

DRAFT

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Asbury Park receives Federal funding allocations annually, commonly referred to as Entitlement Funds, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD funding is provided to the City through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Prior to every Program Year, Asbury Park develops an Annual Action Plan with public input that dictates the specifics of how these federal funds will be utilized. The Annual Action Plan is a more refined and specific plan that builds off of The Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The Five-Year Consolidated Plan establishes overarching priorities based on researched needs of the community and suggests programs, partners and resources for addressing those needs. Additionally, The Five-Year Consolidated Plan provides a background on the institutional structure and public policies that are necessary to implement plan priorities successfully.

The 2023 Annual Action Plan represents the fourth year supplemental of the City of Asbury Park's Consolidated Plan for the program years 2020-2024 as approved by the City Council and accepted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The city received an allocation of \$409,771 in FY2023 Community Development Block Grant Funds (in line with the FY2022 allocation).

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 overall goal of the CDBG Program is the development of viable urban communities that will provide decent affordable housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities, principally for low- to-moderate income persons. The primary emphasis of the goals established within the F2023 Annal Action Plan is the continuance of maintaining and improving the quality of life of Asbury Park's low/moderate income residents. The projects selected for CDBG funding in this Action Plan will be managed efficiently and in compliance with program requirements.

Based on data from both quantitative and qualitative analysis the Asbury Park has identified the following priority needs to address and corresponding projects:

1. Improve and expand housing opportunities for low/moderate income households: Assist income qualified renters with a rental assistance program.
2. Improve, maintain and expand municipal infrastructure: purchase and installation of security cameras, and the purchase of fire apparatus equipment.
3. Support improvements to nonprofit facilities: Improvements to the Boys and Girls Club facility, 1201 Monroe Avenue.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The City is responsible for ensuring compliance with all rules and regulations associated with the CDBG entitlement grant program. The City's Annual Action Plans and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER) have provided details about the goals projects and programs completed by the City. Recent Accomplishments include:

- Funding of 2022 Community Events: Back to School Block Party, Holiday Tree Lighting, Black History Month Celebration, Easter Giveaways, etc.
- Purchase of security cameras to improve safety in the southwest quadrant of the city
- Purchase of fire equipment
- CARES act funds were utilized to upgrade signage and install hand sanitizer stations in city parks
- Purchase of playground equipment and greenery for City parks

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The development of the Annual Action Plan is a public process that invites citizens, including residents of public and assisted housing developments, to comment on the plan via public hearings and written statements. Public participation is sought and managed according to the City's & County's Citizen Participation Plans.

A notice of a public hearing on the Annual Action Plan is posted as a display advertisement in the Asbury Park Press 15 days prior to the date of the hearing.

Asbury Park Community Development Block Grant applications are presented at a public hearing.

The FY2023 Annual Plan was presented at a public hearing and available for the public to review during a 30-day comment period which was between March 30th and April 29th 2023.

The plan was approved before submission by the City Council on April 26th 2023.

The City will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing, or orally at the public hearings, during the preparation of the final Annual Plan. A summary of these comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons therefore, shall be attached to the final Annual Action Plan. Any project ideas presented at the hearings are followed up on for feasibility and jurisdictional limitations

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 comments during the public comment period between March 30th and April 29th 2023.

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

7. Summary

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
CDBG Administrator	ASBURY PARK	Community Development

Table 1 -- Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Asbury Park is the Lead and Responsible agency for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) entitlement programs in Asbury Park. The City is also a participant in the Monmouth County HOME consortium and non-profits located in the city are eligible to apply for Monmouth County's ESG allocation.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

The Development of the FY2023 Annual Action Plan was completed through a shared services agreement between the Asbury Park Office of Community Development and the Monmouth County Office of Community Development. The City's Community Development office is the primary city agency responsible for administrating programs and projects specified within the plan. The Action Plan is a one-year plan which describes the eligible programs, projects, and activities to be undertaken with funds expected during FY 2023-24 and their relationship to the priority housing, homeless and community development needs outlined in the 2020-24 Consolidated Plan.

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(I)).

Monmouth County is the lead entity and Asbury Park is responsible for administering programs covered by this plan and continues its relationships for on-going consultations.

