

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Mount Vernon receives the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for community development and affordable housing needs. The City is an entitlement community that has received CDBG funds since 2004. CDBG entitlement communities are those that receive direct allocations from HUD by a formula considering factors such as total population, poverty levels, and housing conditions. Periodically, as a condition of receiving this federal financial assistance, the City is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to prepare a Consolidated Plan (Conplan), or Strategic Plan covering a three- or five-year timeframe. The Conplan outlines the City's goals and objectives for the CDBG program. The City of Mount Vernon's Five-Year Consolidated Plan covers the period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2028.

The Plan establishes a strategic course of action for housing and community development in the City of Mount Vernon. Using the latest available data, this five-year planning document identifies priority housing, homelessness, special populations, public housing, and community development needs. The plan also considers market conditions for a range of housing characteristics, including the number of available housing units, cost and condition of housing, homeless facilities and services, special needs facilities and services, and barriers to affordable housing. The plan establishes general strategies for addressing those needs, and integrates the application, planning, and citizen participation requirements for CDBG.

Developed at the commencement of each Conplan term, the Strategic Plan serves as a guide for developing the Annual Action Plans (AAP). The Strategic Plan is designed to help achieve the following National Objectives:

CDBG Objectives

- Provide decent affordable housing,
- Create suitable living environments, and
- Expand economic opportunities.

The primary means of achieving this goal is by extending and strengthening partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including non-profit and for-profit organizations, in creating new housing and community development opportunities.

The City will aggressively pursue these goals through the projects described in its Annual Action Plan. The recommended funding for its AAP projects is directed toward public facilities and infrastructure improvements, affordable housing programs, and public service activities, which will lead to the following outcomes:

- Improved availability/accessibility to suitable living environments,
- Improved sustainability of decent affordable housing, and
- Improved availability/accessibility to economic opportunities.

National Objectives

- Benefit low-income* persons
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight
- Meet a need having a particular urgency

**For the purposes of the Strategic Plan, the term "low-/ moderate income" includes those households with income at or below 80 percent of the area median income, adjusted for household size, as published annually by HUD.*

The City's AAP is a major component of the CPS. In the AAP, Mount Vernon describes the programs and services that it will undertake during the period beginning July 1, 2024, until June 30, 2025. The AAP details the populations that will be served, projects to be undertaken, and resources that will be used over the next year. This year's Action Plan will be addressing the second year of the CPS.

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.

The five-year plan goals include (A) increasing the supply of affordable housing (B) maintaining existing affordable housing stock, (C) supporting public facilities for neighborhood revitalization, (D) increasing the supply of affordable owner-occupied housing through direct financial assistance to low-income homebuyers, (E) supporting efforts to reduce poverty, and (F) general planning and administration of the City's CDBG program.

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

- Continue to plan, monitor, and administer Entitlement Grant programs and ensure compliance with Federal Regulations
- Support improvement of infrastructure, community facilities and public facilities in CDBG eligible census tracts
- Address community needs through community-based public service programs

These objectives are supported by a collection of associated strategies and performance goals. These strategies seek to work toward meeting the objectives stated, addressing the need for more affordable housing, public facilities and infrastructure improvements, and public services. See AP-20 for specific goals.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The annual Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports identified the goals and accomplishments for the previous years against the outcomes expected in the Consolidated Plan. In reviewing activities accomplished with its federal funding the last fiscal year, the City of Mount Vernon advanced its goals of increasing the capacity of housing and human service organizations to serve the homeless and to provide effective support services to priority low-income and homeless populations by conducting a balance of projects. The projects were selected based on consultation with local agencies and in response to the area’s countywide Continuum of Care Plan. Along these lines, funds were allocated to public services provided to city residents by Community Action of Skagit County.

In addition, the City chose to focus attention and resources on the revitalization of one of its highest concentration low-income neighborhoods – the downtown area (Census Tract 9525, especially block group 3). Funds were allocated to implementing a flood hazard mitigation project to protect the neighborhood from catastrophic flooding from the adjacent Skagit River. A third focus for the City is the need for land acquisition for new, additional rental housing that can provide supportive housing for people who have experienced homelessness chronically.

All goals and projects are consistent with the 5-year Consolidated Plan and Strategy. As a result of slow-moving projects, Mount Vernon has taken specific steps to ensure that projects are implemented in a timely manner in the future. The slow-moving projects are now either completed or close to completion. This situation occurred as a result of agencies funded with CDBG funds experienced a multitude of events during and after the COVID pandemic which negatively affected the implementation of projects. Staffing changes, material supply delays, and other factors slowed the progress of the projects. Mount Vernon initiated a Substantial Amendment to meet the statutory requirements of the program and is confident in achieving all goals and objectives in the future as this event is not consistent with Mount Vernon’s previous demonstrated past performance as we have continuously met our

timeliness expenditure ratio as required by federal regulation. Details of past performance can be found in the City's Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs).

