



Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The purpose of the 2021 Annual Action Plan is to establish funding decisions for the use of the City of Passaic's (the City) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and HOME Investment Partnerships program (HOME) funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City did not receive an allocation of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds from HUD for the 2021 program year. Specific attention is paid to the needs of moderate-, low- and very low-income households experiencing housing problems and the needs of special needs populations. This plan carries out the strategies established in the City's 2019-2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan with respect to housing and non-housing community development needs.

The City of Passaic's Department of Community Development (the Department) is the lead agency responsible for preparing the Annual Action Plan. The Department administers the CDBG program and the HOME program funding from HUD.

Consistent with HUD's mission, the City's mission is to increase homeownership for low and moderate income households, support community development, prevent homelessness and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination. To fulfill this mission, the City will embrace high standards of ethics, management and accountability and will continue to form new partnerships that leverage resources and improve HUD's ability to be effective on the community level.

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.

As part of the Annual Action Plan process, the Department staff members along with our partners in other departments in the City, local service providers, and stakeholders have completed a review of existing services, programs, and projects while assessing the ongoing needs of the community. With its CDBG funds, the City will continue to fund public facilities and infrastructure projects and public services, particularly around the areas of youth and senior enrichment programs, after-school programs, and employment programs. The City's focus for its HOME funds will be primarily on developing new affordable housing, homeowner rehabilitation and first-time homebuyer down payment assistance. For the 2021 program year, the City did not receive an allocation of ESG funds from HUD; however, the Department continues to work with the Continuum of Care to address the needs of the homeless and special needs populations.

This Annual Action Plan carries out the overall goals of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, which are as follows:

1. Provide the City with a comprehensive and long-term development strategy that will serve as a base for continued planning, cooperation, collaboration, and coordinated development programs.
2. Enhance the quality of life for area residents.
3. Create programs to address the needs of our residents with particular emphasis on children and youth and seniors.
4. Lower the level of unemployment and underemployment among all segments of the Passaic labor force.
5. Increase the number of new businesses in Passaic, and strengthen and expand existing businesses.
6. Increase the City's tax base through rehabilitation and construction of residential, commercial, and industrial structures.
7. Increase the supply of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households.
8. Assist low- and moderate-income households in purchasing their first home.
9. Retain existing affordable housing and preserve viable neighborhoods.
10. Increase the housing and support services available to homeless and special needs groups.

For more details on the annual objectives and goals, please refer to the Action Plan section AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

During the 2020 program year, the City undertook a number of actions to achieve our goals and improve the delivery of services. The actions were consistent with the objectives and priority needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. The Department worked with the Department of Public Works, the Department of Recreation and the Department of Health and Human Services to administer many programs funded through the CDBG program. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted the City's ability to implement many of its' public service programs funded with CDBG funds due to social distancing and stay-at-home orders. Yet, the City was able to implement several programs through our partners to enhance the quality of life for our area residents.

- The Department of Public Works performed sewer improvements at ten locations.
- The Department of Human Services completed the construction and operated services at Dignity House, which is a safe harbor for homeless individuals in the City delivering meals, showers, laundry services and other supportive services. Based on identified needs, The City used CDBG dollars during 2020 to upgrade the basement with new concrete floors and upgrades to the electrical system. This allows the City to offer more expansive refrigeration and storage space for the homeless population.

In addition to our regular CDBG dollars, due to the pandemic we were awarded CDBG CARES funding which is awarded solely for the purpose of “preventing ... preparing for... and responding to” the Coronavirus. The City’s initial award was \$801,051 which was used to assist in the following areas:

- Assisted 130 families with rental assistance and utility payments
- Assisted 3 families with their homeowner mortgage and utility payments
- Provided training and certified 4 Medical Technician Assistants

Over the past few years, the Department has utilized HOME funds to partner with multiple developers to implement several successful affordable housing developments in the City. This past year we were successful in completing the following:

- \$289,900 in HOME funds were used to assist Morris Habitat for Humanity to develop two homeownership units at 352 Howe Avenue. This project began construction in October 2019. In November 2020, these two units were completed and purchased by two income-qualified families.

The City uses HOME funds to assist low to moderate-income residents with down payment and closing cost assistance under the First-Time Homebuyer program (FTHB) to acquire their first home in the City. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in overall health concerns, fear of the unknown, loss of employment, corporate shut downs, etc. this program like many of the City’s programs, has been negatively impacted and the City only served one household.

The bulk of our efforts in addressing the needs of the homeless during the past year has been through Dignity House. The City entered three homeless individuals in the Mayor’s Homeless Seasonal Work Program, which provides training and placement services. The City also assisted homeless individuals with case management services resulting in the following:

- 12 homeless individuals have been assigned mailboxes at the Dignity House and are using them
- 6 homeless individuals obtained their social security cards
- 1 homeless individual obtained Military Veteran paperwork, DD-214
- 1 homeless individual obtained a birth certificate
- 1 homeless individual obtained state ID
- 1 homeless individual was placed in housing at the YMCA
- 2 homeless individuals were placed in furnished rooms

The City also continued our involvement with the local Continuum of Care (CoC) performing outreach services to the homeless in the City. The City’s Director of Human Services represents the City on the CoC Executive Board, working in collaboration with other County representatives on strategies to assist and support homeless in the county. Much of the work this past year was focused on prevention services for households negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The Department seeks input from a wide range of resources including community leaders, citizens, and local service providers throughout the planning process. Aside from direct citizen participation described below, the Department consulted with public and assisted housing service providers, social service organizations, and the Continuum of Care in order to assess community needs and build a foundation for future endeavors.

The City has adopted a Citizen Participation Plan describing the citizen participation requirements of its program. The Citizen Participation Plan is on file at the Department; as well as, permanently placed on the City's Website. The Department actively encourages citizens, particularly low and moderate-income residents, to participate in the planning process for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the Annual Action Plans, the submission of substantial amendments and the development of the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER).

To encourage citizen participation from the community, the Department provides opportunities for input. On January 4, 2021 notices were published in the North New Jersey Herald News and El Especial alerting interested persons as to the availability of the 2021 CDBG and HOME funding. On January 4, 2021, notices in English and Spanish were also posted on the City's web site: <http://www.cityofpassaic.com/grants> and at the City Hall entrances as well as the Office of the City Clerk. Mailings were sent to interested parties. Applications for CDBG and HOME funding were made available on January 4, 2021 and due back on February 11, 2021. A virtual public meeting was held on February 3, 2021 to solicit citizen input on housing and community development needs. On March 4, 2021, the preliminary budget for the 2021 Annual Action Plan was introduced to the Municipal Council Ad Hoc Committee. A second virtual public hearing was held on March 23, 2021. This process provides for and encourages citizen participation in the development of the Annual Action Plan.