The Department of Community Development continues to use mechanisms for ongoing citizen involvement to foster and enhance citizen participation. The City used both formal and informal input methods to develop this plan. There was a public hearing on April 13th, 2023 to provide information to the community about the City's priorities and to receive input on the community's requests for service and activities.

The City continues to strengthen its relationships with local nonprofits. The Community Affairs Resource Center (CARC) acts as the Latino Liaison for its help with the Spanish community and the Good News Foundation acts as liaison with the Haitian Community.

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.

Monmouth County Office of Community Development and several Nonprofits located in Asbury Park are active participants in the Monmouth County Homeless Systems Collaborative Executive committee; a consortium of providers that provide homeless assistance throughout Monmouth County. The County Homeless System Collaborative serves as the Continuum of Care for the entire county. Annual point in time counts is conducted in the area. Two transitional housing operating in Asbury Park that were included in the FY2022 Count (Covenant House & Cannright house) had all beds occupied on the night of the count.

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 is not an ESG entitlement jurisdiction and therefore does not receive directly receive ESG funds. Local nonprofits submit applications for Monmouth County annual funding allocations

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	ASBURY PARK
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development 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?	The Consolidated plan and Annual Action Plan were presented to the Mayor and Council for their review and approval.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	INTERFAITH NEIGHBORS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	nonprofit Neighborhood Organization

<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint 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>Interfaith Neighbors has worked closely with the City on many housing and developmental projects, and has been a subrecipient of the Community Development Block Grant program. Those projects included: job training and capital improvements. The City will continue to work closely with Interfaith Neighbors in order to assist residents with housing needs to ensure a healthy and safe environment.</p>
<p>3 Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Community Affairs & Resource Center, Inc.</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>nonprofit Neighborhood Organization</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>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 Market Analysis Economic Development 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>Community Affairs Resource Center (CARC) is also another organization that works closely with the City. CARC has partnered with the City to provide Spanish Translation, provides assistance with applicants who apply for the City's rental and utility assistance program, and provide a shared service with the City to ensure that they are Lead Based Paint compliant. CARC is also a subrecipient of the Community Development Block Grant program. Those projects have included: Capital Improvements. The City will continue to partner with CARC in support of their many programs and to ensure a healthy and safe environment in the community.</p>
4	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Coastal Habitat for Humanity</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>nonprofit Neighborhood Organization</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Lead-based Paint 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>Through a shared services Agreement Asbury Park has partnered with Coastal Habitat for Humanity to manage the home repair program.</p>
5	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>MONMOUTH COUNTY</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Other government - County</p>

<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development 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>	

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

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	Monmouth County Homeless Systems Collaborative	Identifies efficient use of resources to end homelessness in Monmouth County.

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**

Specific outreach methods will be listed before submission of final plan.

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)

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Asbury Park prioritizes its efforts and resources to help achieve the shared goals of HUD and the community: to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunity. The Annual Action Plan reflects the coordinated efforts of the citizens, stakeholders, partner agencies and City to achieve the goals in the Consolidated Plan.

The following table outlines the expected estimated resources from the HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program the City of Asbury Park expects to have available during the 2023 program year covered by this Annual Action Plan. The annual allocation column reflects an estimated 2023 funding amount of \$409,771.

Proposed activities are listed in section AP-35 - Projects segment. The City has a contingency plan in place in case of any changes in grant allocation, or a project is completed under budget. The city will submit a substantial amendment to the annual action plan if the funding meets established thresholds.

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: \$		
			\$	\$	\$	\$	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1			Narrative Description	
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$		Total: \$
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	409,771	0	0	409,771	Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$ 401,179

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

It is anticipated the federal funding listed above will be received annually to support activities outlined in the Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Plan. While the CDBG program does not require leveraging, other funding resources to the City of Asbury Park may be used in combination with these funds to complete the proposed projects. Leveraging is a way to increase project efficiencies which often come with combining sources of funding. Funds may be considered leveraged if financial commitments to the cost of a project from a source other than Community Development Block Grant funds are documented. City staff may identify and explore additional leveraging opportunities such as other federal, state, and local resources.