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS: The first public hearing on the Annual Action Plan was held March 13, 2024, following a public notice in the Skagit Valley Herald that was published in English and Spanish. The purpose of the hearing was to obtain the views of citizens and other interested parties on the housing and non-housing community development needs of the City before the draft 2024 Action Plan was prepared.

The draft Annual Action Plan was made available for review and comment by the public between March 26, 2024, and April 24, 2024. The City Council held a second public hearing April 24, 2024, at the Police/Court Campus, 1805 Continental Pl, Mount Vernon, Washington. The notice for the public hearing was published March 26, 2024, in a newspaper of general circulation. The public was given the opportunity comment on the Annual Action Plan. Contingency language was provided in the public notice in the event Mount Vernon's CDBG allocation was more or less than anticipated. During the public hearing one person spoke on behalf of funding the Neighbor's in Need Food Bank; and two people spoke in support of funding for Welcome Home Skagit.

During the 30-day comment period, five comments were received from individuals and individuals representing agencies in support of funding Welcome Home Skagit. One comment was received in support of funding the Community Action Agency of Skagit County.

Notices were posted at the following community locations and the City's website:

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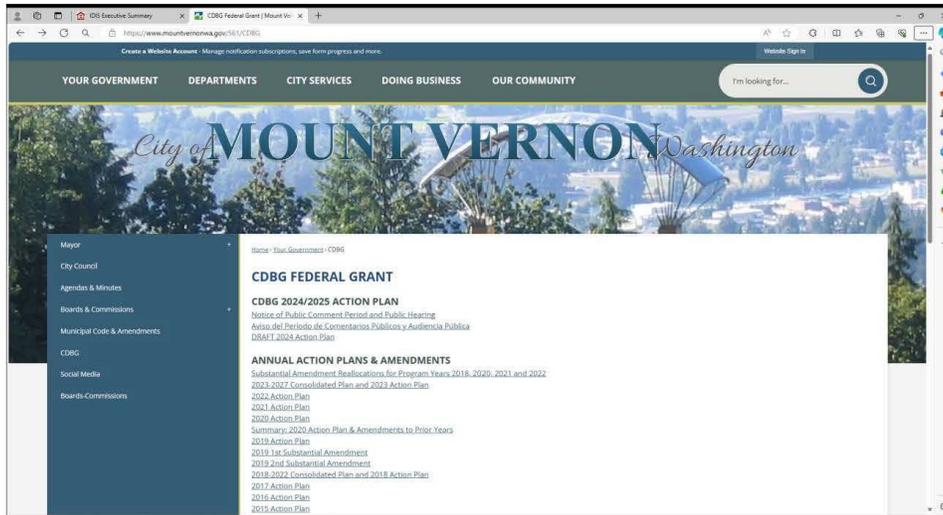
Notices were posted at the following community locations and the City's website:

City Hall

Library

In addition, the City Consulted with agencies through regular participation in HOME consortium meetings and other regional initiatives related to affordable housing, homelessness and other regional needs.

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Web page Posting AAP

Annual Action Plan
2024

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.

In establishing its CDBG allocations, Mount Vernon's governing body and City Administrators consider all comments received by the public.

The City Council held several work sessions and held public hearings to obtain comments on March 13, 2024, and April 24, 2024, at a time and location that encourages participation from the public.

During the public hearing one person spoke on behalf of funding the Neighbor's in Need Food Bank; and two people spoke in support of funding for Welcome Home Skagit.

During the 30-day comment period, five comments were received from individuals and individuals representing agencies in support of funding Welcome Home Skagit. One comment was received in support of funding the Community Action Agency of Skagit County.

In addition, the City relied on feedback from other planning and community initiatives as well as feedback from community partners. The City will continue to use CDBG funding to support public facilities, infrastructure improvements, public services, affordable housing and program administration.

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

All comments received regarding funding priorities for the Annual Action Plan were considered and accepted. Due to the overwhelming support and community need, Welcome Home Skagit, a public service agency, will receive public service funding while two other public service agencies received funding for public facility improvements; and one public service agency will receive funding for homeownership assistance to income eligible homebuyers.

