consolidated Plan.

The CAPERs for Fiscal Years 2015 to 2020 were reviewed to assist with the formulation of goals and objectives as stated in this Plan. The City does not receive ESG and HOME Program funds; so the City has addressed the goals of the Consolidated Plan with CDBG funds. The City addressed the Decent/Affordable Housing and Homeless goal by funding a housing rehabilitation program, and emergency housing and ramps and critical repair program. The City also addressed the Suitable Living Environment Goal by funding public services that assist seniors, youth, and jobless persons and by improving public facilities. The City also addressed the Expanding Economic Opportunities goal by encouraging job creation for low to moderate income persons. These efforts served as a basis to formulate the Five Year Plan objectives. However; the anticipated amount of CDBG resources made available to address identified needs limits the services that the City can offer.

The City of Bossier City's CDBG investments, through the years, have been used to make long lasting improvements to many low and moderate income neighborhoods. The 2023 accomplishments include: successful completion of 8 Housing Rehabilitation projects, 2 Emergency Rehabilitation Projects and 2 Ramps and critical repair Project. These projects were hampered by the COVID-19 shutdowns so less were completed than normal. The City expended all of its CDBG funds for activities that principally benefit low and moderate income persons. This evaluation of past performance helped lead the planning of goals or projects.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The Citizen Participation Plan defines the comprehensive process used by the City of Bossier City to keep residents, community agencies, businesses and all other interested parties informed about its community development efforts through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. It

is also the tool to gather a wide variety of input from the City's low to moderate income residents, as well as the City's public/private sectors. Citizen input is solicited and gathered at every step of the Consolidated Plan process, beginning with development of the plan.

Citizen Participation is a key component of the consolidated planning process. Bossier City low-income and minorities residents are encouraged to participate in the development of the Consolidated Plan, substantial amendments and performance report. In addition, auxiliary aids are made available to persons with disabilities. Prior to the preparation of the Draft Consolidated Plan, the City conducted public meetings to allow citizens to provide input on housing and community development needs. The City, as required by HUD regulations, also consulted with various agencies concerning housing and community development needs. Input was elicited from residents as well as agencies via the use of a survey in some cases.

For the preparation of the Action Plan, The City held eight public hearings on its Annual Action Plan. Notices of all public hearings were published in the local newspaper. The fact gathering meetings were held September 13, 2022 at the MLK Community Center at Hooter Park and September 15, 2022 at Community Development Offices at 100 John Wesley Blvd. The City held the final Public hearings to discuss the drafts of the Annual Acton Action Plan for the CDBG program. These Public Hearings were held October 11, 2022 at MLK Community Center at Hooter Park and October 13, 2022 at the Community Development Office. A final Public Hearing was held before City Council October 18, 2022 at 620 Benton Rd where the proposed goals and objectives and funding allocation for the 2023 Annual Action Plan were presented. This allowed citizens to have input into the development of the Plan. The results of the meetings with the general public and other agencies have been beneficial to coordinate the research necessary for the preparation of Annual Action Plan documents. All interested persons and agencies were notified of these meetings. After the actual funding amount is announced, the plan will be revised as is necessary. There will be a 30-day comment period after the final draft plan is prepared. Any additional Public Hearings will be held as necessary. This allowed citizens to have input into the development of the Plan. This allowed all residents to review the revised plan and the draft funding recommendations for the following year's activities through CDBG Program funds. The draft Consolidated/Action Plan is placed on the city's website at www.bossiercity.org. And at the Community Development Department Office for easy access by citizens. Citizens and stakeholders were invited to comment on the draft Annual Action Plan within the 30-day time frame that starts on October 19 2022 and ended October 17, 2022.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

There were no public comments on the plan after the draft was completed and open for comments.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

The City of Bossier City did not receive any comments that were not accepted.

7. Summary

The Citizen Participation Plan defines the comprehensive process used by the City of Bossier City to keep residents, community agencies, businesses and all other interested parties informed about its community development efforts through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

There were no comments received that were not accepted.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator		COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The following agencies and entities are responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and administration of the grant programs:

The City of Bossier City Community Development Department is the lead agency and the responsible for the development of The Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

The three organizations that were instrumental in the development of the plan are HOPE Connections, the Continuum of Care, The Housing Authority of Bossier City and Bossier Parish Section 8 Housing. Local not-for-profit organizations were also crucial to the success of this plan.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

City of Bossier City

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AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

1. Introduction

In preparing the Five Year Consolidated Plan, the City used the U.S. Bureau of Census Data provided by HUD, results from the meetings, HUD’s information on the Continuums of Care for LA, and the following documents: a) from the City: 2013 Comprehensive Plan, 2015-2019 City of Bossier City Five-Year Capital Projects Plan; 2019 Comprehensive Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER), 2010 and 2015 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, 2010-2016, 2016-2018 Action Plans, and the 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan; b) from the State: 2015- 2019 Consolidated Plan; 2016 Louisiana Annual Action Plan & Louisiana HIV/AIDS Quarterly Report; c) from HUD: HUD’s 2009 Office of Policy Development and Resources Comprehensive Housing Market Analysis; d) from Public Housing Authorities: Public Housing 5-Year and Annual Plans for the Housing Authority of Bossier City and Bossier Parish Section 8 Authority; and e) from private organizations: Northwest Louisiana Association of REALTORS and M.L.S., Inc. 2014 - 2017 Annual Reports; and The Homeless Research Institute – “ A Research Agenda for Ending Homelessness”, June 2014. The City of Bossier City consulted with residents and stakeholders (e.g., social service providers, local churches, City departments and other community partners). Consultation included five public meetings to obtain citizen participation in the Consolidated Plan process. The final Annual Action Plan was placed on the Bossier City website.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction’s activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(l))