The Asbury Park Complete Streets Coalition, led by residents concerned with transportation safety and equity, has worked with the city over the past several years to accomplish goals including an e-scooter share program, bike corrals/racks, a Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan, and achieving designation as a New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Transit Village. As a Transit Village, Asbury Park is eligible for numerous grants that offer funding for transportation improvement projects (Safe Routes to School Grant-Traffic Calming along Third & Fourth Avenues; Transportation Alternatives Grant-Street trees bicycle racks and benches along Main Street; Safe Routes to Transit-Updating the intersection of Prospect and Bangs Avenues to improve pedestrian travel; Municipal Aid Project-Reconstruction of Comstock, Monroe, Eighth Avenues and

Memorial Drive.

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

Asbury Park's Recreation Department utilizes the public parks and beach areas for summertime recreation programs for the City residents, expanding public services to residents. Additionally, the City allows local groups use of the Springwood Avenue Park facility for recreational and cultural activities. The City's Senior Center serves as a meeting, recreation and food distribution location for Asbury Park Seniors. The City also uses its main lobby of the Municipal Building for the distribution of foods for residents. Additional City facilities that work towards addressing the priority needs identified within the Consolidated Plan include the public library, 7 public schools, 9 social and community agencies, 44 churches and the NJ Transit rail station.

Discussion

The City of Asbury Park, coordinating with Monmouth County and local nonprofits will continue to use Federal entitlement funds for the benefit of all citizens. City staff will continue to evaluate projects and expenditures to determine that grant allocations are spent in the most productive matter and correspondingly the largest number of residents (especially low/moderate households) can be assisted.

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	Local Infrastructure Improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant	Public Facility Improvements	CDBG: \$92,340	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1070 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4225 Households Assisted
2	Public facility improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE	Public Facility Improvements	CDBG: \$248,266	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 400 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1210 Households Assisted
3	Public Service Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE	Homeless Prevention. Sustainability	CDBG: \$28,819	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1500 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Expand Affordable Housing Availability	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	CITY WIDE	Affordable housing	CDBG: \$40,346	Homelessness Prevention: 55 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Local Infrastructure Improvements
Goal Description	<p>With FY2023 CDBG funding the City has proposed obligating CDBG funds towards the purchase and installation of security cameras in the Southwest Quadrant of the city and purchase of equipment for the city's fire department.</p> <p>Proportional administrative costs are included within the proposed goals allocation.</p>	
2	Goal Name	Public facility improvements
Goal Description	<p>Asbury Park proposes allocating FY2023 funds to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of holiday street lighting for Cookman Avenue, Springwood Avenue, Asbury Avenue, Bangs Avenue, Memorial Drive and Main Street. • Rehabilitation of the pool facility at the City's Boys and Girls Club. Rehab includes: pool resurfacing-draining of the pool, and removing existing paint and applying plaster surface. Also, upgrading the pool's deck-removing the existing cracked and damaged tile and replacing it with a concrete surface. <p>Proportional administrative costs are included within the proposed goals allocation</p>	

3	Goal Name	Public Service Assistance
Goal Description	Asbury Park holds annual community events every year to educate local residents on available services, celebrate cultural and holiday events, and kick off specialty seasons. Proportional administrative costs are included within the proposed goals allocation	
4	Goal Name	Expand Affordable Housing Availability
Goal Description	Asbury Park will allocate FY2023 funds towards a Homelessness Prevention/Rental Assistance Program providing rental reimbursements to income qualified households. Proportional administrative costs are included within the proposed goals allocation	

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City made its funding allocation decisions based on public input received during the Annual Action Plan process and applications received during the RFP period. Funding is awarded based on eligible activities and priorities identified in the public input process. Consideration has also been given to program delivery, timely expenditure of funds, and staffing requirements to successfully operate the grant activities, in addition to program regulations of the Community Development Block Grant programs.

Asbury Park will use CDBG funds to aid two public infrastructure projects, one public facility project, one projects to expand availability of affordable housing, and one public service assistance project.