The final draft 2021 Annual Action Plan was made available for comment for 30 days from April 2, 2021 through May 2, 2021. Copies of the notices in English and Spanish are attached to this document and can be found on the City's website, www.cityofpassaic.gov. The draft 2021 Annual Action Plan is also posted on the City's website.

Further, the Department consulted with public and private agencies that provide assisted housing, health services, and social services. These agencies had representatives at one or more of the public hearings, received mailings at various stages of plan development, and were consulted individually for purposes of developing the Needs Assessment. This Plan is designed to be consistent with the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan and complementary to the City's 2013 Master Plan.

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.

As described, the City held two public meetings in preparation for drafting the Annual Action Plan. At the February 3, 2021 meeting, 14 representatives from the community were in attendance remotely. The March 23, 2021 public hearing was held remotely as well due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There

were no comments received from the public at either the February 3rd or the March 23rd public hearings.

Additionally, the Department reached out to service organizations in Passaic to collect information on the needs of the populations served by those organizations. Comments indicated consistent themes in as regards the needs of the community, including recreation and after-school programs for children and adolescents, affordable housing, job training, and affordable transportation.

The final draft 2021 Annual Action Plan is made available for comment for 30 days from April 2, 2021 through May 2, 2021. Copies of the notices in English and Spanish are attached to this Plan. The 2021 Annual Action Plan was placed on the City web site www.cityofpassaic.com, in the City Clerk's office, the Mayor's office, and the Department of Community Development offices.

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

No comments were received that were not taken into consideration during the planning process.

7. Summary

The City wishes to thank all of the interested parties who played a role in developing the 2021 Annual Action Plan.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	PASSAIC	Department of Community Development
HOME Administrator	PASSAIC	Department of Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City has designated the Department as the lead agency for the grant administration of the CDBG and HOME programs. The City did not receive an allocation of ESG funding from HUD in the 2021 program year. The Department is responsible for overseeing the CDBG and HOME programs with funding from HUD. It is the Department’s role to ensure compliance with all HUD regulations. The Department staff annually issues the Request for Proposals for use of CDBG funds and accept applications for HOME funds throughout the year. The Department reviews each application with members of the Department’s review committee. HOME and CDBG proposals for housing developments are underwritten by a third-party consultant who specializes in loan underwriting and subsidy layering review. CDBG proposals are ranked and the Department staff makes recommendation to the Mayor and City Council for funding. Requests for HOME for the First-Time Home Buyer program and the Homeowner Rehab program are funded on a first-come, first served basis. All other proposals are funded based on merit.

The Department is responsible for preparing the Annual Action Plan. The Director of the Department of Community Development, the City Administrator, the Mayor, and the Passaic City Council have the responsibility of approving the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the Annual Action Plan and ensuring the successful administration of the two programs. The Mayor has the authority to authorize grant awards and execute HUD required documents and agreements. Additionally, the Department is the body that reviews and recommends actions and prepares the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report each year to examine the performance of the projects funded in whole or in part with HUD funds.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

The City of Passaic is engaged in ongoing efforts to increase coordination amongst public, private, and non-profit organizations that deliver housing, community development initiatives and provide social services to extremely low- to moderate-income residents throughout the City. Open lines of communication are maintained between the Department and the area's many non-profit and social service agencies as well as other departments and City agencies, including the Housing Authority of the City of Passaic (HACP).

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))

The Department seeks input from a wide range of resources including community leaders, citizens, and local service providers throughout the planning process. Aside from direct citizen participation described in the Citizen Participation section below, the Department consulted with public and assisted housing service providers, including HACP and social service organizations in order to assess community needs, establish priorities, identify goals and build a foundation for future endeavors.

The Department has also coordinated its Consolidated Planning process with the City in the development of the City's Master Plan, which included extensive inter-department coordination throughout the City government, significant community outreach and close coordination with social service agencies, nonprofit organizations, and affordable housing providers. The City's master plan and a presentation on the plan is available for public viewing at www.cityofpassaic.gov. The Department also worked with several other departments, the office of the Business Administrator, the Mayor and members of the City Council to arrive at funding priorities for the 2021 program year.

Throughout the Department's coordination with diverse groups and organizations, several themes remain consistent in the development of the goals and objectives outlined in the plan. Affordable housing for renters and buyers, recreation and after-school programs for children and adolescents, improved parks and playgrounds, homelessness assistance, job training/employment programs, and training opportunities for people with limited English proficiency, all remain the top priority needs in the City. In addition, the need for continued coordination and collaboration between agencies, local governments, other grantors, other City agencies and the schools is an ongoing priority for the Department.

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 continues to work with the CoC to perform outreach services to the homeless in the City. St. Joseph's Medical Center, the County's PATH Provider, conducts county-wide street outreach with a focus on connecting with people who have severe mental health with social service agencies.

The City refers homeless persons to 211 First Call for Help and connects them to resources through the Coordinated Assessment system. Additionally, Catholic Families and Community Services (CFCS) is an active partner in the community working with the homeless and at risk populations. The City connects homeless veterans through their CFCS SSVF outreach program.

The City's Director of Human Services currently serves on the CoC Executive Board representing the City of Passaic. He participates in meetings to identify funding priorities and address the issues of homelessness and special needs populations. The Department acknowledges that the amount of services currently being offered for special needs populations could benefit from improvements; however, without dedicated funding, it is difficult to implement. Improvements include outreach and education services for women and children, the homeless population, elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, and developmental), persons with addictions requiring supportive services, and persons with HIV/AIDS and their families. These populations are underserved, particularly in the areas of mental health, alcoholism, and substance abuse. The Department coordinates on these issues with other agencies and organizations where possible, and if additional funds become available, the Department will expand its efforts to address the special needs of its residents.