In preparing the Five Year Consolidated Plan, the City used the U.S. Bureau of Census Data provided by HUD, results from the meetings, HUD’s information on the Continuums of Care for LA, and the following documents: a) from the City: 2013 Comprehensive Plan, 2015-2019 City of Bossier City Five-Year Capital Projects Plan; 2019 Comprehensive Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER), 2010 and 2015 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, 2010-2016, 2016-2018 Action Plans, and the 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan; b) from the State: 2015- 2019 Consolidated Plan; 2016 Louisiana Annual Action Plan & Louisiana HIV/AIDS Quarterly Report; c) from HUD: HUD’s 2009 Office of Policy Development and Resources Comprehensive Housing Market Analysis; d) from Public Housing Authorities: Public Housing 5-Year and Annual Plans for the Housing Authority of Bossier City and Bossier Parish Section 8 Authority; and e) from private organizations: Northwest Louisiana Association of REALTORS and M.L.S., Inc. 2014 - 2017 Annual Reports; and The Homeless Research Institute – “ A Research Agenda for Ending Homelessness”, June 2014. The City of Bossier City consulted with residents and stakeholders (e.g., social service providers, local churches, City departments and other community partners). Consultation included five public meetings to obtain citizen participation in the Consolidated Plan process. The final Annual Action Plan was placed on the Bossier City website.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The Shreveport/Bossier/Northwest LA CoC (HOPE for the Homeless) has received funding from HUD, and has conducted the point-in-time count to determine the homeless population. The City of Bossier City is in close proximity to the City Shreveport and is part of the Shreveport-Bossier City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA); Bossier City has used CDBG funds to assist those persons that are at risk of becoming homeless. In past years it has also funded transitional housing services to the homeless and an emergency shelter to the victims of domestic violence.

The jurisdiction has conferred with The Shreveport/Bossier/Northwest LA CoC (HOPE Connections), the continuum of care for this area regarding the needs of the elderly, children, persons with disabilities and homeless providers serving the homeless. Additional Information was obtained from the HOPE Web Site, and HUD's CoC Web Site.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

Not Applicable. The City is not a direct recipient of ESG funds but does receive ESG funds through the state and belongs to a CoC.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Housing Authority of Bossier City</p> <p>Housing PHA</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Reviewed the 5-year plan for relevant information and got clarification on some of the information and future plans in person.</p>
2	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>HOPE Connections</p> <p>Services-homeless Regional organization</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy</p>

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Survey: Some of the needs that we are in need of are Shelter Operations funding. Current funding for our Mercy Center does not cover all expenses, such as shelter utilities, maintenance, and insurance. As far as housing-rental assistance, the Philadelphia Center received ample funding through HOPWA-STRMU and HOPWA-TBRA. Our Prevention department that is charged with doing HIV and STD testing, condom distribution, and education has seen funding decrease year after year from the State and the CDC. Community-based organizations like the Philadelphia Center are having to find other sources of funding through private dollars. Last quarter, our area was number one in new syphilis cases. Lack of funding for testing and treatment will only increase our numbers.</p>
<p>3 Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Bossier Parish Section 8 Housing Authority</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Housing</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs</p>
<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Personal Interview. There is a greater need for vouchers based on their waiting list and they would like any additional support possible in that goal.</p>
<p>4 Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Multi-Cultural Development Center</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Education</p>

<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p> <p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development</p>	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>
<p>Interview meetings & written comments on the need for partnerships and collaboration with financial and other organizations and non- profits to aid in family financial education and assistance to help provide for housing stability and other needs and on continuing to collaborate with existing partners.</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>
<p>Gift of Dance, Inc.</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>
<p>Services-Children Services Needs of Youths</p>	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>
<p>public Service needs of youths</p>	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>
<p>Phone interview. They indicated that there are needs within the Public Services to improve education and to educate children based on the community needs for youth and the need to build confidence and respect.</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>
<p>OFFICE OF BOSSIER COMMUNITY SERVICES</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>
<p>Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services Transportation</p>	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>
<p>Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy</p>	

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Phone Interview. Expressed interest in the need for transportation for elderly and handicapped individuals for essential services such as medical care thus helping them maintain self-sufficiency.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Caddo Council on Aging
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Phone Discussion. This program was not able to be carried out during the COVID-19 Restrictions. The need for the program is there and the public will have to be re-educated about the Elderly Ombudsman program when it resumes.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Plant A Seed Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Children and youth Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Survey and personal interview. The At-risk children in the Bossier City area need services to help them rise above their living situation and circumstances. The Plant A Seed Foundation believes that the children have been and will continue to be helped by their program that helps support a good relationship with Bossier City.