7. Summary

The City of Mount Vernon's Strategic Plan outlines the housing and community development goals and strategies to meet the priority needs with available resources. This Strategic Plan covers Program Years 2023-2027, the period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2028.

PRIORITIES: The level of need in a community typically exceeds the limited resources available to help meet those needs. The City uses these priorities and goals as a basis for determining the types of housing and community development programs the City will fund over the next five years with CDBG funds. The City has identified the following general priorities (not in order) for the use of CDBG funding.

Priority 1. Homelessness: The Washington State Legislature required all Counties to develop a ten-year plan to reduce homelessness. The City follows, by reference, Skagit County's Homeless Plan, including its goals and strategies. CDBG funds for public services can be used to address these needs.

Priority 2. Increase affordable housing supply: The cost of rental and homeowner housing is beyond the reach of many Mount Vernon households who are homeless or who are struggling with a severe housing cost burden, putting their future tenancy at risk. The City of Mount Vernon participated in the Skagit County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee process that generated a set of strategies to increase the supply of affordable housing, and the City has been part of the Skagit County Home Consortium since 2015. The City's CDBG program is part of the larger strategy as it relates to housing within Mount Vernon.

Priority 3. Public facilities to support revitalization: The opportunities for Downtown Mount Vernon revitalization are many and they promise to increase safety and create economic development opportunities that will increase employment and housing for LMI area residents. Some of the revitalization activities will require infrastructure upgrades or the development of new infrastructure (e.g. pedestrian mobility improvements, utilities, flood hazard mitigation facilities, etc.).

Priority 4. Preservation: Preservation strategies including home repairs are needed to maintain the stock of existing affordable housing resources.

Priority 5. Assist special needs populations: Public services are needed to help individuals and families with special needs obtain help with basic needs, food, housing, employment, health, and other services.

Priority 6. Administration and planning: Implementation of this consolidated plan requires certain administrative and planning activities including the development of the plan, environmental review of projects, subrecipient monitoring, development of fair housing information, and other activities required by law.

GOALS: Based on the needs, housing market analysis and priorities, the Strategic Plan proposes the following goals over the next five years:

- Maintain affordable housing stock
- Support public facilities for revitalization
- Increase supply of affordable owner-occupied housing
- Supportive efforts to reduce poverty
- Administration and planning

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

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

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	MOUNT VERNON	
CDBG Administrator	MOUNT VERNON	City of Mount Vernon Mayor's Office
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator		
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Mount Vernon’s Mayor’s Office, receives entitlement funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on an annual basis. Funding is determined by the amount of HUD’s approved budget and an allocation formula that factors in variables such as population, housing stock age/condition, and poverty levels.

The Mayor’s Office is responsible for administering the City’s housing and community development programs covered by Mount Vernon’s Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. The Mayor’s Office, with staff oversight and consultants, conducts the planning, budgeting, and day-to-day administration of the City’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

As part of this Consolidated Plan development, the City of Mount Vernon, Skagit County, and participating jurisdictions undertook an extensive outreach program to consult and coordinate with nonprofit agencies, affordable housing providers, and government agencies, and other entities. The outreach program is summarized in the Executive Summary and Citizen Participation sections of this Consolidated Plan.

The City of Mount Vernon determined the priority rankings of its housing and community development needs through a consultation process with public agencies, community organizations, and local residents. The complete list of the City's consultations may be found in its Five-Year (5) Consolidated Plan and Strategy (CPS).

In addition, the City reviewed relevant data on the city's and the region's housing and community development needs, including the following sources:

- Census.gov
- 2016-2020 CHAS Data ACS Sets
- eCon Planning Suite
- HUD Low Income Housing Tax Credit Database
- Washington State Data Center
- Washington Workforce Association
- National Low Income Housing Coalition
- State of the Cities
- Washington Department of State Health Services
- Local Homeless Network

Funding for projects in the City's immediate sphere of influence must correspond with the identified needs or the proposed project is not funded with entitlement funds.

This consultation process ensures that there is direct, local community input in the selection of funded projects.

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)).

During the development of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan, the City and County Consortium consulted municipal officials, non-profit agencies, public housing agencies, community

housing development organizations, governmental agencies, and the Continua of Care in all three Consortium counties. The Consortium held two public hearings during the development of the Plan to identify needs and priorities, made the draft of the Plan available for a public review period, and held an additional public hearing during the public review period to review the draft findings and priorities. The City conducted Public Hearings to gain public input for the City's Plan that is incorporated into the Consortium's Plan. The Consortium also reviewed several community and regional plans (e.g. 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness; County and City Comprehensive Plans, HOME-ARP Allocation Plan).