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 Director of Human Services serves on the CoC Executive Board and represents the City's interest in allocating resources that assist the homeless population in the County. The City is not a recipient of ESG funds and relies on the CoC and our partners to serve the needs of the homeless population. The City has no jurisdiction over how ESG funds are allocated other than our vote on the Executive Board. The CoC is responsible for developing performance standards and each year during the City's reporting process, the Department obtains input from the CoC on their outcomes and meeting their goals and objectives. The Department uses some of our available resources to fund other programs that assist the homeless population, including case management and other services administered out of Dignity House.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF PASSAIC DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	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 Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Department maintains a close working relationship with the City Department of Human Services. The Department meets with Human Services to discuss human service needs and coordinates on bi-lingual programs for the City's large Hispanic population, parenting programs, prevention programs, and health fairs programs and intervention programs targeting teenagers, Cultural and Senior Affairs. In pursuit of a healthy, lead-free environment, the Department of Human Services works in tandem with the State and County in order to provide lead base informational and outreach programs to Passaic residents.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF PASSAIC DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, CULTURAL & SENIOR AFFAIRS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Quality of Life

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Department maintains a close working relationship with the City Department of Recreation, Cultural, and Senior Affairs (RCS). The Department regularly meets with RCS to collaborate on services for seniors and youth that include targeted social and personal development opportunities.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PASSAIC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Employment
	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 Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	In consultation with the Housing Authority of the City of Passaic, our unified goals remain consistent; offering the community comprehensive, supportive services and initiatives that promote long term economic success and housing self-sufficiency.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	PASSAIC DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Infrastructure Improvements

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Department maintains a close working relationship with the City Department of Engineering. The Department regularly meets with Engineering to discuss infrastructure projects that need to be implemented throughout the low to moderate income communities in the City.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	PASSAIC PUBLIC LIBRARY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Services / Education
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Department coordinates with the Passaic Public Library on reading and education programs within the City of Passaic.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC OF PASSAIC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services - Victims Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Neighborhood Organization
	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 Non-Homeless Special Needs Public Services

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has coordinated with the Mental Health Clinic of Passaic to identify issues and services needed for at risk individuals including victims of domestic violence and youth.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	PASSAIC ALLIANCE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Neighborhood Organization
	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?	The City of Passaic has a very large Spanish speaking population and the Passaic Alliance is one of the City's key partners in understanding the needs of the City's large Hispanic population. The City has coordinated with the Passaic Alliance on counseling programs for Spanish speakers that address domestic violence, parenting, and health concerns.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE &
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Neighborhood Organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children 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?	The City works with this organization on issues related to homeless prevention, particularly in the areas of case management.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF PASSAIC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Services / Children & Youth
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City works with this organization on issues related to services for low to moderate income children and youth in the City.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	PASSAIC DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization coordinates already available resources and supplements them to allow unemployed and underemployed individuals pursue educational and training requirements to obtain licenses in the fields of cosmetology, hairstylists, skin care specialists, barbers, beauticians and manicurists.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	PARISH NURSING INTERFAITH TRAINING & OUTREACH, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Neighborhood Organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Services / Seniors
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City works with this organization on issues related to services to low income seniors to assist them as they age in place in the community.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	JUVENILE EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROJECT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Services / Children & Youth
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City works with this organization on issues related to programs designed to empower young low to moderate income girls in the community to help them succeed in school and grow into contributing members of society.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	PASSAIC AFFORDABLE HOUSING COALITION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Civic Leaders Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Affordable Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization works to develop affordable housing for low-income households in the City of Passaic.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF MORRISTOWN & PATERSON

	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Affordable Housing Global Nonprofit Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing need Assessment Affordable Housing Affordable Housing for Veterans
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Habitat works toward our vision by building strength, stability and self-reliance in partnership with families in need of decent and affordable housing. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage here in the City of Passaic. We are currently partnered with Habitat to create Veteran homeownership units.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	BRONZE GATE HOLDING CO. LLC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Affordable Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing need Assessment Affordable Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Experienced in providing affordable housing for the past 40+ years – Currently in talks with City representatives regarding a 16 unit rental housing complex of which 6 units will be affordable HOME assisted units.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	St Mary’s General Hospital of Passaic
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Services-Health Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Services Homelessness

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City discussed the delivery of services to homeless individuals being discharged from St Mary's system of care.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Passaic IT Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Technology
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Department has begun discussions with the City's IT Department to enhance the delivery of internet broadband options, increased broadband speed and create greater competition amongst internet providers.

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

There were no known agencies, organizations or community stakeholders who were excluded from the consultation process.

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	Passaic County Continuum of Care	The City works with the Continuum of Care to ensure the most effective use of funding for homeless and special needs populations.
City of Passaic 2013 Master Plan	City of Passaic	The goals of the 2019-23 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and this 2021 Annual Action Plan have been designed to coordinate with the City's Master Plan.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
East Side Redevelopment Plan	City of Passaic	The goals of the 2019-23 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and this 2021 Annual Action Plan have been developed to support the East Side Redevelopment Plan, which is a comprehensive redevelopment initiative to revitalize the East Side neighborhood in Passaic. The East Side Redevelopment Plan includes commercial, infrastructure, and residential redevelopment, including an affordable housing component that the City will support with HOME funds to assist the development of affordable rental units.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The Department seeks input from a wide range of resources including community leaders, citizens, and local service providers throughout the planning process. Aside from direct citizen participation described below, the Department consulted with public and assisted housing service providers, social service organizations, and the Continuum of Care in order to assess community needs and build a foundation for future endeavors.

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The final draft 2021 Annual Action Plan was made available for comment for 30 days from April 2, 2021 through May 2, 2021. Copies of the notices in English and Spanish are attached to this Plan and can be found on the City's website www.cityofpassaic.gov. The draft 2021 Annual Action Plan is also posted on the City's website.

Further, the Department consulted with public and private agencies that provide assisted housing, health services, and social services. These agencies had representatives at one or more of the public hearings, received mailings at various stages of plan development, and were consulted

individually for purposes of developing the Needs Assessment. This Plan is designed to be consistent with the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan and complementary to the City's 2013 Master 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)
1	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	13 community members attended the February 3, 2021 Zoom public meeting. There were no comments from the public.	There were no comments from the public at the public meeting.	There were no comments from the public.	

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	A newspaper ad was placed in the North Jersey Herald News and in the El Especial, a Spanish language newspaper, alerting interested persons to the development of the 2021 Action Plan and soliciting comments from the public.	There were no comments from the public.	There were no comments from the public.	

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>	The 2021 Annual Action Plan was made available to the public on the City website.	There were no comments from the public.	There were no comments from the public.	http://www.cityofpassaic.gov

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	Public Hearing	<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>	<p>The 2021 Annual Action Plan was discussed and adopted by the Municipal Council at a public hearing on March 23, 2021 held via ZOOM due to the pandemic. There were no comments from the public.</p>	<p>There were no comments from the public at the Municipal Council Hearing.</p>	<p>There were no comments from the public.</p>	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City anticipates CDBG and HOME funding under this Annual Action Plan. These totals include funds for administration, which are not included in the goals at SP-45 of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Additionally, the goal of Fair Housing at SP-45 is funded from the City's CDBG administration funds but itemized to highlight the City's efforts.