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

A wide range of housing agencies, social services, homeless agencies and economic and educational agencies and others were consulted during this action planning cycle. There were no known agency types not consulted.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	HOPE Connections	The Consolidated Plan depends on resources and data produced from the Continuum of Care plan in addressing Homeless Prevention needs
2021-2025 Capital Projects Plan	City of Bossier City	The plans complement each other. The Consolidated Plan utilizes the Five-Year Capital Projects Plan to prioritize community development activities, and to leverage CDBG funds where possible.
Public Housing 5-Year and Annual Plan for Sec. 8	Bossier Parish Section 8 Housing	The plans complement each other. Among the shared goals are to provide affordable housing to lower income households.
Public Housing 5-Year and Annual Plan for HABC	Housing Authority for Bossier City (HABC)	The plans complement each other. Among the shared goals are to provide affordable housing to lower income households.
City of Bossier City Comprehensive Plan	City-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission	The plans complement each other. The Comprehensive Plan Housing Element contains the shared goals to increase affordable housing, and diversify housing

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The development of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan require the help of the local public services agencies, non-profit groups and other organizations. Specific priorities are identified and ranked through utilizing input from public hearings, meetings, consultations, research and surveys. The City relies on continuing associations to make sure that these views and comments are received and incorporated into the Plan.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The citizen participation process for the overarching Consolidated Plan set the goals and priorities for the five-year period. The Citizen Participation Plan defines the comprehensive process used by the City of Bossier City to keep residents, community agencies, businesses and all other interested parties informed about its community development efforts through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. It is also the tool to gather a wide variety of input from the City's low to moderate income residents, as well as the City's public/private sectors. Citizen input is solicited and gathered at every step of the Consolidated Plan process, beginning with development of the plan.

Citizen Participation is a key component of the consolidated planning process. Bossier City low-income and minorities residents are encouraged to participate in the development of the Consolidated Plan, substantial amendments and performance report. In addition, auxiliary aids are made available to persons with disabilities. Prior to the preparation of the Draft Consolidated Plan, the City conducted public meetings to allow citizens to provide input on housing and community development needs. The City, as required by HUD regulations, also consulted with various agencies concerning housing and community development needs. Input was elicited from residents as well as agencies via the use of a survey in some cases.

For the preparation of the Action Plan, The City held five public hearings on its Annual Action Plan. Notices of all public hearings were published in the local newspaper. The meetings were held September 13, 2022 at the Hooter Park MLK Community Center and September 15, 2022 at the Bossier City Community Development Offices at 100 John Wesley Blvd. The City held the final Public hearings to discuss the drafts of the Annual Action Plan for the CDBG program. These Public Hearings were held October 11, 2022 at MLK Community Center at Hooter Park and October 13, 2022 at the Bossier City Community Development Offices at 100 John Wesley Blvd. A final presentation was given before City Council October 18, 2022 at the City Council Chambers at 620 Benton Rd where the proposed goals and objectives and funding allocation for the 2021 Annual Action Plan were presented. This allowed citizens to have input into the development of the Plan. The results of the meetings with the general public and other agencies have been beneficial to coordinate the research necessary for the preparation of Annual Action Plan documents. All interested persons and agencies were notified of these meetings. A total of approximately thirty residents and stakeholders participated in the meetings. There was a 30-day comment period after the draft plan was prepared. This allowed all residents to review the plan and the draft funding recommendations for the following year's activities through CDBG Program funds. The draft Consolidated/Action Plan

is placed at the Community Development Department and the Bossier City website for easy access by citizens. Citizens and stakeholders were invited to comment on the draft Annual Action Plan within the 30-day time frame that began October 19, 2022 and ended November 17, 2022.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Not applicable	No Responses received.	Not Applicable	
2	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	Fact Finding Public meetings for public input were held September 13, 2022 in the evening and in the evening, on September 15, 2022. Six members of the public attended.	Explanation of Process. Request for ideas, input and needs. Presentations of current level of public services and requests for funding. There were questions about what one of the public Services actually did. There was a question about sidewalks	None.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Not Applicable.	No Comments were Received.	Not Applicable	
5	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	The finalized plan was placed on the public website for public review.	No comments have been received.	There were no comments that were not accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

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Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) entitlement program, established in 1974 and administered by HUD, provides metropolitan cities and urban counties with funds to assist in the efforts of providing decent housing, neighborhood revitalization, economic development, as well as the prevention and elimination of slums and blight, and assistance to low- and moderate income persons. The processes involved for the allocation of each entitlement grant are based on goals and strategies outlined in the City's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for HUD Programs.

Eligible CDBG activities include but are not limited to:

Economic Development-Microenterprise, special economic development, financial assistance. Public Services-Job training and employment, health care, and substance abuse services Community Facilities-Rehabilitation, construction, or acquisition of neighborhood facilities Community Revitalization-Urban renewal activities and the removal of slums and blight. Housing-Rehabilitation for residential purposes, lead-based paint testing, and mitigation.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1			Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
			\$	\$	\$		

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1			Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	529,481	0	0	529,481	Expected amount for remainder of Con Plan is allocation this year times 1.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

All of the Public Services Activities require matching funds and generally the matching funds exceed the federal funds and the federal funds leverage and increase the ability to provide those services to Bossier City Residents. The city includes City funds in the Public Facilities and Public Infrastructure projects. This amount varies with each project.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

Adjudicated properties may be used to help provide affordable housing and from time to time may be used for other permitted uses such as small neighborhood parks.