The City coordinates with a wide variety of agencies, organizations, and service providers in an effort to bring various viewpoints to bear in the identification of local housing and service needs. The agencies include Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and other community development organizations whose fields of interest and service include but are not limited to: social services, youth services, senior services, homeless services, domestic violence services, health services, and abused children's services.

Mount Vernon continues to nurture relationships with public and private health and social service agencies in an effort to clearly identify gaps in essential services that can be used in the formulation of various grant requests submitted on the City's behalf.

To strengthen this delivery system, Mount Vernon has undertaken a collaborative approach to developing a common vision for housing and community development activities. Commitment and coordination among different levels of local government, community organizations, and the public are essential.

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 City and Consortium have incorporated into its Strategic Plan, elements of the local Continuum of Care plans to end homelessness which comprise framework for prioritizing the use of CDBG and HOME funds toward the goals of ending homelessness in the Consortium region. The City also reviewed and incorporated feedback from the Skagit/Island/ Whatcom Consortium HOME ARP Allocation Plan- This special plan was developed through a comprehensive planning process involving critical stakeholders, to establish needs and goals for populations experiencing homelessness or populations at risk of becoming homeless. The process involved direct outreach, surveys, and evaluation of data relative to specific HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations. In addition to gaining input from non-profit stakeholders serving qualified populations (homeless, at risk of homeless, domestic violence, stalking, or human trafficking survivors, other populations at risk of housing instability including veterans), outreach was made to housing providers, housing authorities, fair housing providers, and organizations serving persons with disabilities.

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

The City and Consortium have incorporated into its Strategic Plan, elements of the local Continuum of Care plans to end homelessness which comprise framework for prioritizing the use of CDBG and HOME funds toward the goals of ending homelessness in the Consortium region. The City also reviewed and incorporated feedback from the Skagit/Island/ Whatcom Consortium HOME ARP Allocation Plan- This special plan was developed through a comprehensive planning process involving critical stakeholders, to establish needs and goals for populations experiencing homelessness or populations at risk of becoming homeless. The process involved direct outreach, surveys, and evaluation of data relative to specific HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations. In addition to gaining input from non-profit stakeholders serving qualified populations (homeless, at risk of homeless, domestic violence, stalking, or human trafficking survivors, other populations at risk of housing instability including veterans), outreach was made to housing providers, housing authorities, fair housing providers, and organizations serving persons with disabilities.

2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Action of Skagit County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Meetings with staff and multi-agency meetings. Participated in committees where input was provided. The City of Mount Vernon will continue to use CDBG funding to support public services and affordable housing, to the extent that funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan period.

2	Agency/Group/Organization	SKAGIT COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Service-Fair Housing Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Meetings with senior staff and multi-agency meetings. Increased coordination relative to housing and homeless projects, and additional funding that may become available.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Housing Authority of Skagit County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Farmworker Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Participated in HOME Consortium Meetings. Mount Vernon will continue coordination through the HOME Consortium to further additional affordable housing opportunities for families.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Home Trust of Skagit
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Participation in HOME Consortium Advisory Committee, held meetings with staff, board members, and multi-agency meetings. Mount Vernon will continue to use CDBG funds to support affordable housing initiatives, to the extent funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan period.

5	Agency/Group/Organization	CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES OF WESTERN WASHINGTON, WA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation through participation with the HOME Consortium. The City will continue to support affordable housing initiatives, to the extent funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan Period.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Friendship House/First Steps
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation through meetings with Staff. The City of Mount Vernon will use CDBG funds to support public facilities that serve the homeless, to the extent funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan Period.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Volunteers of America Western Washington Dispute Resolution Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation through meetings with Staff. The City of Mount Vernon will use CDBG funds to support affordable housing ownership opportunities, to the extent funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan Period.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Promise of Skagit Valley
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation through email notices and request for participation in meetings. The City of Mount Vernon will use CDBG funds to support public services for low to moderate income persons to the extent funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan Period.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Skagit Valley Neighbors In Need
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation through email notices and request for participation in meetings. The City of Mount Vernon will use CDBG funds to support public services for low to moderate income persons to the extent funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan Period.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Welcome Home Skagit
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy

	<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>Consultation through email notices and request for participation in meetings. The City of Mount Vernon will use CDBG funds to support public services for low to moderate income persons to the extent funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan Period.</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

