

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Fort Pierce will achieve its primary objective through a program where no less than 70% of funds will support activities that benefit low- and moderate-income people and prevent or eliminate slums or blight. All activities are eligible under the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 24 CFR 570.201-208 and will address national and local community development objectives as indicated in #2 below.

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 primary objective of the City of Fort Pierce Community Development Block Grant program is the development of a viable urban community, including decent housing and a suitable living environment, for persons of very low to moderate income, and to stabilize and expand small businesses.

The City of Fort Pierce will achieve this primary objective through a program where not less than 70% of funds will support activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons and prevent or eliminate slums or blights. All activities are eligible under the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 24 CFR 570.201-208 and will address national and local community development objectives.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

In total, the City of Fort Pierce expended \$469,786.88 in CDBG funds for program year 2022-23 (program year began October 1, 2022). Funding was utilized in the pursuit of the City's and HUD's

mutual goals of providing decent housing, creating a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities. An overview of the expenditures:

Public Service Projects – The City expended \$10,477.96 for 4 public service projects for LMI citizens. These projects have been completed as of September 30, 2023. \$1,303.70 was expended for the funding of Summer Jam Summer Camp and Art of Fort Pierce Art Camp.

Housing Programs – The City expended \$265,596.46 for Rapid Rehousing and Weatherization. \$20,000 was also expended on Weatherization/home rehabs for very low-income citizens. A total of 55 households were assisted through the Rapid Rehousing program.

Economic Development – The City expended \$106,994.96 for marketing/advertising to strengthen the capacity and sustainability of existing micro-enterprise businesses. The City expended \$75,000 to support CBDO's that promote economic development, job creation, tourism, historic preservation, and energy efficiency improvements.

Public Facilities – The City expended \$8,590 for improvements to public facilities and improvements to playgrounds located in lower income neighborhoods.

Neighborhood Revitalization – The City expended \$34,269.93 to recognize, promote and celebrate Native and African American Latino/Hispanic, Cuban and Haitian cultures throughout the city.

Program Administration – The City expended \$40,019.97 for project oversight, management, monitoring, and coordination of the CDBG program.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

As part of the planning process, the city conducted a public hearing to assess the needs and priorities of the community. The City of Fort Pierce conducted a public hearing on August 7, 2023, to solicit input on the priorities and needs in the city to include in the Annual Action Plan. Participants were asked to provide feedback on community needs and how funds should be allocated to programs and projects related to housing, homelessness, special needs, and community development. The public hearing also served as an opportunity for the city to provide an overview of existing programs and to summarize the city's accomplishments in meeting identified goals over the past year.

An internet survey for the 2023-24 CDBG Annual Action Plan Community Needs Assessment Survey was conducted to collect public comments. The survey was available via link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S9YC9LX> on the Grants Administration homepage from May 3, 2023-June 29, 2023.

The citizen participation process also includes consultation with housing providers, housing authorities, health and social services providers, and the Continuum of Care (CoC) for the city's homeless population. The Consortium consulted these entities throughout the preceding year concerning ongoing topics of mutual interest and during the preparation of the Consolidated Plan. Consultation occurred via email invitations and correspondence, online surveys, public meetings, public hearings, focus group consultations, and webinars. In some cases, specific reports and agencies' plans were referenced or utilized in preparing the 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.

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

Sixty-Eight comments via Internet survey were collected and accepted regarding the 2023-24 CDBG Annual Action Plan Community Needs Assessment Survey. The survey was available via link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S9YC9LX> on the Grants Administration homepage from May 3, 2023-June 29, 2023. Two comments via public comments were collected and accepted regarding the 2023-24 CDBG Annual Action Plan presentation at the monthly commission meeting.

The overall needs in ranking order collected from the survey were as follows:

- Assist nonprofit agencies that provide community services (such as senior or youth centers and food banks)
- Improve city facilities (parks, libraries, etc.)
- Address crime/safety issues
- Improve access to affordable housing
- Improve streets and roads
- Provide small business assistance
- Homeless shelters
- Improve advertising strategies (flyers, door hangers, etc.) for those who do not have access to computers and social medias.

Public notice was printed in the St. Lucie News Tribune from July 7, 2023, and July 14, 2023, for a 30-day Public Comment Review Period and Public Hearing.

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

All public comments received during the comment period were accepted.

7. Summary

Pursuant to the Consolidated Plan regulations under 24 CFR Parts 91, 92, 570, 574, 576, and 968, and Section 91.105, the City of Fort Pierce has implemented its Citizen Participation Plan to include and incorporate provisions that affect the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

This Plan represents a coordinated attempt to achieve maximum involvement of the City Commission, Communitywide Council, various community groups, supportive social service organizations and every citizen of the City of Fort Pierce with emphasis on participation by persons of extremely low, very low-, low- and moderate-income residents.