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	1,350,323	0	0	1,350,323	2,700,646	The City expects to receive CDBG funds in the amount of \$1,350,323 based on the 2021 allocations received from HUD. The City does not anticipate any program income nor does the City have remaining unallocated funds from prior years. The City plans to spend these funds to benefit low to moderate income residents.

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: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	870,442	0	0	870,442	1,740,884	The City expects to receive HOME funds in the amount of \$870,442 based on the 2021 allocations received from HUD. The City does not anticipate any program income nor does the City have remaining unallocated HOME funds from prior years. The City plans to spend these funds on housing activities that benefit low to moderate income residents.
Other	public - federal	Other	0	0	0	0	0	

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

Other federal programs that may be used in combination with the City’s CDBG and HOME programs includes:

- CDBG-CV
- CDBG-DR (as subrecipient)
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credits

- New Markets Tax Credits
- Economic Development Initiative
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs

State funds may also be sought from the following agencies:

- Department of Transportation
- Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program

Other local funds will also be used to leverage these projects, including:

- City of Passaic School Board
- City Department of Human Services
- County of Passaic Open Space & Farmland Preservation Trust Fund

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

Community facilities and services are available to all residents of the City to meet the day-to-day needs of the community and to enhance quality of life. In particular, enhancements to the public parks and public streets, which are publicly-owned land, are a key component of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the 2021 Annual Action Plan.

Discussion

The City has been notified by HUD of the allocations for funding from the CDBG and HOME programs for the 2021 program year. The amounts above reflect these allocations. The City did not receive an allocation of ESG funds from HUD for the 2021 program year.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Increase and Preserve Affordable Housing	2019	2023	Affordable Housing Public Housing	PASSAIC	Affordable Rental Housing Development Affordable Home Ownership Housing Development Affordable Housing - Homeowner Rehabilitation Affordable Housing- Down Payment Assistance	HOME: \$783,398	Rental units constructed: 4 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 1 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 1 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 5 Households Assisted
2	Public Services	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	PASSAIC	Public Services	CDBG: \$202,548	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1685 Persons Assisted
3	Public Facilities & Infrastructure	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	PASSAIC	Public Facilities and Infrastructure	CDBG: \$877,710	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 59,200 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Fair Housing Program	2019	2023	Affordable Housing Fair Housing	PASSAIC	Fair Housing	CDBG: \$10,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 15 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Increase and Preserve Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	The City will provide affordable housing opportunities through using HOME funds to support Rental Housing Development, Homeownership Housing Development, Homeowner Rehabilitation, and Down Payment Assistance for First-Time Homebuyer. Rental housing will be affordable to household earning below 60% of area median income or less. For the City's Down Payment Assistance and Homeownership Housing Development programs, the City will use the HUD uncapped income limits for households below 80% area median income.
2	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	The City will provide assistance for the operations of public services providers. This may include services related to enrichment programs for youth and seniors, after-school programs, employment programs, the homeless and special needs populations, the elderly, and crime prevention.
3	Goal Name	Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Goal Description	The City will invest in adequate public facilities and improvements, including but not limited to, streets, sewers, parks, playgrounds, and other public facilities.
4	Goal Name	Fair Housing Program
	Goal Description	The City contracts with the Paterson Task Force to provide the residents of Passaic with information and assistance in dealing with housing related complaints based on discrimination due to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or religion. These services are funded with CDBG administrative funds.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Projects

#	Project Name
1	CDBG Administration - 2021
2	Public Services - 2021 CDBG
3	Public Facilities Improvement - 2021 CDBG
4	Affordable Housing - 2021 HOME

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	CDBG Administration - 2021
	Target Area	PASSAIC
	Goals Supported	Public Services Public Facilities & Infrastructure Fair Housing Program
	Needs Addressed	Public Services Public Facilities and Infrastructure Fair Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$270,064.60
	Description	This project will include all eligible CDBG Administration activities and the costs of contracting for the operation of the City Fair Housing Program (Mandatory by HUD to provide Fair Housing Counseling services to the residents of the City of Passaic, to include information and assistance in dealing with housing related complaints based on discrimination due to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or religion).
	Target Date	6/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	These funds will be used for administration of all CDBG programs, which benefit both the community at large through public infrastructure projects and direct beneficiaries through service delivery programs. See information on those programs for beneficiary information.
	Location Description	The administration of the CDBG Program will be carried out primarily at the City of Passaic's City Hall located at 333 Passaic Street, Passaic, NJ 07055. The Passaic Fair Housing Activities will be available to residents throughout the City.
Planned Activities	This project category will include all eligible CDBG Administration activities. - \$260,064 Fair Housing Counseling services will be available to 15 extremely low to moderate income residents of the City, including information and assistance in dealing with housing complaints based on discrimination due to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or religion. - \$10,000	
2	Project Name	Public Services - 2021 CDBG
	Target Area	PASSAIC
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$202,548
	Description	This project category will include all CDBG Public Services activities.

Target Date	6/30/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 1,685 low to moderate-income residents of the City of Passaic will benefit from these services this year.
Location Description	Public Service projects serve the entire City of Passaic.