N/A

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	Skagit County	The plan calls for the reduction of homelessness within a 10-year period. The City will continue to support organizations and activities that serve the homeless.
Building a Skagit Housing Affordability Strategy	Skagit County Public Health Department	Long-term strategy for building a better, coordinated strategy for LMI-affordable homes and related issues
Mount Vernon Downtown Development Strategy	Mount Vernon	This report updates the downtown redevelopment strategy. The City will continue to use CDBG funds to support large infrastructure project though the Section 108 program.
Skagit County HOME-ARP Allocation Plan	Skagit/Island/Whatcom Consortium	The HOME ARP Allocation plan Identifies the need for affordable housing in Skagit County. It also identifies the need for shelter and services for HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations Homeless, At Risk of Homelessness, Domestic Violence, Stalking, Human Trafficking Survivors, Other Populations at Risk of Housing Instability. QPs also include Veterans

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Downtown and Waterfront Development Master Plan	Mount Vernon	The Strategic Plan identifies Downtown Mount Vernon as a target area for revitalization and incorporates the major goals of public facilities (infrastructure) improvements.
Low Income Needs Assessment	Community Action of Skagit County	Assessment identified critical needs and concerns regarding poverty within Skagit County. The largest share of participants in the assessment were from Mount Vernon. The results will help guide the use of CDBG funds for public services.

Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 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

Citizen participation efforts included direct outreach to organizations and stakeholder groups, public notices, including notices published in Spanish to accommodate the high percentage of Mount Vernon residents who have limited English Proficiency. In addition, direct contact was made community stakeholders and public services providers. The planned strategies and priorities for the consolidated plan included homeless strategies, affordable housing, and Downtown Mount Vernon redevelopment efforts. The strategies were established through the review of existing plans and public participation efforts, coordination with stakeholders along with the Consolidated Plan participation process.

In order to encourage public participation in the planning process—particularly among minorities, and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities—the City published a notice in both English and Spanish in the Skagit Valley Herald, a local circulation newspaper.

Notices were posted at the following community locations: Town Hall, the Library and also on the City's website in addition to sending the notice via email to those requesting to be on the City's listserv.

Each of the public notices advised potential attendees that special accommodations would be made for persons with disabilities and non-English speakers if given advance notification.

In addition, copies of the City's Annual Action Plan budget was made available to the public during the 30-day public comment period from March 26, 2024 to April 24, 2024, at the Mayor's Office.

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	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Public hearings were held March 13, 2024, and April 24, 2024, at the Police Court Campus. The purpose of the hearings was to obtain feedback from the public regarding the Annual Action Plan. The public was given the opportunity to comment before the City Council took any action on the plans	During the public hearing one person spoke on behalf of funding the Neighbor's in Need Food Bank; and two people spoke in support of funding for Welcome Home Skagit.	All comments were accepted.	

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)
2	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Public notices were published in the Skagit Valley Herald, a newspaper of general circulation to advise the public about the Consolidated Plan process, associated hearings and request comments from the public. The notices were published January 30, 2024, and March 26, 2024.	During the 30-day comment period, a total of five comments were received from individuals and individuals representing agencies in support of funding Welcome Home Skagit. One comment was received in support of funding the Community Action Agency of Skagit County.	All comments accepted.	

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	Internet Outreach	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	Public notices and draft Annual Action Plan documents were posted on the City of Mount Vernon website	During the 30-day comment period, a total of five comments were received from individuals and individuals representing agencies in support of funding Welcome Home Skagit. One comment was received in support of funding the Community Action Agency of Skagit County.	All comments accepted.	

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)
4	Email	Non-targeted/broad community	All persons requesting to be placed on our mailing list were sent notification via email of the availability of funds and of public hearings.	During the 30-day comment period, a total of five comments were received from individuals and individuals representing agencies in support of funding Welcome Home Skagit. One comment was received in support of funding the Community Action Agency of Skagit County.	N/A	
5	In office walk-ins	Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community	Public Notices were sent to public service agencies so that they could have their beneficiaries, board members, and interested parties attend the meeting or submit comments.	No comments were received via this means.	N/A	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources - 91.420(b), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The City of Mount Vernon receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The City will receive a CDBG program entitlement allocation of \$360,931.00. In addition, the City anticipates that it will have prior year resources in the amount of \$250,000 from projects that completed under budget, projects that have not been started, and/or general administration funds that are left over from the prior year. The total anticipated budget for the CDBG program is \$360,931 plus any unexpended funds at the end of June 30, 2024. The program year was not complete when these estimates were populated, therefore prior year funds are estimated.