Discussion

See above.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Eliminate Lead-Base Paint Hazards	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City Wide	Lead-Based/Lead Hazard/Test/Abate Rehabilitation of Existing Owner Units	CDBG: \$44,202	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 3 Household Housing Unit
2	Retain Affordable Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City Wide	Rehabilitation of Existing Owner Units	CDBG: \$299,963	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 13 Household Housing Unit
3	Improve the Living Conditions of Low/Mod Children	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City Wide	Youth Services	CDBG: \$29,386	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1864 Persons Assisted
5	Public Service Needs of Special Populations	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	City Wide	Public Services for Persons with Disabilities	CDBG: \$14,733	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 123 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Public Service Activities to Support Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City Wide	Public Services - Housing and Financial Counseling	CDBG: \$7,367	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 15 Households Assisted
7	Job Readiness	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City Wide	Employment Training & Assistance	CDBG: \$7,810	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 75 Persons Assisted
8	Small Business/Micro-Loan Assistance	2020	2024	Small Business/Microenterprise Assistance	City Wide	Small Business/Microenterprise Assistance		Jobs created/retained: 2 Jobs

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Planning and Administration	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Planning and Administration	City Wide	Lead-Based/Lead Hazard/Test/Abate Rehabilitation of Existing Owner Units Youth Services Operating Costs of Homeless/Aids Patients Programs Special Population Services Public Services - Housing and Financial Counseling Parks, Recreational Facilities Street and Sidewalk Improvements Water/Sewer Improvements Drainage Improvements Public Services for Persons with Disabilities Public Services to Victims of Domestic Violence Public Services Employment Training & Assistance Homeless Prevention Small Business/Microenterprise Assistance Public Services for Job Training and Job Rediness	CDBG: \$105,896	Other: 70000 Other
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Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Eliminate Lead-Base Paint Hazards
	Goal Description	
2	Goal Name	Retain Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Improve the Living Conditions of Low/Mod Children
	Goal Description	
5	Goal Name	Public Service Needs of Special Populations
	Goal Description	
6	Goal Name	Public Service Activities to Support Housing
	Goal Description	
7	Goal Name	Job Readiness
	Goal Description	
8	Goal Name	Small Business/Micro-Loan Assistance
	Goal Description	
9	Goal Name	Planning and Administration
	Goal Description	

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Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

These projects are the instruments to achieve some of the long term goals of the five-year Consolidated Plan.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Lead Paint
2	Owner Emergency Housing Rehabilitation
3	Owner Housing Rehabilitation
4	Ramps & Critical Repair
5	Project Delivery Cost
6	VOA Lighthouse
7	Fire Prevention Activities
8	Low Income Youth Sports Program
9	Gift of Dance
10	Community Services Transportation
11	MDC Homebuyer Education & Financial Literacy
12	Plant A Seed in our Youth Foundation
13	Catholic Charities
14	Dress for Success
15	Micro Business Loan
16	CDBG Program Administration

Table 7 - Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

The priorities for allocation were based on the Goals and Priority Needs that have been identified and in some cases the availability of subrecipients that could and were willing to help meet those goals and needs. The need for more funding than is available limits and eliminates some projects.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

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1	Project Name	Lead Paint
	Target Area	City Wide
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Lead-Base Paint Hazards Retain Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Lead-Based/Lead Hazard/Test/Abate Rehabilitation of Existing Owner Units
	Funding	CDBG: \$44,202
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to test for and mitigate lead base paint hazards for low to moderate income families owner occupied homes.
	Target Date	12/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four low to moderate-income homeowner families are expected to benefit from this project.
	Location Description	Locations will vary depending on where qualified residents' homes are located in the City.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be used to test for and mitigate lead base paint hazards for low to moderate income families owner occupied homes.
2	Project Name	Owner Emergency Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	City Wide
	Goals Supported	Retain Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Rehabilitation of Existing Owner Units
	Funding	CDBG: \$3,736
	Description	Funds will provide assistance to low to moderate income families, elderly, and disabled. A forgivable loan is made available to correct threats to life, health and safety in the dwelling unit and bring those dangerous and deficient areas of the unit to National Housing Code and HUD Housing Quality Standards.
	Target Date	12/31/2023

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5	Goals Supported	Retain Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Rehabilitation of Existing Owner Units
	Funding	CDBG: \$27,284
	Description	Funds will be used to provide assistance to low to moderate income families, the elderly and disabled to correct dangerous and deteriorating code violations to the unit, primarily but not limited to the exterior envelope of the structure, that if allowed to continue may be or become threats to life, health and safety and ramps and other accommodations for the handicapped. This assistance will be in the form of a forgivable loan. Repairs will be to meet National Housing Code and HUD Housing Quality Standards.
	Target Date	12/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four owner-occupied housing units are expected to be completed and four low to moderate income families benefited.
	Location Description	Locations will vary depending on where qualified residents' homes are located in the City.
	Planned Activities	Repairs to homeownership units to correct dangerous and deteriorating code violations to the unit, primarily but not limited to the exterior envelope of the structure, that if allowed to continue may be or become threats to life, health and safety and ramps and other accommodations for the handicapped to National Housing Code and HUD Housing Quality Standards.
	Project Name	Project Delivery Cost
	Target Area	City Wide
	Goals Supported	Retain Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Lead-Based/Lead Hazard/Test/Abate Rehabilitation of Existing Owner Units
	Funding	CDBG: \$63,391
	Description	This project covers direct program delivery costs related to the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Programs.
	Target Date	12/31/2023

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7	Project Name	Fire Prevention Activities
6	Planned Activities	The Lighthouse After-school Program and leadership academy will serve the children residing in the Bossier Housing Authority complexes. These children are children from families that usually meet the governmental criteria of poverty and attend schools that do not provide structural after-school efforts. This program will provide tutoring and structured after-school activities as well as mentoring and counseling.
Location Description	Housing Authority Property located in CT13.	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project is expected to benefit 18 low to moderate income youths from low to moderate income families.	
Target Date	12/31/2023	
Description	Funds will be used for the Lighthouse After-school Program and leadership academy to serve the children residing in the Bossier Housing Authority complexes. These children are from families that usually meet governmental criteria of poverty and attend schools that do not provide structural after-school efforts.	
Funding	CDBG: \$12,509	
Needs Addressed	Youth Services	
Goals Supported	Improve the Living Conditions of Low/Mod Children	
Target Area	CT 113	
Project Name	VOA Lighthouse	
Planned Activities	Direct program delivery costs related to the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Programs.	
Location Description	This project will benefit eligible owner occupied properties city wide	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that approximately 13 low to moderate income families will benefit from this project.	