<p>Planned Activities</p>	<p>Bella Chanel Mural Project - The Mayor's office will work with four local artists and 25 extremely low to moderate income youth to create a mural at the City's Boverini Stadium located at 262 River Drive. - \$2,000.00</p> <p>Bella Chanel Educational and Cultural Mentoring Program - The Juvenile Education and Awareness Project will assist 25 low-income youth at 40 Market Street with career planning, homework, civic engagement, education. - \$2,000.00</p> <p>Certified Angels will operate an after school program that assists 81 LMI children and youth with various classes, dance, drama/acting classes, arts and crafts, homework help and community volunteering program, etc. The locations are: The Passaic Gifted & Talented Academy School 20, William B. Cruise Veterans Memorial School 11, Daniel F. Ryan School 19 and the Greater Passaic Clifton Community Center.- \$6,000.00</p> <p>Parish Nursing will offer home visitation where they provide free blood pressure screening and health assessment by a qualified nurse who then refers patients to other agencies to receive free services. The program serves approximately 250 LMI senior residents in their homes, local hospitals and health fairs. - \$5,000.00</p> <p>Special Needs Program - The Department of Recreation will offer programs at the Annabelle Shimkowitz Senior Center to help 34 LMI City residents with special needs gain new skills to enhance participants overall wellbeing and quality of life. - \$30,000.00</p> <p>Multi Sports Program - The Department of Recreation will offer sports programs/activities at the Passaic indoor sports facility and the Christopher Columbus, Pulaski, Dundee Island and Third Ward Parks for 727 LMI youth in the City - \$27,500.00</p> <p>Summer Camp Employment Training - The Department of Recreation will offer sporting and recreational activities to 230 LMI youth ages 6-14 at the Passaic indoor sports facility, the Boys and Girls Club, the Senior Center and the Christopher Columbus, Pulaski, Dundee Island and Third Ward Parks. - \$40,000.00</p> <p>Community Engagement Events - The Department of Recreation will enhance the quality of life for City residents throughout the City by offering outdoor entertainment, socializing events and fitness coaching at City-owned property, such as parks in LMI neighborhoods, City Hall lobby and courtyard, or the Annabelle Shimkowitz Senior Center - \$15,000.00</p> <p>Ice Skate Activities and Events - The Department of Recreation will offer extremely low to moderate income City residents the ability to learn to skate at the new rink at Memorial Park - \$15,000.00</p> <p>Senior Affairs - The Annabelle Shimkowitz Senior Center will offer activities and outings that assist 143 LMI Passaic seniors with daily living, instructional classes, events, field trips, fitness, enhance physical/mental wellbeing. - \$25,000.00</p> <p>Jewish Family Services & Children Center will offer employment services to 30 extremely low to moderate income unemployed and under employed residents with job coaching, vocational counseling and job development at</p>
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3	Project Name	Public Facilities Improvement - 2021 CDBG
	Target Area	PASSAIC
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$877,710
	Description	This project category will include all Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvement activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City anticipates that we will assist 59,200 extremely low to moderate income Passaic residents.
	Location Description	Projects will be carried out in low to moderate income neighborhoods throughout the City of Passaic

	Planned Activities	<p>Forstmann Library – Replace portion of roof in the facility located at 195 Gregory Avenue. The Library serves and area of the City that includes multiple census tracts totaling approximately 33,000 LMI City residents. - \$15,000</p> <p>Boys & Girls Club - Rebuilding the rear alley wall and removing plant materials; replacing fencing and gates, installing new outdoor storage and re-leveling cement at their facility located at 14 Hudson Street where they serve 16,500 LMI City residents. - \$15,000</p> <p>Park Improvements – City of Passaic Engineering will install new electronic equipment, improved lighting, new sensory equipment and ADA ramps and new lighting at the Columbus Park, Pulaski Park, Third Ward Park and Pulaski, Park, Dog Park, all of which are in LMI districts. - \$265,000</p> <p>Street and Sewer Improvement Projects - The Passaic Department of Engineering will improve streets and sewers that will benefit approximately 9,700 LMI residents. The City will perform improvements at the following locations. - \$582,710</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Install Bar Grate at McDonald Brook (Benson Ct & Main Ave) Census Track 1757.04/Block,/Lot/Ward 2. Install Bar Grate in Weasel Brook Culvert at Parker Ave, Census Track 1753.02/Block,/Lot/Ward 3. River Dr. & Brook Ave Intersection Sanitary Sewer MH Improvements, Census Tract:1757.01/Block/Lot/Ward 4. Montgomery St. Sanitary Sewer MH Improvements Between (Hammond Avenue & Paulison Avenue) Census Track 175801/Block/Lot/Ward 5. 24 Forest Ct Sanitary Sewer Improvement Census Track 1756.04/Block/Lot/Ward 6-Storm Sewer Improvement at Various Locations <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. President St & Van Winkle Avenue Intersection Census Track 1754.01/Block, /Lot/Ward b. Park Avenue & Union Street Intersection, Census Track 1757.01/Block/Lot/Ward c. In front of 27 Eight St Census Track 1757.03/Block /Lot/Ward
4	Project Name	Affordable Housing – 2021 HOME
	Target Area	PASSAIC

Goals Supported	Increase and Preserve Affordable Housing
Needs Addressed	Affordable Rental Housing Development Affordable Home Ownership Housing Development Affordable Housing - Homeowner Rehabilitation Affordable Housing- Down Payment Assistance
Funding	HOME: \$870,442
Description	This project category will include all Affordable Housing Activities.
Target Date	6/30/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 11 extremely low to moderate income households will benefit from the proposed HOME activities over the next year.
Location Description	Affordable housing projects will benefit extremely low to moderate-income households throughout the City of Passaic.
Planned Activities	Specific projects are chosen through an open application process, however, the City expects to generally fund projects in the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Program Administration - \$87,044 7. Affordable Rental and Homeownership Housing Developments - HOME funds will be used by to-be-determined housing developers to develop four units of affordable rental or homeownership housing units in the City - \$552,831 8. First Time Homebuyer Program - HOME funds will be used to assist five low to moderate income first-time home buyers with down payment and closing costs assistance - \$50,000 9. Homeowner Rehab Program - HOME funds will be used to assist one extremely low to low income homeowners with basic systems repairs. - \$50,000 10. Housing Developed by a Certified CHDO's - HOME funds will be used by a to-be-determined certified CHDO organization to develop one unit of affordable rental or homeownership housing units in the City - \$130,567

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

This year CDBG funding will be used 100% throughout the areas of Passaic with the highest concentration of low and extremely low income and minority concentration households who are living at or below poverty levels particularly, in the central, northern, and northeastern areas of the City as defined below by the American Fact Finder as census tracts 1752, 1754, 1755, 1757 and 1758;

1752; 347 African American & 4,648 Hispanic/Latinos, with an unemployment rate of 23.0% and 4.2%, respectively.

1754.01; 371 African American & 5,206 Hispanic/ Latino, with an unemployment rate of 1.0% and 1.6%, respectively.

1754.02; 625 African American & 4,491Hispanic/ Latino, with an unemployment rate of 14.0% and 4.8%, respectively.

1755, 1,048 African American & 6,287 Hispanic/Latino, with an unemployment rate of 2.7% and 6.8%, respectively.

1757.01; 505 African American & 2,768 Hispanic/Latino, with an unemployment rate of 4.1% and 5.4%, respectively.

1757.03; 490 African American & 1,895Hispanic/Latino, with an unemployment rate of 0.0% and 4.6%, respectively.

1757.04; 212 African American & 1,430 Hispanic/Latino, with an unemployment rate of 50.4% and 6.8%, respectively.

1758.01; 255 African American & 2,869Hispanic /Latino, with an unemployment rate of 9.0% and 4.5%, respectively.