Anticipated Resources

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: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	360,931	0	0	360,931	968,529	The expected amount of funds at the beginning of the Conplan was \$1,661,825 based on an annual allocation of \$332,365. The remainder of funds for the ConPlan is the difference of what was anticipated and what has been allocated. Funds will be used for admin/planning, housing, public facilities, and public services.

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

Federal funds the City receives through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) are used to leverage other federal, state, local and private resources to meet housing and community development needs. While matching funds are not currently required for the City's CDBG program, the City anticipates that most major projects will be funded primarily through non-CDBG resources. For example, new multi-family housing will be funded primarily through low-income housing tax credit program and the WA State Housing Trust Fund, with relatively small local investment of CDBG dollars. The City owns land that was recently used to complete the flood hazard control project in the Downtown neighborhood, and most of the \$30,000,000 floodwall project came from non-CDBG sources.

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

Not applicable.

Discussion

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Support public facilities for revitalization	2023	2027	Homeless Non-Housing Community Development	Census Tract 9523 Census Tract 9522	Homelessness Public Facilities to support Revitalization	CDBG: \$184,606	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3034 Persons Assisted
2	Supportive efforts to reduce poverty	2023	2027	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City of Mount Vernon	Homelessness Assistance for Special Needs Populations	CDBG: \$54,139	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 350 Persons Assisted
3	Increase supply of affordable housing	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	City of Mount Vernon	Increase Supply of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$50,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 1 Households Assisted
4	Administration and Planning	2023	2027	Administration	City of Mount Vernon	Administration and planningImplementation of this	CDBG: \$72,186	Other: 1 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Support public facilities for revitalization
	Goal Description	
2	Goal Name	Supportive efforts to reduce poverty
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Increase supply of affordable housing
	Goal Description	
4	Goal Name	Administration and Planning
	Goal Description	

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Mount Vernon intends to use FY 2023-2024 CDBG funds for public facility improvements, public services, and program administration. The breakdown of the grant by category and percentage are as follows:

- Public services - 15%
- Public facilities - 65%
- Administration - 20%

#	Project Name
1	Public Facility: Library Commons Improvements
2	Public Facility: Family Promise - Blessing House Renovations
3	Public Facility: Skagit Valley Neighbors In Need - Food Bank Renovations
4	Public Services: Welcome Home Skagit
5	Affordable Housing: Habitat for Humanity
6	Administration and Planning
7	Alternate Projects : Affordable Housing

Table 7 – Project Information

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

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Public Facility: Library Commons Improvements
	Target Area	DOWNTOWN MOUNT VERNON
	Goals Supported	Support public facilities for revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities to support Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$110,000
	Description	Support Completion of Mount Vernon Library Commons Repayment of 108 Loan and Interest
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	Downtown Mount Vernon
	Planned Activities	
2	Project Name	Public Facility: Family Promise - Blessing House Renovations
	Target Area	City of Mount Vernon
	Goals Supported	Support public facilities for revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Assistance for Special Needs Populations
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Funds will be used to make improvements to Blessing House, a residential structure that is used for transitional shelter. Work includes painting and new flooring for the second story.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Funds will be used to make improvements to Blessing House, a residential structure that is used for transitional shelter. Work includes painting and new flooring for the second story.
	Location Description	Mount Vernon
	Planned Activities	Improvements to a public facility that provides public services to Low to moderate income persons in Mount Vernon.

3	Project Name	Public Facility: Skagit Valley Neighbors In Need - Food Bank Renovations
	Target Area	City of Mount Vernon
	Goals Supported	Support public facilities for revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities to support Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$49,606
	Description	Public Facility: Skagit Valley Neighbors In Need - Food Bank Renovations
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 public facility serving 3000 people
	Location Description	This is a city-wide activity but services are rendered at the office which is located in the city of Mount Vernon.
	Planned Activities	Funds will be used to improve a public facility (food bank) by replacing the windows, benefiting low- and moderate-income persons in Mount Vernon.
4	Project Name	Public Services: Welcome Home Skagit
	Target Area	City of Mount Vernon
	Goals Supported	Supportive efforts to reduce poverty
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$54,139
	Description	Funds will be used to provide public services to low income residents of Mount Vernon.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	350 people
	Location Description	This is a city-wide activity but services are rendered at the office which is located in the city of Mount Vernon.
	Planned Activities	Funds will be used to provide comprehensive services for persons experiencing homelessness.