The City strives to keep all interested parties informed about opportunities for involvement in each phase of the Consolidated Plan process, including providing opportunities to comment on Plan submissions to HUD, any substantial amendment of the Plan, and the annual performance report.

Objective: The development of a viable community including decent, safe, and sanitary housing and a suitable living environment for persons of very low, low, and moderate income, and stabilizing and expanding small businesses.

Prior to the City adopting the 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan, the following actions were taken:

- The survey was available in English from May 3 through June 29, 2023. A press release promoting the survey was published in a local daily newspaper, on the City's website, and social media. Hardcopies of the survey were available at Fort Pierce City Hall or by mail or email, upon request.
- A total of 68 completed surveys were received by the city from citizens and supportive service agencies and organizations.
- The City made available to citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties' information that included the approximate amount of assistance the City will receive and the range of proposed activities to be undertaken, including the amounts to benefit persons of extremely low, very low and low income.
- A Draft 2023-2024 Action Plan in English was made available for citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties to examine through posting on the City's website, and by reproducing copies and making them available at the Fort Pierce City Hall. A draft summary of the proposed Plan was also displayed on the City's local television station, in English and Spanish and in one newspaper of local circulation, in English and Spanish. The summary also listed the dates and times for the public hearing that were conducted at regularly scheduled City Commission meetings as well as staff contact information. Copies of the proposed Plan were also available to citizens to review via U.S. mail, upon request.

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 | FORT PIERCE | Finance Department/Grants Administration Division |

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Fort Pierce Grants Administration Division located in the Finance Department is the lead entity charged with preparing the Consolidated Plan (ConPlan), the Annual Action Plan (AAP) and the Consolidated Annual Performance (CAP) and Evaluation Report (CAPER). In this capacity, the city works in cooperation with other key government agencies, non-profit agencies and for-profit agencies addressing affordable housing, and other community development issues. Collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders are indispensable to the community’s success in addressing the needs of low and moderate-income residents and improving the quality of life for all the residents. These partnerships help to ensure that all residents, regardless of race, gender, age, income level, or disability, have equal access to affordable housing, community development resources, jobs, and services available in the city.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Verna Jackson, Reporting & Grants Specialist, City of Fort Pierce Grants Administration Division; 100 North U.S. Hwy. 1, Fort Pierce, FL 34950; 772-467-3161; email: vjackson@cityoffortpierce.com

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

1. Introduction

The City of Fort Pierce recognizes that the preparation of the Annual Action Plan requires discussion and consultation with many diverse groups, organizations, and agencies. During the planning process for the Annual Action Plan, the city encouraged citizen, nonprofit and for-profit participation. In the course of preparing this document, city staff provided a Community Needs Assessment Survey, community presentations, public hearings and met with supportive service providers within the city to discuss and gather input on their ideas for improving community development needs within the city.

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))

To be inclusive of various agencies and organizations, the city disseminated Community Needs Assessment Surveys to an outreach list that included the following types of local agencies:

- Non-profit service providers that cater to the needs of low- and moderate-income households and persons with disabilities or special needs.
- Housing professionals.
- Public agencies.
- Economic development and employment organizations.
- Local Housing Authority.
- Government staff of participating jurisdictions.
- Community and neighborhood groups.

Copies of Press Releases promoting the availability of the survey were sent to more than 40 supportive service agencies and real estate companies, employment organizations, community and neighborhood groups, housing professionals and County offices. Survey results were compiled and used in the creation of this Plan.

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 of Fort Pierce is a member of the Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council (TCHSC), the CoC for Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, and Okeechobee Counties. As detailed in our 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan, the city and many of our supportive service providers will continue to request funding or other assistance from the CoC to help address our growing homeless population. The City is currently working with the Fort Pierce Housing Authority (FPHA) and St. Lucie County to create a homeless strategy that

includes identifying the key factors contributing to homelessness (job security, rent increases, home inventory) and how to combat these (emergency assistance, conduct more job fairs and providing more workshops for community members that include financial literacy and tenant rights). The city aims to coordinate with the CoC to create a partnership to be able to address the needs of the homeless population including individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied minors.

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

While the City of Fort Pierce is not the direct recipient of ESG funding, the city does provide input for the local CoC who oversees ESG funds for St. Lucie (where Fort Pierce is located), Indian River and Martin Counties. The City of Fort Pierce's Community Resources Specialist has been working to create partnerships with organizations and agencies in the County who have a shared interest in coming together regularly to discuss various projects and activities and how to identify priorities relevant to funding.