1758.02; 197 African American & 6629 Hispanic /Latino, with an unemployment rate of 25.8% and 6.1%, respectively.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
PASSAIC	100
East Side Redevelopment Plan Area	
Ward 2	

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The overall geographic area in the City of Passaic was chosen for CDBG because the service programs and public facilities and improvements projects benefit all residents of the City. Priority will be given to areas with concentrations of extremely low- and low-income and minority households who are living at or below poverty levels, particularly in the central, northern, and northeastern areas of the City as defined in American Fact Finder as census tracts 1752, 1754, 1755, 1757 and 1758:

HOME funds will be allocated based on specific projects contemplated across the City with an emphasis in the census tracts identified above. The City is committed to working towards the goals of the East Side Redevelopment Plan. The East Side Redevelopment Plan includes commercial, infrastructure, and residential redevelopment, including an affordable housing component that the City will support with HOME funds to assist in the development of affordable rental units. The City is currently under construction with two housing developments totaling 104 units and 111,000 square foot logistics center. An additional 370 housing units are in development.

Consequently, CDBG and HOME funds may be invested in that Target Area during the 2021 Program Year; however, given the limited resources, the City will give priority funding to projects and programs that are ready to be implemented. It is the goal of the City to continue to create and support affordable housing opportunities and community reinvestment activities for all low to moderate income residents in the City of Passaic.

Discussion

The rationale for allocation priorities is described in the preceding sections.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

This year the City will focus its HOME funding on housing development to create more affordable housing opportunities and first-time homebuyer down payment assistance to assist low-income households in purchasing homes. As shown in the needs assessment and market analysis sections of the City’s 2019-23 Five-Year Con Plan, rental units in the City are majority one bedroom and efficiency units, making it difficult for families to find suitable housing and affordable rents. To address this need, the City is interested in the development of two- and three-bedroom units. Homeowner units, in contrast, tend to be larger and more suited to families. The City’s down payment assistance program will help more families invest in suitable homeownership opportunities. The City is working on a partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Paterson to develop four affordable units earmarked for Veterans; three 2-bedroom units and one 1-bedroom unit. These units would be homeownership housing development for four low-income veterans.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	11
Special-Needs	0
Total	11

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	5
Rehab of Existing Units	1
Acquisition of Existing Units	5
Total	11

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

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The mission of the Housing Authority of the City of Passaic (HACP) is to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing while providing the highest level of customer service. In carrying out this mission, the HACP is committed to:

- Maintaining cooperation and respect between residents and employees.
- Cooperative and respectful relationships with the public, community organizations, and other local government agencies and departments.
- Adopting community-building principles to assist residents in moving permanently to a better economic situation.
- Exhibiting pride in maintaining home and surroundings.

HACP adheres to all laws and regulations with regard to civil rights, nondiscrimination and affirmatively furthering fair housing opportunities for all Passaic residents.

HACP is in the planning stages of the RAD application for Alfred Speer Village. One of the challenges is securing the financing for what is to take place. A few meetings have taken place with developers interested in taking Alfred Speer Village forward with conversion. A definite timeline is not known at this time. HACP still needs to reevaluate the existing physical needs assessment.

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

Every opportunity to expose residents to home ownership will be taken. Advertised sessions are the key element at this time. Occasionally, HACP receives an inquiry and so far has referred the individual to the City's First time Home Buyer's program.

To further address the public housing needs, HACP maintains open communication with residents to update them with information from HUD as well as identify resources to enhance the quality of life. In addition, HACP holds workshops for public housing residents to assist them in improving life skills.

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

HACP does not have any unique program for home ownership at this time. Additionally, HACP no longer has an FSS program. This will be something to consider reengagement in the future.

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

The Housing Authority of the City of Passaic is not designated as troubled

Discussion

The public housing characteristics and needs of the residents are described in the preceding sections.

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

Introduction

The City of Passaic did not receive an allocation of ESG funds from HUD for the 2021 program year and so we are not able to fund many of the organizations that serve the homeless and other special needs population. However, via the City's Dignity House Resource Center facility which was funded with CDBG dollars, we have created a safe harbor for this disenfranchised population.

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

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

The City's one-year goal/actions is to drastically reduce the negative effects of homelessness. We intend to continue our outreach efforts to the homeless population through the various programs offered at the Dignity House Resource Center. This facility is working to dignify homeless individuals by ameliorating their current situation. We have several success stories from our initiatives, and intend to conduct more outreach to the homeless population to use the facility. Services offered at Dignity House that attract homeless individuals to the facility including mailboxes, showers, refrigerators, meals, lockers, haircuts and laundry facilities. Once contact is made with homeless individuals, the City will continue offering case management services such as counseling; referrals for medical, housing, job training, legal services, substance abuse and financial and social assessments.

In addition, the City continues to work with the CoC to perform outreach services to the homeless in the City. St. Joseph's Medical Center, the County's PATH Provider, conducts County-wide street outreach with a focus on connecting with people who have severe mental health.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

For the 2021 program year, the City will continue addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of the homeless via our support programs offered at Dignity House as discussed above.

In addition, the City, is using our HOME resources to provide funding to Habitat for Humanity of Paterson to develop three 2-bedroom and one 1-bedroom affordable homeownership units for veterans.

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

The City refers homeless persons to 211 First Call for Help and connects them to resources through the Coordinated Assessment system. Additionally, Catholic Families and Community Services (CFCS) is a partner we connect homeless Veterans through their CFCS SSVF outreach program.

Additionally, the City utilizes the 24/7 hotline single point of entry system managed through NJ211. Emergency Shelters and hotel/motel placements are accessible for homeless persons in need. Once a person is connected through coordinated entry, providers work to connect them with the Housing Prioritization list allowing clients to access PH opportunities funded by the CoC.

The City works with the CoC to identify organizations that assist City residents with homeless prevention services and prevent discharges to homelessness. Our partners, CFCS, County Board of Social Services, and NJ211 are organizations that are available to connect patients to services and temporary hotel vouchers while they are being reintegrated into the community. Persons who are at risk of homelessness are also referred to the County Board of Social Services for prevention assistance. Additionally, City residents will be eligible to access homeless prevention funds provided through the County with the new Treasury funds.

The City also works with the CoC to identify organizations that assist homeless residents in the City with transitioning to permanent housing. Several of our CoC partners offer to provide supportive services and address the unique challenges homeless people face. Most recently, the County funded a Center for Family Services to provide case management and other wrap-around services needed by people who are experiencing homelessness. This is just another resource City residents will be able to access to get assistance for housing.

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

employment, education, or youth needs.