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8	Target Area	CT 113 CT104 CT 108.01 CT 106.01 CT 106.02 BG 1 CT 107.02 BG 1,2 CT 107.01 BG 3 CT 105 BG 2,3
	Goals Supported	Improve the Living Conditions of Low/Mod Children
	Needs Addressed	Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,152
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to fund the Bossier City Fire Prevention Department as a sub-recipient for the creation and administration of public service programs. These programs benefit the public school children in schools located in or serving L/M income areas. The programs serve all the low/mod income community.
	Target Date	12/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project is expected to benefit 1800 children from Low to Moderate income Families.
	Location Description	Training will take place in schools located in Low/mod income CT or BG's or serve a majority of children from them.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be used by the Bossier City Fire Prevention Department for the creation and administration of public service programs to teach fire prevention. These programs benefit the public school children in schools located in or serving L/M income areas. The school children will be trained to protect themselves and their families from home fires and fire hazards.
	Project Name	Low Income Youth Sports Program
Target Area	City Wide	
Goals Supported	Improve the Living Conditions of Low/Mod Children	
Needs Addressed	Youth Services	
Funding	CDBG: \$3,447	

9	Description	Funds are used to pay the fees to allow low to moderate-income youth to participate in Bossier City youth sports programs free of charge.
	Target Date	12/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 80 youth from low to moderate income families will benefit from this program.
	Location Description	The program will be available to children from qualified low to moderate-income families City Wide
	Planned Activities	Funds are used to pay the fees to allow low to moderate-income youth to participate in Bossier City youth sports programs free of charge. The children generally participate in organized football, basketball, soccer and baseball city leagues
	Project Name	Gift of Dance
	Target Area	City Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve the Living Conditions of Low/Mod Children
	Needs Addressed	Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$4,911
Description	Funds will be used to pay the fees for low to moderate income youths to participate in a two week Gift of Dance free Camp, a community service youth dance program, sponsored by Gift of Dance, Inc., providing dance lesson sessions, etc. for at-risk youth.	
Target Date	12/31/2023	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Twenty-one youth from low to moderate income families will benefit from this program	
Location Description	The program will be located at 5107 Tallow Ln, Bossier City, Louisiana.	
Planned Activities		
10	Project Name	Community Services Transportation
Target Area	City Wide	
Goals Supported	Public Service Needs of Special Populations	

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11	Needs Addressed	Special Population Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$14,733
	Description	Funds will be used to provide transportation provided to low/moderate-income persons to access social service agencies; provide access to critical care services (i.e. dialysis).
	Target Date	12/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that approximately 48 persons will benefit from the transportation program.
	Location Description	These qualified low to moderate income beneficiaries receive transportation from their residences city wide to various locations (mostly medical) and back.
	Planned Activities	Project will provide transportation for low/moderate-income persons to access social service agencies or access to medical and critical care services (i.e. dialysis).
	Project Name	MDC Homebuyer Education & Financial Literacy
	Target Area	City Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Service Activities to Support Housing
	Needs Addressed	Public Services - Housing and Financial Counseling
	Funding	CDBG: \$7,367
	Description	Funds will be used to fund a First Time Homebuyer, Credit and Budget Counseling and Pre and Post purchase Counseling program to guide homeowners by helping them to make informed decisions. The program will primarily serve low to moderate income families to improve their housing and financial situation.
	Target Date	12/31/2023
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 25 persons from Low to Moderate Income families (Primarily ELI) will benefit from this program.	
Location Description	It will be available to qualified low-to-moderate income persons City-Wide.	