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 | Lincoln Park Mainstreet |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Planning organization Business and Civic 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 agency was consulted regarding needs that could be satisfied via the CDBG program for those served by the agency. |
| 2 | Agency/Group/Organization | CareerSource Research Coast |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Education Services-Employment Neighborhood Organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Market Analysis Economic Development |
| | 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 Fort Pierce has an ongoing collaborative relationship with CareerSource Research Coast and consults with the agency on the annual Job Fair, Lincoln Park Business Expo, and summer youth internship programs. |
| 3 | Agency/Group/Organization | ST. LUCIE COUNTY |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Other government - County Major Employer |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment |

| | |
|---|--|
| <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>This agency was consulted regarding needs that could be satisfied via the CDBG program for those served by the agency. Collaborated on affordable housing needs, fair housing assessment, and county stakeholder input regarding community needs.</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 | Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council | The TCHSC support homeless services located in Indian River County, although, as our CoC for Indian River, St. Lucie, and Martin Counties, they use all of our PIT numbers to secure grants for homeless services. |
| Consortium Plan | St. Lucie County | Although this is a Plan for the HOME program, this Plan includes strategies for rehabilitation of homes belonging to very low income Fort Pierce Citizens. The City's Consolidated Plan also has strategies for addressing this issue through our State Housing and Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program funds. |
| Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing | St. Lucie County | Fair Housing goals overlap in both plans. |

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

Encouraging citizen participation and consulting with public and private agencies are important parts of the planning process. The city used several methods to solicit citizen participation, including public notices, community and area newspapers, public meetings, public hearings, survey of needs and other outreach efforts. Information and comments received during this process helped to guide and shape the development of the goals listed in the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and this Annual Action Plan. A copy of the City of Fort Pierce’s Citizen Participation Plan is available upon request.

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 | Internet Outreach | Non-targeted/broad community | A total of 68 public comments were received and accepted. | <p>The overall needs in ranking order collected from the survey were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist nonprofit agencies that provide community services (such as senior or youth centers and food banks) Improve city facilities (parks, libraries, etc.) Address crime/safety issues Improve access to affordable housing Improve streets and roads Provide small | All public comments received during the comment period were accepted. | https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S9YC9LX |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|---|

| 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) |
|------------|------------------|------------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------|
| | | | | business assistance Homeless shelters | | |
| 2 | Public Hearing | Non-targeted/broad community | A total of 2 public comments were received and accepted. | Improve advertising strategies (flyers, door hangers, etc.) for those who do not have access to computers and social medias. | All public comments received during the comment period were accepted. | |

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

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 | 564,875 | 0 | 541,184 | 1,106,059 | 1,129,750 | |

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

CDBG does not require a match. However, the CDBG funds may be utilized to leverage the SHIP funds regarding rehabilitation programs. PSA

grants require some sort of match.

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

The City of Fort Pierce is currently collaborating with local investors and stakeholders to create a Community Land Trust (CLT) program, a legal structure used to separate land ownership from ownership of residential structures on the land. Title to the home is transferred without selling or changing the title to the land it sits on. It also establishes the private non-profit community corporation that acquires and holds title to the land and manages the ground leases on that property for the benefit of that community. Fort Pierce is working to make available affordable rental properties and homes for sale to our citizens. These properties will be available to residents who fall to very low-, low-, or moderate-income levels, with limitations on the amount of rent they pay. We expect this to assist in creating affordable living areas for citizens and contribute to a reduction in the homeless count. The role CDBG plays in the outcome of this goal is giving these residents the opportunity to obtain housing they can afford by providing financial assistance in the form of down payment contributions.

Discussion

The City will utilize funding received directly from the Housing Finance Corporation via the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program to fund down payment and closing cost assistance and owner-occupied housing rehabs for income-qualified citizens. Income-qualified citizens will be determined by using HUD income limits, which are dependent on household income and size. We estimate new homebuyers will receive up to \$15,000 each and we continue to work toward the completion of home rehabs occupied by very low-income citizens. The down payment assistance will be for First-Time homebuyers, which are citizens who have never owned a home, or who have not owned a home in the three years.

Continuing ongoing collaborations and partnerships with the World Changers organization, Habitat for Humanity, the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, the FPHA and Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) will provide additional resources over the next year for home rehabilitations, improvements to historic neighborhoods, and home purchases.