The City of Passaic did not receive an allocation of ESG funds from HUD for the 2021 program year and so we are not able to fund many of the organizations that serve the homeless and other special needs population; however, the City allocated the bulk of our first round of CDBG-CV funds to assisting households avoid homelessness with rental payments and utility assistance. During the 2021 program year, the City will continue this program for households who have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The City is also active in the CoC and works with them to identify programs that assist households who are threatened with homelessness and provide prevention assistance.

Discussion

The programs that the City is looking to undertake over the 2021 program year to address the needs of homeless individuals and families are discussed above.

During the 2021 program year, the City will undertake the following activities to address the needs of special needs individuals and families who are not homeless:

Senior Outreach - Parish Nursing will operate the stay home, stay safe program throughout the City that provides free blood pressure screening and health assessment by a registered nurse.

Senior Affairs - The City of Passaic Senior Center, located at 330 Passaic Street, will offer activities and outings that encompass fitness, enhance physical and mental well-being and assist low income Passaic seniors with daily living.

Special Needs Program - The City of Passaic-Recreation will offer programs at Passaic City Hall to help City residents with special needs gain new skills to enhance participants overall wellbeing and quality of life.

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

Introduction:

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 mandates that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) affirmatively furthers fair housing through its programs. Towards this end HUD requires funding recipients to undertake fair housing planning (FHP) in order to proactively take steps that will lead to less discriminatory housing markets and better living conditions for minority groups and vulnerable populations.

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

The City of Passaic last conducted an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing in October, 2020. The 2020 study concluded that impediments do exist in the City. Barriers remain consistent and include the following:

- The impact of high cost housing and the lack of affordable housing units in the City;
- Limited English proficiency of Passaic’s large immigrant population is still an impediment to the population’s access to fair, affordable housing in the City;
- Language barriers create situations that may result in discrimination and may deter the reporting of discrimination when it occurs; and,
- Access to self-sustaining employment opportunities.

The City identified the following needs:

- More coordination is required between other agencies, departments, companies and community organizations to further fair housing education in Passaic.
- Increased coordination is needed between Federal, State and local entities engaged in fair housing activities within the city.
- Additional research on the barriers to affordable housing opportunities in Passaic is needed.

The Department also allocates resources from our CDBG admin budget for the delivery of fair housing counseling for low income residents of the City of Passaic. This program year we have contracted with New Jersey Citizen Action Education Fund who are well versed in this area of expertise. Passaic has a very large Hispanic population and so it’s important to provide Spanish language opportunities to learn about fair housing rights.

The City also works with our development partners to ensure that all housing units are marketed and leased in a fair and equitable manner. Each developer is required to follow the City’s affirmative fair

housing marketing standards which are provided to the developer prior to sale or lease up.

Discussion:

The previous sections provide a discussion of the barriers to Affordable Housing in the City of Passaic and the plans the City has put into place for removing or ameliorating those effects.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The Department will continue working with community groups to seek additional resources to build and expand on opportunities and program available to low-income, minority, and special needs populations in the City.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

One primary obstacle in meeting the needs of the underserved in Passaic is primarily language barriers due to the large number of Hispanic speaking residents. Further, the immigrant population often has some distrust of government that must be overcome before the Department can properly evaluate eligibility for programs and begin delivering services. In October 2020, the City completed our Four Factors Analysis and Language Access Plan for Limited English Proficiency Persons. To address the obstacles outlined in the Plan, the Department will increase its coordination with local community groups that provide outreach to and advocacy for the Hispanic community in Passaic. In addition, the Department will continue to promote its existing policy to provide language access services to populations of persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) who are eligible to be served or likely to be directly affected by our programs. To that end, all notices, ads, flyers, program applications, etc. are disseminated in both English and Spanish. Such services will be focused on providing meaningful access to our programs, services and/or benefits. Any individual eligible for programs/services at the City of Passaic Housing Services Division who cannot speak, read, write, or understand the English language at a level that permits them to interact effectively with our staff has the right to qualified interpreter services at no cost to them and not to be required to rely on their minor children, other relatives, or friends. To this end, each of our Departments here in the City of Passaic have bi-lingual employees to assist our constituents when necessary.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The Department will continue to work closely with other agencies within the City in carrying out the City's Master Plan and the East Side Redevelopment Plan, which include affordable housing components. The City is committed to the East Side Redevelopment Plan, which requires 20% of residential units be made affordable. The current housing developments either under construction or in the planning stages include 474 housing units of which 95 will be made affordable. While the City has not allocated HOME funds to any of these developments, we have begun discussing how HOME funds could assist the housing development initiatives.

The City is also seeking new development partners to assist us in creating more affordable housing. Over the past two years we have developed a partnership with Habitat for Humanity. Through this partnership we have successfully completed three affordable housing units; all of which have been sold to low to moderate income families. We are currently exploring additional options for future development opportunities with Habitat.

All HOME-assisted projects must remain affordable to and occupied by low and/or moderate-income

households. The table below provides the minimum period of affordability over which HOME-assisted units must remain affordable.

HOME Investment Per Unit	Minimum Affordability Period
Under \$15,000.00	5 years
\$15,000.00 to \$40,000.00	10 years
Over \$40,000.00	15 years
New Construction or Acquisition of New Rental Housing Units	20 years

The City of Passaic continues to monitor its past and current sub-recipients to ensure their compliance with the long-term affordability requirements of the HOME program.

The City of Passaic will utilize the uncapped and capped income limits for the CDBG and HOME programs as outlined in the table below.

<u>Uncapped Income Limits vs Capped Income Limits</u>	
Uncapped Income Limits	Capped Income Limits
First-Time Homebuyer (HOME)	Rental Projects (HOME)
Homeowner Rehab (HOME)	Low-Moderate Programs (CDBG)

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Due to the aged housing stock in the City, lead-based paint hazards are prevalent. The City will continue its efforts to educate the public and will continue to follow its lead-based paint policies as part of its homeowner rehabilitation programs. We have been in discussions with a Lead consultant about securing additional funds.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The Department will continue to operate its programs with a goal of reducing poverty-level families in the City. As a result, the City has committed to providing resources to employment programs for the past two years. Through our efforts, thirty Passaic residents received their SORA license as Security Guards, another resident obtained their CDL license and under the CARES program funding six residents have been certified as medical technicians in phlebotomy and six are pending certifications in EKG. During 2021, the City intends to continue our job training and placement programs funded with CDBG resources. The City will continue our involvement with other programs administered by the County and elsewhere where opportunities exist.