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12	Planned Activities	Funds will be used to fund a First Time Homebuyer, Credit and Budget Counseling and Pre and Post purchase Counseling program to guide homeowners by helping them to make informed decisions. The program will primarily serve low to moderate income families to improve their housing and financial situation.	Project Name	Plant A Seed in our Youth Foundation	Target Area	CT 113	Goals Supported	Improve the Living Conditions of Low/Mod Children	Needs Addressed	Youth Services	Funding	CDBG: \$7,367	Description	Funds will be used to fund a mentoring/tutoring program to guide children into becoming adults by helping them to make informed decisions. The program will primarily serve children who live in public housing who will be mentored by educators, business men and professional athletes.	Target Date	12/31/2023	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 39 low to moderate income persons (youth) will benefit from this program.	Location Description	It will be available to qualified low-to-moderate income persons from public housing City Wide. It is located in a Housing Authority Property in CT113.	Planned Activities	A mentoring/tutoring program will be provided to guide children into becoming responsible adults by helping them to make informed decisions. The program will primarily serve children who live in public housing who will be mentored by educators, business men and professional athletes.	Project Name	Catholic Charities	Target Area	City Wide	Goals Supported	Public Service Activities to Support Housing	Needs Addressed	Public Services - Housing and Financial Counseling Homeless Prevention	Funding	CDBG: \$20,124	
	13	Planned Activities	A mentoring/tutoring program will be provided to guide children into becoming responsible adults by helping them to make informed decisions. The program will primarily serve children who live in public housing who will be mentored by educators, business men and professional athletes.	Project Name	Catholic Charities	Target Area	City Wide	Goals Supported	Public Service Activities to Support Housing	Needs Addressed	Public Services - Housing and Financial Counseling Homeless Prevention	Funding	CDBG: \$20,124	Description	Funds will be used to fund a mentoring/tutoring program to guide children into becoming adults by helping them to make informed decisions. The program will primarily serve children who live in public housing who will be mentored by educators, business men and professional athletes.	Target Date	12/31/2023	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 39 low to moderate income persons (youth) will benefit from this program.	Location Description	It will be available to qualified low-to-moderate income persons from public housing City Wide. It is located in a Housing Authority Property in CT113.	Planned Activities	A mentoring/tutoring program will be provided to guide children into becoming responsible adults by helping them to make informed decisions. The program will primarily serve children who live in public housing who will be mentored by educators, business men and professional athletes.	Project Name	Catholic Charities	Target Area	City Wide	Goals Supported	Public Service Activities to Support Housing	Needs Addressed	Public Services - Housing and Financial Counseling Homeless Prevention	Funding	CDBG: \$20,124

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14	14	Description	Funds for this Project will be used to provide homebuyer education, financial literacy, pre purchase housing counseling, foreclosure counseling to prevent homelessness and workshops on all of these issues
		Target Date	12/31/2023
		Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 100 persons from Low to Moderate Income families (Primarily ELI) will benefit from this program.
		Location Description	It will be available to qualified low-to-moderate income persons City Wide.
		Planned Activities	This Project will be used to provide homebuyer education, financial literacy, pre purchase housing counseling, foreclosure counseling to prevent homelessness and workshops on all of these issues.
		Project Name	Dress for Success
		Target Area	City Wide
		Goals Supported	Job Readiness
		Needs Addressed	Employment Training & Assistance
		Funding	CDBG: \$7,810
15	15	Description	Funds will be used to fund a Dress for Success program that includes wrap-around services contributing to Job Readiness, available job listings, group support, job basics training and counseling.
		Target Date	12/31/2023
		Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 25 low to moderate income persons will benefit from this program.
		Location Description	It will be available to qualified Low-to-moderate income persons City Wide.
		Planned Activities	Will provide a proper wardrobe to prepare the recipient for Success in obtaining and maintaining employment and including a program that provides wrap-around services contributing to Job Readiness, available job listings, group support, job basics training and counseling.
		Project Name	Micro Business Loan

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City Wide	Goals Supported	Small Business/Micro-Loan Assistance
	Goals Supported	Small Business/Micro-Loan Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Small Business/Microenterprise Assistance
	Funding	:
Funds will be made available for micro business loans to businesses in bossier city.	Description	
12/31/2023	Target Date	
Two jobs are expected to be created that will benefit two low to moderate income families.	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
Funds will be made available for micro business loans to businesses in bossier city. Funding will come from the CDBG:Micro-Business Loan Fund.	Location Description	
Micro Loans of up to \$15,000 will be made available to micro-business or proposed micro businesses in Bossier City. Funding will be the CDBG:Micro-Business Loan Fund.	Planned Activities	
CDBG Program Administration	Project Name	
City Wide	Target Area	
Eliminate Lead-Base Paint Hazards Retain Affordable Housing Improve the Living Conditions of Low/Mod Children Public Service Needs of Special Populations Public Service Activities to Support Housing Job Readiness Small Business/Micro-Loan Assistance Planning and Administration	Goals Supported	

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<p>Needs Addressed</p> <p>Lead-Based/Lead Hazard/Test/Abate Rehabilitation of Existing Owner Units Youth Services Special Population Services Public Services - Housing and Financial Counseling Public Services for Persons with Disabilities Public Services Employment Training & Assistance Homeless Prevention Small Business/Microenterprise Assistance Public Services for Job Training and Job Rediness</p>	<p>Funding</p> <p>CDBG: \$105,896</p>	<p>Description</p> <p>To provide local officials and citizens with information about the program; prepare program budgets and schedules, and amendments thereto; develop systems for assuring compliance with program requirements; develop interagency agreements and agreements with sub recipients and contractors to carry out program activities; monitoring program activities for progress and compliance with program requirements; prepare reports and other documents related to the program for submission to HUD.</p>	<p>Target Date</p> <p>12/31/2023</p>	<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p> <p>All of the families and persons that will benefit from the other projects included in this plan will benefit from this project.</p>	<p>Location Description</p> <p>City Wide application of projects.</p>	<p>Planned Activities</p> <p>Provide local officials and citizens with information concerning the program; prepare program budgets and schedules, and amendments thereto; develop systems for assuring compliance with program requirements; develop interagency agreements and agreements with sub recipients and contractors to carry out program activities; monitoring program activities for progress and compliance with program requirements; prepare reports and other documents related to the program for submission to HUD</p>
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AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

Most of the projects are available to qualified applicants citywide. A majority of these persons reside in the low/mod areas and do benefit from the program. The amount of funding available is often not enough for many infrastructure improvements in the neighborhoods and eligible census tracts and have not been made a part of this Annual Action Plan. These areas are ranked above according to Low/Mod income status. Many of these neighborhoods are also areas of minority concentration. These areas receive other funding for projects from the City.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City Wide	95
CT 113	5
CT104	
CT 108.01	
CT 106.01	
CT 106.02	
CT 106.02 BG 1	
CT 107.02 BG 1,2	
CT 107.01 BG 3	
CT 105 BG 2,3	

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Due to the amount of funding available, neighborhoods and census tract areas are not receiving infrastructure improvements as a part of this Annual Action Plan. These areas are ranked above according to Low/Mid Income status. Many of these neighborhoods are also areas of minority concentration.