5	Project Name	Affordable Housing: Habitat for Humanity
	Target Area	City of Mount Vernon
	Goals Supported	Increase supply of affordable housing
	Needs Addressed	Increase Supply of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	Improve living conditions by addressing housing affordability issues and ability of low-moderate income and vulnerable populations to access housing opportunities by providing direct financial assistance to homebuyers.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 household
	Location Description	This is a city-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Funds will be used to provide homeownership assistance to 1 family.
6	Project Name	Administration and Planning
	Target Area	City of Mount Vernon
	Goals Supported	Administration and Planning
	Needs Addressed	Administration and planningImplementation of this
	Funding	CDBG: \$72,186
	Description	This activity involves administrative support for the CDBG program to include planning, oversight, coordination, staff supervision, monitoring and evaluation, contracting, record keeping, and overall program management. Technical assistance will also be provided for special projects that foster housing and community development opportunities.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable
	Location Description	

	Planned Activities	This activity involves administrative support for the CDBG program to include planning, oversight, coordination, staff supervision, monitoring and evaluation, contracting, record keeping, and overall program management. Technical assistance will also be provided for special projects that foster housing and community development opportunities.
7	Project Name	Alternate Projects : Affordable Housing
	Target Area	City of Mount Vernon
	Goals Supported	Increase supply of affordable housing
	Needs Addressed	Increase Supply of Affordable Housing
	Funding	:
	Description	Alternate Projects to address affordable housing needs- to be used as alternate in the event of a project cancellation or completion of project below budget.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	To be determined if funded.
	Location Description	City wide project.
	Planned Activities	Alternate Projects to address affordable housing needs- to be used as alternate in the event of a project cancellation or completion of project below budget.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

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

Much of the funding from the CDBG program is available for use in any of the CDBG eligible neighborhoods or citywide, depending on the specifics of the designated activities. Also, some funding is available according to individual benefit rather than area benefit. It is, therefore, difficult to provide reasonable projections of the distribution of funds by target area. All of the Public Service Activities are city-wide. The numbers below are strictly estimates based on these allocations and experience.

Thirty-two 33% of 2024 CDBG funds was directed to public facility improvements in Downtown Mount Vernon; the remainder will be used Citywide.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
DOWNTOWN MOUNT VERNON	32
City of Mount Vernon	68
Census Tract 9523	
Census Tract 9522	

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City of Mount Vernon devotes 1/3 of its allocation to repay a HUD Section 108 loan for the continued revitalization of the downtown area. The remainder of the funding is available for use for eligible activities Citywide.

Discussion

Downtown Mount Vernon is the only single neighborhood target area. Census Tract 9522 and 9532 have a high proportion of LMI residents. There are a wide variety of other needs and priorities throughout the City.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing -91.420, 91.220(j)

Introduction

The City of Mount Vernon has prioritized the use of CDBG for property renovation to preserve affordable rental housing for people who have experiencing homelessness and may need supportive housing. In prior years, CDBG was earmarked for property acquisition for a permanent supportive housing project being developed by Catholic Housing Services. In 2019 and 2020, CDBG was earmarked for property acquisition for an acquisition project proposed by Friendship House; in 2023 the unspent funds for the Friendship House renovation project was redirected to the acquisition of real property to provide housing for the homeless.

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

Not Applicable.

Discussion

The property acquisition by Friendship House occurred in early 2024 and not in 2023 as anticipated.

AP-85 Other Actions - 91.420, 91.220(k)

Introduction

No known barriers to affordable housing resulting from public policies of the City of Mount Vernon exist.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City will conduct outreach to various community sectors to inform lenders, property managers, and the public about Fair Housing laws; The City will also continue coordination with the HOME Consortium, Skagit County and other community partners to support unmet needs in the Area.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City will work in partnership with the Housing Authority of Skagit County to secure the resources necessary to provide affordable housing in Mount Vernon. The City has alternate projects in its 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and Action Plan to provide affordable housing for rent or homeownership.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

All housing rehabilitation efforts on homes that were built before 1978 will include lead-based paint hazard evaluations. All hazards will be addressed, either through abatement or interim controls to minimize the hazards. The City will also provide information to partners regarding projects that may be impacted by Lead Based Paint requirements based on the age of the buildings.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Poverty is a function of income, which is related to education, job training and employment. Annually the City provides CDBG funds to public service agencies to assist households below the poverty level with services. Major economic development programs in support of business development and job creation are being undertaken, including efforts to revitalize the Downtown neighborhood. The City continues to have three major priorities for expanding the range of economic development opportunities available to low- and moderate-income residents:

- Develop new businesses and create new jobs in the target areas,
- Improve access to employment opportunities within the target areas, and
- Help residents acquire the skills required for success in today's job market.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City will continue participation in the HOME Consortium and other regional groups for continued information sharing and coordination. The City will also use CDBG funds to support affordable housing

initiatives, to the extent funding permits, during the FY 2023-2027 consolidated plan period.