#	Project Name
1	FY2023 Community Events
2	FY2023 Security Cameras
3	FY2023 Fire Apparatus Purchase
4	FY2023 Boys and Girls Club Facility Improvements
5	FY 2023 Homeless Prevention
6	2023 Holiday Street Lighting
7	2023 Program Administration

Table 7 – Project Information

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

Allocation priorities are based on the needs and goals established in the 5-year Consolidated Plan. Additionally, the public comment period helps direct program specific funding. Asbury Park is working to address housing and quality of life issues in neighborhoods, particularly low-income areas of the City and neighborhoods with action plans or neighborhood plans. Resources are targeted to these areas first. Limited financial resources continue to be the main challenge in meeting the underserved needs of low-and moderate-income persons. The City will continue its commitment to fund public service agencies and facilities that address the special needs of the underserved with CDBG funds.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	FY2023 Community Events
	Target Area	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant
	Goals Supported	Public Service Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	The city hosts annual events for residents. Proposed FY2023 events include National Night Out, Easter, Black History Month Celebration, Movies in the Park, Springwood Avenue Tree Lighting, Resource Fair, food drive and the Back-to-School Block Party. These events allow local residents to learn about services provided by the city and local nonprofits.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 600 very/low-low/moderate income residents attend these annual community events. In total the events attract from 2000-5000 residents.
	Location Description	Asbury Park Municipal Plaza, Springwood Park, Hammary Basketball Courts, the Senior Center
Planned Activities	Planned activities include a Black History Month Celebration, National Night Out, Back-to-School Block Party, Movies in the Park, Springwood Avenue Tree Lighting, Resource Fair, Easter, and a food drive. During several of these events, there are vendors providing information on various local topics and services benefitting residents: job training and health screening opportunities, homebuyer's assistance, rental assistance information, home repairs, educational information provided by local community agencies, and assistance with utility services from local agencies (NJ Natural Gas Company, Jersey Central Power and Light Company, NJ Water Company).	
2	Project Name	FY2023 Security Cameras
	Target Area	Southwest Quadrant
	Goals Supported	Local Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,105
	Description	Purchase and Installation of Security Cameras in the Southwest Quarter
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Evaluating census block data from the southwest quarter this activity will benefit approximately 4.225 residents.
	Location Description	-Intersections between Sewell Avenue and Comstock Street -Intersections between Mattison Avenue and Langford Street
	Planned Activities	Purchase and Installation of security cameras to ensure the safety of local neighborhoods.
3	Project Name	FY2023 Fire Apparatus Purchase
	Target Area	CITY WIDE
	Goals Supported	Local Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Facility Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Purchase of a firefighting equipment to assist the fire and emergency services of Asbury Park
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This fire apparatus will help ensure the safety of Asbury Park residents The city estimates approximately 1,300 individuals will directly benefit from this proposed activity.
	Location Description	Asbury Park Fire Department 800 Main Street, Asbury park
	Planned Activities	Purchase of a fire apparatus as requested by the emergency services organizations.
4	Project Name	FY2023 Boys and Girls Club Facility Improvements
	Target Area	Southwest Quadrant
	Goals Supported	Public facility improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Facility Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$142,000
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to complete improvements to the Boys and Girls Recreation Center
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The city estimates approximately 1,610 households will benefit from the proposed facility improvements: 1,200 low/moderate income, 400 non low/moderate income.
	Location Description	1201 Monroe Avenue, Asbury Park
	Planned Activities	-Pool resurfacing-draining of the pool, and removing existing paint and applying a plaster surface -Pool Deck upgrade-removing the existing cracked and damaged tile and replacing with a concrete surface
5	Project Name	FY 2023 Homeless Prevention
	Target Area	CITY WIDE
	Goals Supported	Expand Affordable Housing Availability
	Needs Addressed	Affordable housing Homeless Prevention.
	Funding	CDBG: \$35,000
	Description	Providing rental assistance to prevent arrears and/or eviction to income qualified Asbury Park households
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project will assist an estimated 55 persons towards maintain housing.
	Location Description	Throughout Asbury Park
	Planned Activities	The city will provide rental assistance to income qualified renters to help prevent arrears and eviction.
6	Project Name	2023 Holiday Street Lighting
	Target Area	CITY WIDE
	Goals Supported	Public facility improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Facility Improvements Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$73,370
	Description	Purchase and installation of holiday street lighting in the business district.
	Target Date	6/30/2024

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This activity will benefit approximately 3,500 City residents
	Location Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cookman Avenue • Main Street • Springwood Avenue • Memorial Drive • Asbury Avenue • Bangs Avenue
	Planned Activities	This economic development activity will provide upgrades to the downtown shopping areas during the off season, providing more light on city streets during the winter months.
7	Project Name	2023 Program Administration
	Target Area	CITY WIDE
	Goals Supported	Local Infrastructure Improvements Public facility improvements Public Service Assistance Expand Affordable Housing Availability
	Needs Addressed	Public Facility Improvements Public Infrastructure Improvements Fire & Police Equipment Affordable housing Homeless Prevention. Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$54,296
	Description	These funds are used for staff administration of the CDBG Grant. \$54,296 will be utilized from entitlement funding.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	In total this will pay for the payroll of one city employee.
	Location Description	1 Municipal Plaza, Asbury Park