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 | 1A Expand and Improve Public Infrastructure | 2021 | 2025 | Non-Housing Community Development | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 | Expand/Improve Public Infrastructure & Facilities | CDBG: \$80,000 | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 14000 Households Assisted |
|---|---|------|------|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|---|

| Sort Order | Goal Name | Start Year | End Year | Category | Geographic Area | Needs Addressed | Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|---|-----------------|---------|------------------------|
| | | | | | Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|------|------|--------------------|--|---------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| 3 | 2A Housing Rehabilitation | 2021 | 2025 | Affordable Housing | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 | Preserve & Develop Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$95,000 | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 30 Household Housing Unit Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 20 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 20 Persons Assisted |
|---|---------------------------|------|------|--------------------|--|---------------------------------------|----------------|--|

| Sort Order | Goal Name | Start Year | End Year | Category | Geographic Area | Needs Addressed | Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|---|-----------------|---------|------------------------|
| | | | | | Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|------|------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------|---|
| 5 | 3A Provide Supportive Services for Special Needs | 2021 | 2025 | Non-Housing Community Development | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 | Public Services & Quality of Life Improvements | CDBG: \$25,000 | 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 |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|---|-----------------|---------|------------------------|
| | | | | | Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|------|------|-----------------------------------|---|--|----------------|---|
| 6 | 3B Provide Vital Services for LMI Households | 2021 | 2025 | Non-Housing Community Development | City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 Census Tract City Limit - | Public Services & Quality of Life Improvements | CDBG: \$25,000 | 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 |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------|------------------------|
| | | | | | 3809.01 Census Tract | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|------|------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------|---|
| 7 | 4A Provide for Small Business Assistance | 2021 | 2025 | Non-Housing Community Development | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 | Economic Development | CDBG: \$226,900 | Businesses assisted: 100 Businesses Assisted |
|---|--|------|------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------|---|

| Sort Order | Goal Name | Start Year | End Year | Category | Geographic Area | Needs Addressed | Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|---|-----------------|---------|------------------------|
| | | | | | Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------|------|----------------|--|--|--------------------|--|
| 8 | Program Administration | 2021 | 2025 | Administration | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 | | CDBG: \$112,975 | |
|---|------------------------|------|------|----------------|--|--|--------------------|--|

| Sort Order | Goal Name | Start Year | End Year | Category | Geographic Area | Needs Addressed | Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|---|-----------------|---------|------------------------|
| | | | | | Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract | | | |

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

| | | |
|---|------------------|--|
| 1 | Goal Name | 1A Expand and Improve Public Infrastructure |
| | Goal Description | |
| 3 | Goal Name | 2A Housing Rehabilitation |
| | Goal Description | |
| 5 | Goal Name | 3A Provide Supportive Services for Special Needs |
| | Goal Description | |
| 6 | Goal Name | 3B Provide Vital Services for LMI Households |
| | Goal Description | |
| 7 | Goal Name | 4A Provide for Small Business Assistance |
| | Goal Description | |
| 8 | Goal Name | Program Administration |
| | Goal Description | |

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The table below shows the PY 2023-2024 projects for the City of Fort Pierce. Administrative costs may not exceed 20% of the CDBG grant fund allocation and public services have a grant cap of 15%.

Projects

| # | Project Name |
|---|---|
| 1 | CDBG Public Facilities & Infrastructure |
| 2 | CDBG Housing Programs |
| 3 | CDBG: Public Services |
| 4 | CDBG: Economic Development Activities |
| 5 | CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization |
| 6 | CDBG Program Administration |

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 Public Facilities & Infrastructure |
| | Target Area | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract |
| | Goals Supported | 1A Expand and Improve Public Infrastructure |
| | Needs Addressed | Expand/Improve Public Infrastructure & Facilities |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$80,000 |
| | Description | Improve access to public facilities and expand and improve public infrastructure in low- and moderate-income (LMI) neighborhoods. Improvements for public facilities include neighborhood facilities, community centers and parks and recreational facilities. Improvements to infrastructure include streets, sidewalks, ADA improvements, and storm water and water systems in LMI neighborhoods. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2023 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 14000 Households Assisted |
| | Location Description | City limits of Fort Pierce low-mod |
| | Planned Activities | Improve access to public facilities and expand and improve public infrastructure in low- and moderate-income (LMI) neighborhoods. Planned activities include improvements to streets, parks, and recreational facilities. |
| | Project Name | CDBG Housing Programs |