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

The City plans to continue coordination with the Continuum of Care to support the goals of their plan to reduce homelessness through their 10 year plan and newer initiatives as they occur. The City also intends to continue active participation with community organizations that serve the residents of Mount Vernon through CDBG funding, when available, and other (non-financial) supports.

Discussion

To raise awareness regarding barriers to affordable housing, the City will proclaim “Fair Housing Month” in April 2025. Information regarding discrimination and action that renters or homebuyers may take and HUD authorized pamphlets are available at the Community Development Office. City staff will provide assistance to any Mount Vernon resident filing a federal fair housing discrimination complaint; provide intake services and forward the complaint to the appropriate HUD office. To date, Mount Vernon has not assisted anyone in filing a fair housing discrimination complaint. As such, the status and/or disposition of any filed complaints are not part of the City’s records.

During the month of June 2024, the City, in conjunction with local affordable housing providers and partners, will proclaim June as Affordable Housing Month. Information will be disseminated regarding affordable housing in both English and Spanish.

Posters and brochures regarding Fair Housing are distributed to non-profits, local agencies, and governmental offices to raise awareness.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction

The 2024 Action Plan continues some of the programs and one project that the City has implemented in the past, including rental housing development, homebuyer assistance, public (human) services, and flood hazard mitigation in Downtown Mount Vernon.

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.	75.00%

Discussion

Attachments

Citizen Participation Comments

Mount Vernon, Washington

Summary of Public Comments

Community Development Block Grant Program

2024-2025 Program Year

During the public hearings one person spoke on behalf of funding the Neighbor's in Need Food Bank; and two people spoke in support of funding for Welcome Home Skagit.

During the 30-day comment period, five comments were received from individuals and individuals representing agencies in support of funding Welcome Home Skagit. One comment was received in support of funding the Community Action Agency of Skagit County.

All comments received were accepted.

Grantee SF-424's and Certification(s)

OMB Number: 4300-3004
 Expiration Date: 11/30/2025

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Change/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>
* 3. Date Received: 05-15-2024	4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
5a. Federal Entity Number: <input type="text"/>	5b. Federal Award Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
State Use Only:		
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>	7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
6. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		
* a. Legal Name: <input type="text" value="City of Mount Vernon"/>		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): a: - 600 260	* c. UEI: UT541LDAR7N7	
d. Address:		
* Street 1: 010 Cleveland Avenue	Street 2: <input type="text"/>	
* City: Mount Vernon	County/Parish: <input type="text"/>	
* State: OH: Washington	Province: <input type="text"/>	
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES	Zip/Postal Code: 58273-4212	
e. Organizational Unit:		
Department Name: Mayor's Office	Division Name: <input type="text"/>	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:		
Prefix: Mr.	* First Name: Steve	
Middle Name: <input type="text"/>	* Last Name: Sexton	
Suffix: <input type="text"/>	Title: Special Projects Manager	
Organizational Address: <input type="text"/>		
* Telephone Number: 43601336-6256	* Fax Number: <input type="text"/>	
* Email: SteveSexton@cityofmv.com		

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text" value="City or Specialty Government"/>	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text"/>	
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text"/>	
* Other (specify): <input type="text"/>	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency: <input type="text" value="U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development"/>	
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: <input type="text" value="15-214"/>	
CFDA Title: <input type="text" value="Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants"/>	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number: <input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
* Title: <input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
13. Competition Identification Number: <input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
Title: <input type="text"/>	
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): <input type="text"/>	
<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: <input type="text" value="Projects include repayment of the Section 108 loan, improvements to public facilities, public services, housing assistance, and administration."/>	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions. <input type="button" value="Add Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Address: * b. Program/Project:

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: * b. End Date:

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="350,000.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value=""/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value=""/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value=""/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value=""/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value=""/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="350,000.00"/>

* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?

a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .

b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.

c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)

Yes No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)

** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an Internet site where you may obtain this list is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name: * Last Name: Suffix:

* Title:

* Telephone Number: Fax Number:

* Email:

* Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan – It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.

P. [Signature]
Signature of Authorized Official

5/7/24
Date

MAYOR
Title

Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) 2024 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

P. J. [Signature]
Signature of Authorized Official

5/7/24
Date

MAYOR
Title

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.