Planned Activities	Management of the Community Development Program
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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

The City of Asbury Park encompasses approximately 1.61 square miles. In accordance with the CDBG criteria, the City continues to target the southwest quadrant (Census tracts 8072 and 8073) as the point of focus for revitalization and service activities as a priority area, as well as a citywide geographic focus. The Southwest Quadrant is home to 5,295 residents; 4,225 which are considered low/moderate income.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
CITY WIDE	45
Southwest Quadrant	55

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The neighborhoods in the southwest quadrant reflect these general characteristics data from the Five-year 2020 ACS data profile

- Highest Concentration of Labor Force Unemployed: 13.2%
- Most Densely Populated, Greatest occurrences of overcrowding
- Largest Average Household Size 3.1 person/household
- Lowest Median Income Census Tract 8072: \$28,0836, Census Tract 8073: \$46,086
- Highest Concentration of Poverty Populations 27.06% of the population of the two census tracts is estimated to have incomes below the poverty level
- Aged & Dilapidated Housing Stock: 44.6% of housing units constructed prior to 1939
- Lack of updated Active-Playing Field Areas for Recreation

These characteristics constitute the basis for a continued allocation of investments in the southwest quadrant of the City. This area consistently over the years has been determined to have the greatest area of need.

Discussion

Most of the City's programs funded through CDBG grant allocations are available city wide to low-mod income individuals or households but extra effort is made to market programs and services to the

southwest quadrant neighborhoods.

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

Introduction

The City of Asbury Park faces several obstacles to meeting underserved needs and provision of affordable housing. These include but are not limited to the limited financial resources of low-income persons, limited available space for new development, and capacity of existing utilities. Since 2015 several projects funded with Monmouth County HOME funds have added to the affordable housing supply:

- Parkview Phases 1, 2, & 3. All phases including the affordable home ownership units funded by HOME have certificates of occupancy
- Covenant House Rights of Passage Phases 1 & 2
- Interfaith Neighbors has constructed 5 single-family homes for income qualified homeowners
- Coastal Habitat for Humanity has constructed two single-family homes for an income qualified homeowner
- Construction of Renaissance Village

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

Escalating housing costs and property values are major deterrents to the development of affordable housing. The City will continue streamlining the city's permit process, making city owned land available at nominal cost for non-profit developers, and ensuring the commitment of the Governing body and Administration to assist low-income residents, the unemployed, the unskilled labor force and small businesses will greatly assist in positioning these sub-populations to benefit from the development opportunities undertaken in the City.

The City has collaborated with Coastal Habitat for Humanity to institute a repair program for income qualified homeowners. Additionally, with FY-2023 funding the City has proposed starting an assistance program for income qualified renters (rental assistance).

The City also adopted the affordable housing inclusionary ordinance in 2021.

Discussion

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

Introduction

The City of Asbury Park, understanding the importance of coordination between public housing and social service agencies, have developed the Consolidated Plan through consultation and cooperation with such agencies. In doing so, the City has established a working relationship with numerous social and housing service providers which serves as a foundation for coordination and cooperation in the implementation of the Annual Action Plan. The City will continue to encourage ongoing communication, referrals and exchange of information among these agencies

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Along with the programs that the Department of Community Development will carry out to address the needs of the underserved, other community agencies will address those issues as well.

The Community Affairs Resource Center (CARC) provides services to economically disadvantaged individuals and families throughout with the goal of revitalizing the communities served. CARC is one of the very few service providers that can effectively provide bilingual/bicultural diversity in its services. CARC continues to provide to an increasing number of clients services for advocacy, case management, protective services, domestic violence, information and referrals, translation and interpretations, immigration consultations, assistance with required documentation for filing tenant/landlord disputes, child support, divorce and other legal matters, income tax preparation, soliciting Individual Tax Identification Numbers (ITIN), notary public, career assessment, job readiness and employment placement, NJ Family Care applications, Food Stamp (SNAP) and NJ Shares Energy Assistance applications. Facility rehabilitation funded through CDBG will continue to allow the facility to provide the above services to the community while being a safe center and meeting Code Enforcement standards.