| | | |
|----------|--|--|
| 2 | Target Area | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract |
| | Goals Supported | 2A Housing Rehabilitation |
| | Needs Addressed | Preserve & Develop Affordable Housing |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$95,000 |
| | Description | The city will provide for housing rehabilitation activities such as a weatherization program for LMI homeowners aimed at improving housing to withstand the elements and making it more energy efficient to decrease utility bills; and minor housing rehab to LMI households. Additionally, affordable housing initiatives such as income based rental assistance and homeless services will be addressed |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2023 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 30 Household Housing Unit Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 20 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 20 Persons Assisted |
| | Location Description | City limits of Fort Pierce |
| | Planned Activities | Planned activities include a weatherization program, minor housing rehab for LMI households, income based rental assistance, and housing workshops. |
| | Project Name | CDBG: Public Services |

| | | |
|----------|--|--|
| 3 | Target Area | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract |
| | Goals Supported | 3A Provide Supportive Services for Special Needs 3B Provide Vital Services for LMI Households |
| | Needs Addressed | Public Services & Quality of Life Improvements |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$50,000 |
| | Description | Provide supportive services for LMI households and also the special needs population in the City. Public service activities will include services to address homelessness, the elderly, youth services and persons with a disability to improve their quality of life. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2023 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1500 Households Assisted |
| | Location Description | City limits of Fort Pierce |
| | Planned Activities | Public service activities will include services to address homelessness, the elderly, youth services and persons with a disability and improve their quality of life. Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3000 Households Assisted |
| | Project Name | CDBG: Economic Development Activities |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 4 | Target Area | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract |
| | Goals Supported | 4A Provide for Small Business Assistance |
| | Needs Addressed | Economic Development |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$80,000 |
| | Description | Provide assistance for financial management and neighborhood promotional guidance for small businesses in LMI neighborhoods; provide technical assistance and marketing/advertising for small micro enterprises; provide job training and employment opportunities to residents in LMI neighborhoods. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2023 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | Businesses assisted: 100 Businesses Assisted |
| | Location Description | City limits of Fort Pierce |
| | Planned Activities | Planned activities include assistance to small businesses in LMI neighborhoods; technical assistance and marketing/advertising for small micro enterprises; commercial facade grants for properties located in lower income deteriorated areas. Planned activities also include support neighborhood revitalization activities that promote economic development and small business assistance for minority groups in the Fort Pierce. HUD Matrix Codes, economic development (18A, 18B, 18C). |
| | Project Name | CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization |

| | | |
|----------|--|--|
| 5 | Target Area | City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3807 Census Tract City Limit - 3806 Census Tract City Limit - 3805 Census Tract City Limit - 3804 Census Tract City Limit - 3803 Census Tract City Limit - 3802 Census Tract City Limit - 3801 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.02 Census Tract City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract |
| | Goals Supported | 3B Provide Vital Services for LMI Households |
| | Needs Addressed | Economic Development |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$146,900 |
| | Description | The City also supports neighborhood revitalization activities that promote economic development and small business assistance for minority groups in Fort Pierce. These activities range from local art and cultural heritage recognition to tourism with various projects designed to recognize, promote and celebrate Native and African American Latino/Hispanic, Cuban and Haitian cultures throughout the City. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2023 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 15500 |
| | Location Description | City limits of Fort Pierce. |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| | Planned Activities | <p><u>Annual Highwaymen Heritage Trail Art Show and Festival</u> - Promote local minority art and cultural heritage with annual event in very low income minority neighborhood to increase civic pride, new business startups, economic development. 570.203; Matrix Codes 18B and LMA</p> <p><u>Lincoln Park Main Street</u> - provide grants to Community Based Development Organizations to assist low to moderate income business owners by promoting neighborhood and downtown revitalization, economic development, job creation, tourism, historic preservation, tourism and energy conservation. 570.204(a)(1) Matrix Code 18A; LMA</p> <p><u>Main Street Fort Pierce</u> - provide grants to Community Based Development Organizations to assist low to moderate income business owners by promoting neighborhood and downtown revitalization, economic development, job creation, tourism, historic preservation, tourism and energy conservation. 570.204(a)(1) Matrix Code 18A; LMA</p> <p><u>Art Murals</u> - provide grants to local artist to design and create art within the City limits to promote/educate the public on the rich history of Fort Pierce.</p> |
| 6 | Project Name | CDBG Program Administration |
| | Target Area | |
| | Goals Supported | Program Administration |
| | Needs Addressed | |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$112,975 |
| | Description | Planning and administration of CDBG Programs |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2023 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | |
| | Location Description | City limits of Fort Pierce |
| Planned Activities | Management, coordination, oversight of program; Fair Housing Workshops | |

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

The City of Fort Pierce does not allocate funding based solely on geographic requirements. Individuals or households must meet income qualifications to qualify for and receive direct assistance from activities and services in the CDBG program. For eligible public facilities & infrastructure improvement activities the City will be targeting Low/Mod Block Group Tracts.