Discussion

The City of Bossier City, for this proposed action plan, makes its funding available city wide to qualified citizens. These funds are not allocated to any particular neighborhood or census tract. However, most of the projects are located within those areas and will benefit mostly residents in those areas.

Over the next year, the City of Bossier City will continue to provide CDBG funds to local nonprofits for the provision of public services to low and moderate income households as a priority. The selection of agencies that serve the low-to-moderate income residents was done through a City-wide advertisement by issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) during the application process which was done in June 2021. RFP's were given to agencies that serve low-to-moderate income residents such as social services agencies that provide services to the homeless, special needs groups, as well as other City Departments capable of providing unique public services. These agencies were selected based on their existing capacity.

The City will continue to place emphasis on the need to address substandard housing through rehabilitation is amongst the highest priorities for the City in an effort to preserve the older, more affordable housing stock for the low to moderate-income residents. The City will continue to fund Owner Housing Rehabilitation, Emergency Housing Rehabilitation and Ramps & Critical Repairs, which are all repair/rehabilitation programs targeting low to moderate income households.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

Non-homeless are aided by the different rehabilitation projects provided by this plan. In some cases this prevents homeless as a secondary benefit.

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	15
Special-Needs	0
Total	15

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	7
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	7

Discussion

These figures relate to outcomes specified in the annual goals for 2023. The amount of CDBG funding for these activities may target more or less households. Please see the introduction above.

The Housing Authority of Bossier City and Bossier Parish Section 8 provide services and housing as detailed in their PHA Plans. Below are very short summaries of actions planned for the next year.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

The Housing Authority of Bossier City provides services and housing as detailed in their PHA Plan. Below are very short summaries of actions planned for the next year.

The Housing Authority of Bossier City has plans to:

1. Increase available decent, safe, affordable housing by reducing public housing vacancies, improving public housing management and modernizing public housing units.
2. Improve community quality of life and economic vitality by implementing measures to reduce poverty by bringing higher income public housing households into lower income developments and designating development of buildings for particular residents' groups (elderly and disability).
3. Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of families and individuals by increasing percentage of employed persons in assisted families.
4. Ensure equal opportunity in housing for all Americans regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status or disability by ensuring access to assisted housing, providing a suitable living environment and ensuring accessible housing for the disabled regardless of unit size needed.

The Bossier Parish Section 8 plans to:

1. Apply for additional rental and VASH vouchers when available
2. Project base up to 125 Housing Choice Vouchers at The Villages of Eagle Pointe
3. Increase voucher homeownership program
4. Counsel section 8 tenants as to location of units outside of areas of poverty or minority concentration and assist tenants in locating those units
5. Increase the number and percentage of employed persons in assisted families

Provide voucher mobility counseling

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

The Bossier City Housing Authority has a Residents Advisory Board which meets in an effort to incorporate resident ideas into the management of the various properties owned by the Authority. In

the near future, the Authority will be considering the revival of its homeownership program, dependent on the availability of funding;

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

N/A

Discussion

More information on the Housing Authority of Bossier City and Bossier Parish Section 8 can be found detailed in their PHA Plans.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(!)

Introduction

The City Bossier City plans to address the needs of emergency shelter and transitional housing for homeless persons by providing funding for non-profits in the following manner: The city has developed a goal and objective for providing Homeless services including transitional housing. However a replacement has not been found to this gap, Bossier City will be searching for a new provider or providers for meeting this goal this year and in the following years.

The City of Bossier City will continue to support strengthening the capacity of local service providers.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

Bossier City will continue to search for a new provider or providers for this need this year and in the following years. Up until 2020, at least 18 individuals or families received transitional housing assistance with wrap-around services for many years.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

HOPE Connections, the local continuum of care, conducts annual surveys of homeless individuals, including unsheltered persons. These surveys serve to help focus agency activities for the coming year, as well as provide documentation in response to HUD program requirements.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

Hope Connections with its membership is the major focus for Homeless prevention in this area including Bossier City. For some of the agencies, homeless prevention is their sole purpose. Other agencies include homeless prevention as a support program in conjunction with the provision of shelter and other support services.

Also, Bossier City has developed annual goal and objective for Provision of public service activities to support housing. The proposed MDCDC Homebuyer Counseling and Financial Literacy Program will

provide Financial, Housing, and Loss Mitigation training.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

CV2 CDBG Funds are being used to Prevent Homelessness through rent and utilities subsidies by a subrecipient. This subrecipient has also been allocated funding in this plan to operate a similar type of program.

As outlined above, Bossier City has had projects that were funded with CDBG funds. The last one was Providence House, which provided Transitional Housing for Women with Children and for many years. Although they were expected to utilize Bossier City funds in 2021, they decided to go another direction instead. And we have not yet been able to replace them. This program had facilitated access for homeless families to affordable housing units, by helping prevent those families from becoming homeless again. We will be looking for other providers to help mitigate this need.