The City's Homelessness Prevention program is designed to prevent individuals/families from being homeless by providing utility assistance when services are facing termination; Home Emergency Loan Program is designed to assist the homeowner with emergent home repairs based on their inability to afford such costs; Relocation is provided to individuals faced with homelessness because of a code enforcement violation. In the event that the owner is unable to find housing for the tenants, the City will provide assistance until the code violation is abated.

For over seventy-five years the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monmouth have been providing a safe and fun environment for the most vulnerable children in the community. The aging structure is causing the needs of the community to diminish due to the necessary repairs that are needed. The City will fund the rehabilitation of the building for the club to continue its dedication for the community.

The Department of Social Services will continue to operate the Senior Center to provide the Senior Citizen population with resources and activities needed.

The Asbury Park Police Department will continue to assist the Monmouth County Special Needs Registry by providing awareness to those with physical and mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities due to a physical and or intellectual disability. The goal is to ensure all Monmouth County residents who may be in need of special assistance are able to get the help and support they need in a time of emergency or during interaction with Law Enforcement, Fire or EMS personnel.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Asbury Park has partnered with Costal Habitat of Humanity to manage the Housing Rehabilitation program. This program provides financial assistance to income qualified homeowners to make needed improvements to owner occupied units. This program provides limited financial assistance for emergency repairs, code compliancy and accessibility modifications to eligible income qualified homeowners including the elderly and the disabled. This program is open to owner-occupied dwelling units only. Minor repairs are intended to prevent further deterioration of a structure or system which if not corrected could eventually lead to more extensive and/or major repair work. Barrier free modifications allow persons with disability to function more independently.

The City of Asbury Park adopted inclusionary affordable housing ordinances for all commercial/mixed use zones in the City and along Deal Lake Drive. Most zones require 20% affordable housing in exchange for added height and density. The City also is inclined to grant PILOTS for affordable housing. This is another measure being taken to foster affordable housing

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City will continue its efforts to reduce lead-based paint hazards by focusing on educating the residents. We will continue to distribute informational lead-based paint brochures to any person or family receiving weatherization or other assistance from the City. Lead based paint hazard information will continue to be available at Municipal events, in the City's Department of Community Development and the Code Enforcement Department. In addition, the Code Enforcement inspectors will provide brochures during inspections upon their discretion.

The City will continue to identify its stock of lead-free housing to which families may be relocated while their own homes undergo lead abatement, temporary relocation housing for families with lead-poisoned children, and work with agencies to provide financial assistance for remediation in affordable housing units.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

While no job training program in the city is directly funded through the Community Development Block

Grant, Asbury Park will continue to enhance coordination with other critical public and private organizations, that will be critical partners to help realize the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan. Assistance provided through the other CDBG programs to lower- income households will relieve some of the financial burden and provide affordable options for housing, thus reducing some of the strain on household budgets.

The following actions are planned to reduce the number of poverty level families in the City:

- Interfaith Neighbors and Community Affairs Resource Center to provide job training and referrals for employment.
- The City will continue to require major Developers to hire local qualified residents. This policy is designed to provide employment opportunities to local residents
- Continue to make referrals to other local non-profit agencies for assistance
- Make information about the CDBG program available during all City events
- Continue to send out a weekly e-mail blast about current positions. The City's website also has listings of employment opportunities.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Asbury Park's Department of Community Development continues to collaborate with the Planning Department and other municipal departments to ensure a coordinated approach to the delivery of services that assist low-and moderate-income areas throughout the City. The utilization of these departments and other community organizations, will assist the department in addressing its community development, housing, homeless and special needs objectives.

- City Staff will continue to provide and develop expertise to address and where possible, change conflicting rules, regulations and time frames inherent in complex institutional structures.
- Re-evaluate existing programs and ensure they are appropriately scaled to meet the community's needs.

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

. These actions include:

- Continue to foster its relationship with the Asbury Park Housing Authority
- Continue to connect public and private housing agencies with social service agencies in the community through both direct communications and publicly, through community events.

Discussion

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 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.	100.00%

Discussion

The primary goal of all expenditure of CDBG funds is for activities that will address and benefit persons of low and moderate income.