Geographic Distribution

| Target Area | Percentage of Funds |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| City Limit - 3814.03 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3814.02 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3813.01 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3807 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3806 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3805 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3804 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3803 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3802 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3801 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3809.02 Census Tract | |
| City Limit - 3809.01 Census Tract | |

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Planned activities have an “area-wide” benefit. Per HUD requirements, these areas must be within an eligible Census Block Group Tract, as defined by HUD-CDBG regulations, whereby the majority of the residents are low- to moderate-income (51%).

To determine these tracts the City utilizes HUD’s CDBG Low Mod Income Summary Data (LMISD) from the HUD Exchange website, which has defined the eligible block group tracts within the jurisdiction. The tracts can be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/acs-low-mod-summary-data/>

Low/Mod Block Group Tracts: 3801001, 3802001, 3802002, 3802003, 3802004, 3803001, 3803002, 3803003, 3803004, 3803005, 3803006, 3804001, 3804002, 3804003, 3804005, 3805001, 3805002, 3805003, 3805004, 3805005, 3805006, 3806001, 3806002, 3806003, 3807002, 3807003,

3809011,3809012, 3809021, 3809024, 3814011, 3814012, 3814014, 3814015 & 3814022.

Discussion

Allocations will be made using the rating scale for projects that consider several criteria: The severity of the need; The availability of other funds to ensure project viability; How the project meets national CDBG objectives and goals; How well the project addresses local needs; and how large the impact will be for residents, i.e. number of beneficiaries.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

| One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported | |
|---|----|
| Homeless | 20 |
| Non-Homeless | 15 |
| Special-Needs | 20 |
| Total | 55 |

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

| One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through | |
|---|----|
| Rental Assistance | 20 |
| The Production of New Units | 0 |
| Rehab of Existing Units | 30 |
| Acquisition of Existing Units | 0 |
| Total | 50 |

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

Discussion

The Weatherization Program improves AC units, doors, and windows to prepare for severe weather through community partnerships with the World Changers Program and local churches with Paint Our Town. The city also provides Down Payment Assistance for first-time homebuyers’ down payment and closing costs. The City will utilize SHIP funds for the Down Payment Assistance program. Given the challenging housing market for first-time homebuyers, there are plans to leverage the SHIP funds with CDBG funds to increase the down payment and closing cost assistance. This combination of the two funding sources will likely take effect in the program year 2023 or program year 2024.

Additionally, funds are leveraged by both funding sources for the Rapid Rehousing Program. The Rapid Rehousing Program primarily utilizes the SHIP funds to assist those extremely low and very low-income who are homeless or faced with imminent eviction. The city only provides up to 3 months’ rent or the eviction settlement for the tenant to remain in housing. CDBG funds generally do not allow for Rental Assistance unless it is an emergency, in which only three months' rent is permitted according to the CDBG Manual (manual). The City of Fort Pierce has faced a housing crisis with rising rent beyond what the general population can afford. With the limited affordable housing inventory to rent, many are forced to sleep in their cars with children after being evicted. The City has recognized this problem and implemented a Rapid Rehousing Program via SHIP funds. CDBG funds are only used in emergencies after

SHIP funds are expended.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City of Fort Pierce does not currently administer public housing projects; however, the city does work in partnership with the FPHA as funding is available to support public housing projects.

The City of Fort Pierce will continue to collaborate and build a partnership with the FPHA in efforts to move forward with plans to create and maintain a transitional housing program for homeless families to provide resources for public housing residents to become more involved in the management of their own lifestyle and participate in homeownership opportunities.

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

The City will continue our collaborations with the Fort Pierce Housing Authority and area supportive service providers to develop a transitional housing program for our growing number of homeless families in the City of Fort Pierce.

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

The City will continue to partner with the Fort Pierce Housing Authority (FPHA) to promote our down payment and closing cost assistance for first time homebuyers and the workshops provided by the FPHA that teach and mentor on financial responsibility, improving credit scores, etc.

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

The PHA is not designated as troubled.

Discussion

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

Introduction

Homeless prevention resources are available in Fort Pierce, however the limited resources available fall short of providing adequate services to meet the growing needs of both the emerging homeless population and residents who are at risk of becoming homeless. While gaps do exist, there are strong non-profit organizations working in coordination to ensure this population is served.