Discussion

As noted above, the participants in HOPE Connections (The Continuum of Care for Northwest Louisiana) work cooperatively to meet the needs of the homeless, the participating organizations in HOPE Connections (The Continuum of Care for Northwest Louisiana) work cooperatively to meet the needs of homeless individuals and families through the continuum of services coordinated through the partnership.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

No public policies were identified that have negative effects on affordable housing development.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

None.

Discussion:

No public policies have been identified that have a negative effect on affordable housing and residential investment. Public policies previously identified in prior Consolidated Plans that may have had negative effects have since been resolved to relieve institutional obstructions of affordable housing development

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Bossier City presently provides a variety of services to its residents, funded by CDBG. Listed below are actions currently performed by the City or are under consideration for an inclusion in the plan for a future time period.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City will continue to look for new funding sources for programs to address underserved needs. Funding is the major obstacle in providing the services needed to focus on the limitless variety of issues that prevent families from breaking free of poverty and prevents them from living in the best, most affordable housing possible.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Housing actions will be accomplished through existing efforts to preserve affordable housing through housing unit improvement programs and financial and housing education programs.

Rehabilitation Projects: Over the last five years, the City has rehabilitated 46 homes of low-moderate income persons to bring the unit up to minimum International Property Maintenance Code and/or HUD Housing Quality Standards. The City plans to continue this program over the next five years.

The Emergency Home Repair Program will continue to provide assistance to low to moderate income families, elderly, and disabled to correct threats to life, health and safety in the dwelling unit and bring those dangerous and deficient areas of the unit to National Housing Code and HUD Housing Quality Standards. Over the last five years a total of 35 families were assisted. The City plans to continue this program over the next five years.

The MCDC Homebuyer Counseling and Financial Literacy Program programs will have financial literacy, credit counseling, home maintenance and loss mitigation classes for individual homeowners and potential homebuyers and will also have individual counseling as needed these will be taught and counseled by not-profit public service agencies. These organizations will provide classes taught over a series of evenings and/or a weekend.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The ultimate goal is to eliminate lead-based paint hazards and prevent childhood lead poisoning. The

City will continue to implement this long-term strategy. Program funds will be used to eliminate lead-based paint hazards. This strategy will include the development and integration of consolidated health, environmental and housing programs that can effectively address lead hazards. Lead hazard reduction strategies are as follows:

Coordinate public and private efforts to reduce lead-based paint hazards and protect young children. The city will work with other agencies and groups to coordinate and provide direction for prevention. The City will follow its Implementation Plan for Lead-Based Paint Program Requirements. The plan for reduction of LBP hazards relates to the extent of LBP poisoning and hazards by testing for the presence of lead, mitigating or removing potential hazards, increasing safer environments, and requiring third-party certified clearances.

The City will continue to meet HUD lead-based paint abatement standards in housing rehabilitation programs.

Provide public information and education on the extent of lead problems and the measures to be taken to reduce risk and protect health.

The City will seek additional funding to finance lead hazard abatement and reduction activities.

Provide training for program staff on lead hazard evaluation and reduction.

Provide each family receiving federal assistance information regarding LBP hazards.

Inspect federally assisted homes before purchase to ensure minimum housing standards are met. This includes inspection for lead-based paint hazards. Sellers prior to closing and subsequent move-in by homebuyers must address identified hazards.

Continue to encourage local rehabilitation contractors to become state, EPA and HUD certified to do lead-based paint work, because of the lack of capacity of certified workers and licensed contractors to bid on projects with lead paint hazards in housing and rehabilitation activities. The city has set procedures to manage lead-based paint through abatement or encapsulation of the targeted surfaces with a durable, resilient surface replacement. The x-ray fluorescence method of testing for lead based paint will continue to be used for the next five years. Wipe sampling and laboratory analysis of the samples for the presence of lead dust will continue to be used after mitigation for clearance testing to verify that cleanup is complete.

All applicants to federally assisted programs are required to sign a notice of possible lead based paint and the problems that lead based paint can cause and they are provided a copy of the EPA Lead-based paint booklet.

The actions are primarily the continuation of what the City is currently doing in the various areas. No major obstacles in the institutional structure have been identified that need to be addressed. The City is expecting to renew its efforts to coordinate with private housing and social service agencies after being hindered by the covid situation for some time.

Discussion:

The City will continue to coordinate planning activities with private housing and social service agencies, including HOPE Connections, development of the Continuum of Care, and enumeration of point-in-time and homeless surveys. City staff will also continue its participation in other coalitions and study groups as the opportunity arises.

service agencies

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social

- 1. Work with non-profit organizations to address community needs and provide support to federal and non-federal funding initiatives.
- 2. Work with private industry to address important issues that hamper housing and community development efforts.
- 3. Identify opportunities to create private/public partnerships for project finance and development to leverage federal funds.
- 4. Create networking opportunities through a housing roundtable that provides opportunities for City staff to interact with all sectors of the housing industry.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City will continue its efforts in conjunction with the HOPE for the Homeless and the Housing Authority and other organizations and providers of Bossier City to reduce the number of poverty-level families through the development of services needed to assist those families with educational opportunities, job growth, and life skills training through the various social service agencies operating in the city.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Program Specific Requirements
AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(i)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(i)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

- 1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed 0
 - 2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan. 0
 - 3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements 0
 - 4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan 0
 - 5. The amount of income from float-funded activities 0
- Total Program Income:** 0

Other CDBG Requirements

- 1. The amount of urgent need activities 0
- 2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan. 80.00%

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