The City also requires our development partners to use their best efforts to engage in local hiring and contracting with local minority- and women-owned businesses. The City has not been very successful

with these efforts in the past. As a result, the City will be incorporating stronger language regarding our requirements for local hiring and contracting with local minority- and women-owned businesses into our developer agreements. We also will be requiring more thorough reporting on local hiring practices and any obstacles to meeting these objectives. This will assist the City in developing stronger outreach efforts, enhanced training programs and better placement activities.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

As discussed, the Department intends to increase its coordination with community groups that serve the Hispanic population in the City to develop structures that help identify needs in the community and connect people with services that the City funds.

The City is also working to improve the operations of the Department of Community Development through increased staff training and technical assistance from HUD and consultants. Our efforts have resulted in dramatic improvements in the capacity of the Department to administer our programs. This has resulted in more effective and efficient use of federal resources to serve the needs of the community as well as increased housing production and more programs successfully completed with CDBG resources.

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

As discussed, the East Side Redevelopment Plan includes comprehensive revitalization of the East Side (see AP85), which is an area of the City with high concentrations of low- and extremely low-income households. This plan has resulted in significant public and private investment that require intense coordination. The City is working with private sector development partners to implement the housing component of the Plan. The implementation of this Plan has enabled the City to build stronger relationships with private sector housing developers.

The Department coordinates our efforts in addressing the needs of the homeless population with the CoC through attendance at regular meetings and with funding to the Department of Human Services.

The City also works with HACP to address the needs of public housing residents through their Resident Services Director.

Discussion:

The previous sections describe other actions to be taken by the City in addressing obstacles to meeting underserved needs, plans for fostering and maintaining affordable housing, reducing lead-based paint hazards, reducing the number of families living at the poverty level, developing institutional structures, and coordinating with public and private housing and social service agencies.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

This section describes how the City will meet specific program requirements.

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. 2021.	100.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

The City of Passaic does not intend to use its HOME funds for any form of assistance that is not set forth in 24 CFR 92.205.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

Direct Homeowner Assistance – All homebuyers provided HOME funds for down payment assistance who transfer ownership of the property during the affordability period are subject to recapture provisions found at CFR 24 CFR 92.254 (a)(5)(ii)(A)(4), **recapture of net proceeds; owner investment returned first**. If the homebuyer **transfers title** of the property either voluntarily (including by sale) or involuntarily (including by foreclosure) during the affordability period, the homebuyer will be required to pay the City up to, but not greater than, the entire amount of the total direct HOME assistance provided. The homebuyer, however, will be permitted to recover their entire investment, including any out-of-pocket closing costs and any capital improvements (as defined below) made by the homeowner since purchase, prior to the City recapturing up to the full amount of the HOME investment. If there are no net proceeds, as defined as the sales price minus superior loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and any closing costs, after the homeowner recovers their investment, repayment is not required and the HOME Program requirements are considered to be satisfied. In the event the net proceeds are greater than the remaining balance of the total direct HOME assistance provided, then the homebuyer will retain the excess net proceeds.

If the homebuyer **ceases to occupy** the home, leases the home or converts the home to non-residential use, the owner will be in default of the terms of the HOME agreement and the full HOME investment in the activity, including any direct homebuyer assistance provided by the City, all City soft costs, and any City development subsidy, are subject to repayment.

Developer Assistance – When the City uses HOME funds to assist with the construction cost, the City will use the **Resale Restrictions** found at CFR 24 CFR 92.254 (a)(5)(i) to ensure that HOME funds are used to preserve affordability of the HOME-assisted unit. The affordability period will be based on the total amount of HOME funds used to assist the property. The City will place a deed restriction on property that stipulates the homeowner must use the HOME-assisted unit as their principal residence. Upon resale, the HOME-assisted unit must be affordable to a range of low-income homebuyers between 50% and 80% of AMI (as defined by HUD); however, the sales price at resale of the HOME-assisted unit must provide the homeowner with a fair return on their investment (as defined below). The original homeowner must sell to another Low-Income homebuyer (as defined by HUD), with the home being affordable to the new buyer. The new homebuyer may not pay more than 33 percent of gross income for Principal, Interest, Taxes and

Insurance (PITI). To ensure continued affordability, the new homebuyer will assume the City loan and affordability restrictions in the form of a deferred repayment down-payment assistance loan and a new deed restriction will be placed on the property for the remaining term of the affordability period.

Fair Return on Investment: A fair return is defined as **the lesser of** a four (4) percent annual appreciation on the homeowner's original investment (including out-of-pocket downpayment and closing costs) in the HOME-assisted unit plus any principal payments made on the first mortgage loan and the costs of any capital improvements to the property (as defined below) since the purchase **OR** the original investment in the home plus principal payments made on the first mortgage loan and the costs of any capital improvements, as adjusted by the percentage change in the average consumer price index for all urban consumers, as determined by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The restricted resale price based on a fair return on investment is not guaranteed. If the restricted resale price exceeds the actual market value of the HOME-assisted unit, the original homeowner may have to sell the HOME-assisted unit at the lower price.

Capital Improvements Capital improvements are defined as improvements made to the property that add value (such as kitchen remodel, new roof or HVAC system, new or renovated bathrooms or adding to the size of the house) as documented by receipts of the costs. Cosmetic improvements (such as painting, flooring or new appliances) do not constitute capital improvements.

In instances where the sales price required to provide a fair return to the homeowner exceeds the sales prices to make the property affordable to households below 80% of AMI, the City will provide additional subsidy funding to the subsequent homebuyer to ensure affordability.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

The City of Passaic will not be using its HOME funds to acquire affordable housing units; however, in instances where HOME funds are used to acquire affordable housing unit by low- to moderate-income homebuyers, the City will use the Resale and Recapture provisions listed in response #2 above.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

The City of Passaic will not be using its HOME funds to re-finance existing housing debt for multifamily housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds.

Discussion:

Direct Homeowner Assistance – The City uses its HOME funds to assist low to moderate-income (below 80% AMI) households purchase affordable housing. Homebuyers are selected on a first come, first served basis. Information on this program is available on the City website and at the offices of the Department.

Developer Assistance – The City uses its HOME funds to assist non-profit, CHDO and for-profit developers to develop affordable housing for low to moderate income (below 80% AMI) households. The City selects eligible developers through an RFP process with a committee to review and rank the proposals based on established criteria. Notices of availability of funds are advertised on the City website, in newspapers and at the Department offices.

If the City of Passaic utilizes subrecipients, CHDOs, or other entities for the delivery of homebuyer assistance the resale or recapture provisions described in the Grantee Unique Appendices will be applicable.