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 TCHSC serves as the CoC for three counties, which include Indian River, St. Lucie (the City of Fort Pierce), and Martin Counties. The CoC conducts a yearly Point in Time (PIT) count, in relation to HUD's requirements. The TCHSC publishes the homeless numbers for St. Lucie County on their website, which includes an assessment of their individual needs. This information is submitted with annual grant applications to address our homeless issues. Unfortunately, all funding for the TCHSC is primarily utilized in Vero Beach, Florida, even after several attempts by the City of Fort Pierce to have the TCHSC re-evaluate their funding distribution for homeless services so that the City's service organizations could receive some much-needed financial support.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Fort Pierce will continue to collaborate with the Fort Pierce Housing Authority and local supportive service organizations to develop a transitional housing program for our growing number of homeless families; additionally, the City will allocate funding through our Public Facilities activity to help cover the costs associated with rehabilitating the showers and enlarging the kitchens in our existing emergency homeless shelters.

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

As stated above, a few very small emergency homeless shelters are located within the City of Fort Pierce. These do not come close to meeting the needs of our homeless population. The City is collaborating with various agencies, including Fort Pierce Housing Authority to address the situation.

Although transitional housing is not feasible for the Housing Authority, the City and Housing Authority are partnering to create educational workshops and outreach for the community regarding financial stability that leads to permanent housing, which includes the Grants Division's Downpayment Assistance Programs and Rapid Rehousing Program.

Homeless needs are addressed in the community through other organizations, including but not limited to In the Image of Christ emergency shelter for the homeless. The City of Fort Pierce is located within the Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council Continuum of Care boundaries. However, none of our homeless providers receive financial support from TCHSC. The City has been in discussions with regards to partnering with the CoC to fund a local shelter within the City of Fort Pierce. This financial contribution will be provided through CDBG funds. The Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the facility. However, the City of Fort Pierce will financially contribute to the rent of the building. Those discussions are ongoing and plans for this new facility are projecting operation will begin sometime in the program year 2023-2024.

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 Fort Pierce is too small to be the leading agency for major social welfare programs. In order to ensure that residents of the City of Fort Pierce are referred to partner agencies for services, the city partners with counties on the Treasure Coast to sponsor the "Where to Turn" - 211 Network. The 211 Network provides computer and telephone information and referral for all social service needs. The network provides persons needing assistance with a single point of contact for finding solutions to their problems.

Discussion

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

Introduction:

At the moment, it appears that the entire United States is facing an inadequate supply of affordable housing. To address this shortage, the private sector will need to make more investments in affordable housing and community development projects and financial institutions will need to support these efforts by committing to home lending and increasing access to safe and sustainable mortgages borrowers with low-moderate incomes.

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

A severe shortage in affordable housing stock increases the pressure on the City's housing market. One of the biggest challenges in the city is the huge disparity between housing costs and what people with low and moderate incomes can afford to pay. It is because of these factors that fostering and maintaining the existing supply of affordable housing continues to be a priority for the city. The City of Fort Pierce will continue to develop policies that will help foster the development of new affordable housing units. Additionally, the city and its municipal partners will also continue to support the efforts of local housing providers who carry out strategies to retain and create affordable housing options throughout the region.

Discussion:

The crisis would need to be addressed from multiple angles, and collaboration among businesses, government and community leaders is key.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The major obstacle experienced by the City of Fort Pierce is the inadequacy of available financial resources to meet the needs of the underserved population. The city will continue to collaborate with local agencies to combat the obstacles associated with affordable housing and public services for very-low, low and moderate income persons/households.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The shortage of affordable, decent housing in Fort Pierce increases the pressure on the City's housing market. One of the biggest challenges in the city is the huge disparity between housing costs and what people with low- and moderate-incomes can afford to pay. It is because of these factors that fostering and maintaining the existing supply of affordable housing continues to be a priority for the city. The City of Fort Pierce will continue to develop policies that will help foster the development of new affordable housing units. Additionally, the city will also continue to support the efforts of local non-profit housing providers who carry out strategies to retain and create affordable housing options throughout the region.

The city plans to take the following actions to help foster and maintain affordable housing:

1) As a recipient of the Closing the Gap Initiative with the Florida Housing Coalition, providing down payment assistance to very low/low income households - financial assistance can be used to buy down the cost of the mortgage; 2) Continue providing weatherization program funding through CDBG and partnerships with Fort Pierce Utilities Authority; 3) Continue using State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funds to rehabilitate owner-occupied homes belonging to lower-income citizens; 4) Provide SHIP funds for down-payment and closing cost assistance for lower-income citizens; 5) Promote information at lending consortium meetings on affordable housing needs within the City of Fort Pierce; 6) Continue to identify regional partners with similar affordable housing interests and potentially provide a fair housing center to provide ongoing education and enforcement programs; and 7) Continue to explore ways to increase the amount of affordable housing throughout the City, including examining ways to increase the amount of housing stock that is barrier free and ADA compliant.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Though no accurate geographic information about the incidence of lead-based paint (LBP) exists in the City of Fort Pierce on a house-by-house basis, the city realizes that lead-based paint poses a serious health hazard and must be addressed. The City will encourage residents and property owners to test for

and abate lead paint.

All housing proposed for rehabilitation under the City's CDBG and SHIP programs are screened by the year built to determine possible LBP hazard before funds are utilized. If a hazard is suspected, the owner of the home being rehabbed is given the EPA Fact Sheet - *Identifying Lead Hazards in Your Home* and the EPA publication - *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*. During the feasibility inspection, if the inspector identifies a potential lead-based paint problem, he notifies the owner and may test the suspect area with a swab or take a sample to be processed through the County Health Department. If the repair disturbs any surface containing lead, abatement procedures will be utilized before the repair can go forward. If lead paint is detected, abatement costs are included in the rehabilitation. In all programs where federal funds are expended on a housing unit, the City incorporates the current procedures for hazard reduction or lead-based paint abatement guidelines as defined in 24 CFR Part 35.

When rehabilitating homes, the city provides homeowners a copy of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development letter that informs homeowners what to do if they encounter lead-based paint in their home and informs that no paint used during the rehabilitation contains lead. If funds expended exceed \$5,000 and old paint surfaces are disturbed, the City will take the position that the home contains lead-based paint if it was built prior to 1978 and will conduct abatement measures, per state and federal guidelines.

The St. Lucie County Health Department has established a lead screening process to screen school children less than 7 years old for and treat high levels of exposure to lead. All high-elevated levels are reported to the Epidemiology Division and investigated by an Epidemiology nurse.

Funding through the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program will be used to remediate lead-based paint issues, as needed.

The City has allocated CDBG funding to promote an ongoing educational campaign designed to inform the public on Fair Housing and on the hazards of lead-based paint and on resources that are available to address this dangerous issue.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Fort Pierce is committed to reducing the number of households with incomes below the poverty level by supporting programs to motivate and assist them to move toward self-sufficiency. The city will continue to support the efforts of local agencies who are working with consumers who may be at the poverty level or below the poverty level. Jurisdictions work with various service providers and other units of local government to provide low-income citizens with supportive services. The city continues to provide grants for programs to address human service needs in the community. These services and programs include children and family services, adult services, food and nutrition services, employment training programs, and many others. These programs and services help to build a foundation upon which individuals and families can find a pathway to self-sufficiency. As a means of

reducing the number of persons with incomes below the poverty line, the city will continue to coordinate efforts with other public and private organizations providing additional economic development and job training programs.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Fort Pierce manages the institutional delivery structure surrounding the acceptance and allocation of federal grant funds for Consolidated Plan programs. The goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan could not have been developed without residents' informed assistance. Implementation of CDBG funds is overseen by the Department of Finance, Grants Administration Division. The area non-profits will coordinate and assist in the implementation of approved projects, centered on delivering public improvements, economic development initiatives, neighborhood revitalization and better community facilities. The City of Fort Pierce City Commissioners approve projects and programs that meet the City's goals. As the program matures during the course of the five-year planning period, the City of Fort Pierce will work to expand the departments and non-profit agencies involved in the institutional delivery system for the CDBG program.

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

Coordination between providers is essential to improve the conditions and address gaps in services for Fort Pierce residents. Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies include: encouraging agencies to work together to apply for CDBG funds to leverage resources to the fullest extent as requests align with the Consolidated Plan goals, provide CDBG funds to eligible projects for housing and social services; continue working with the area nonprofits and the Fort Pierce Housing Authority to address issues of poverty and homelessness; offer referrals to organizations that would benefit from leadership, programs, services, or collaboration with other organizations.

The city will continue to work toward enhancing our relationships between local lenders and supportive social service agencies. Local bank and mortgage lenders and members of the St. Lucie County Lending Consortium contribute to the provision of affordable housing by helping to defray the cost of the homeownership workshops. The local banks pay a fee to be a member of the consortium, which in turn is used to procure the services of Consumer Credit Counseling Services (now known as CreditAbility) to provide the training. Participating in the affordable housing program also aids in promoting the local banks in their compliance under the federal Community Reinvestment Act. Coordination and Collaboration with numerous public supportive service organizations allows the city to be able to help prevent the duplication of efforts and encourage smaller nonprofits to work with larger ones to expand

service areas, and also identify areas where supportive services are needed and not available.

Discussion:

While the City has few internal resources and limited funding, we will continue to work to identify local partners to strengthen and expand opportunities and develop new programs that address the needs of our low- and moderate-income residents.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The following provides details on program specific requirements for the Community Development Block Grant.

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% |

