

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Northampton is pleased to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Year 3 of the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY2015-FY2020. For the program year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018, the City will receive \$613,782. This document outlines how the City will allocate and spend these, as well as, funds carried over from previous years. The City of Northampton remains committed to providing high quality services to those most in need in Northampton.

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 objectives and outcomes are outlined in the Annual Goals and Objectives section of this document.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The City of Northampton reviewed the activities, goals and outcomes from the 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan/Year 2 Action Plan. The two large housing projects carried forward to this program year commenced after being unexpectedly delayed in the last program year. Other high priority projects were completed and public service subrecipients provided critical services to Northampton residents with low and moderate incomes.

Accomplishments for the 2016 Program Year included:

- Heating system replacement at the Grove Street Inn, the City's homeless shelter for individuals

- Small Business technical assistance was provided to 13 individuals which included 2 new and 7 existing businesses
- Valley CDC administered a homeownership program which provided 3 downpayment/closing cost assistance grants and referrals to HOME assisted units
- The City acquired a parcel of land on Glendale Road which will include the future development of 4 house lots for affordable homeownership
- CDBG funds were used to provide tenant relocation assistance to 31 individuals who needed to be temporarily housed off site to allow for the demolition of 129 Pleasant Street and new construction of Live 155 (70 units of mixed income housing and first floor commercial space in a new 4 story building on a major entrance corridor to the downtown)
- CDBG funds were awarded to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to administer a housing rehab program for the City. As of June 2017, seven income eligible single family homes are underway.
- CDBG funds were utilized to accomplish roof replacement and chimney repairs at 18 Summer Street/ Gandara Center, a residence for individuals in recovery
- CDBG funds were used as a portion of the acquisition cost by the Valley CDC to purchase a former Lumberyard property on which 55 units of affordable housing with first floor commercial space will be constructed beginning in the fall of 2017.
- Twelve public service agencies provided services to 3,691 residents with low and moderate incomes. Assistance included housing stabilization services to SRO residents; Adult Basic Education classes; computer and employment training for immigrants; soup kitchen and food pantry offerings; legal assistance for residents at risk of losing their housing; nutrition services to elders as well as outreach and advocacy to Latino residents.

Year end performance results will be detailed in the CAPER.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Citizen input is on-going throughout the year. Monthly meetings of the Northampton Housing Partnership, the Next Step Collaborative and the Community Preservation Committee are regular settings for the sharing and exchange of information.

On the regional level, the Individual Services Committee, the Family Services Committee, the Committee on Unaccompanied Youth and the Veterans Committee meet monthly. These sessions gather service providers from all four Western Mass. counties through the Network to End Homelessness. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's Regional Housing Plan Implementation and Fair Housing committees meet quarterly, as does the Network's Leadership Council. The Western Mass. Inter-Agency Council on Housing and Homelessness also meets quarterly, bringing together representatives of all the State systems whose work impacts homelessness.

Preparation for the Action Plan and discussions about priority community needs became a focus at all local meetings occurring after January 1, 2017 and several Network Committee meetings over the past six months. Two public hearings, advertised through legal ads in the local newspaper, mailings and on the City's website, were held for outreach to the broader community. The funds for public service awards were allocated through a competitive application process during which interviews were conducted by the AdHoc Public Services Review Committee.

Valuable information about successes, challenges and unmet needs is garnered through the CDBG Public Services monitoring visits and the application interview sessions. The CDBG Administrator also meets with program directors throughout the year to identify service delivery gaps and ways to increase collaborations in the community to address unmet need and enhance service delivery.

As the CDBG office and Northampton Housing Partnership embark on the Fair Housing Assessment process later this year, focus groups will be identified and sessions held which will reveal much about the work the City needs to do to create and maintain a socially and economically diverse healthy community.

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.

All comments made at the public hearings and at other local and regional meetings were taken into account in the formulation of this plan. See appendix for minutes from the public hearings.

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

There was no public input received by the CDBG Administrator through the City sponsored consultation process that was not considered.

7. Summary

In 2017-2018, the City of Northampton will receive \$613,782 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds (CDBG). The City encourages public participation and comment in development of the

Annual Action Plan through public hearings and, if unable to attend by calling or emailing questions, concerns or comments.

This document details how the City will expend Federal funds to address the challenges faced by residents in our community with low and moderate incomes.

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
Lead Agency	NORTHAMPTON	

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Margaret Keller, CDBG Administrator for the City of Northampton MA 413-587-1288

Cam Leon, Assistant CDBG Administrator for the City of Northampton MA 413-587-1286

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

1. Introduction

The City of Northampton's community development program benefits greatly from collaborative local and regional partnerships. Locally, the Northampton Housing Partnership, the Next Step Collaborative, Valley CDC Provider meetings, meetings with City departments, the CDBG Public Services Grant Application interview process and the CDBG Public Hearings all contribute valuable input through the year about community needs and provide venues to carry out the work to meet objectives and accomplish goals. Regionally, the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness is a critical vehicle for coordinating responses to individual, youth, Veterans and family homelessness.

- Western Mass. Network to End Homelessness monthly meetings; Individual Services Committee, Family Services Committee, Veterans Services Committee, Unaccompanied Youth Committee

- Quarterly meetings of the Leadership Council of the Network/ rotated through the 4 counties to coordinate overall efforts to end homelessness

- Quarterly meetings of the Western Mass. Inter-agency Council on Housing and Homelessness/ State agency reps serving Western MA

- Quarterly meetings of Valley CDC and HAPHousing (now known as Way Finders) with housing support service providers (i.e. Vets, DMH) to insure housing stabilization for low income tenants in their properties

- Monthly Next Step meetings with City and local housing and homeless service providers to gauge shelter capacity and adequacy of available resources/ Presentations vary from month to month to insure knowledge of, and coordination of all area resources.

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

The City's CDBG Administrator takes responsibility for insuring coordination of relevant component parts/participants functioning in the local service delivery system. Listed below is a sampling of some activities that occurred this past year that enhanced that coordination in addition to the regularly scheduled meetings described above:

Served on Amherst Panel on Homelessness 7/14/16; Meeting with Dial Self for Homeless Youth Services 7/18/16; PVPC/HAP Inclusionary Communities Work Group 7/20/16, 3/2/17,6/7/17; United Way Panel

on Economic Insecurity 8/23/16; Community Action meeting on weatherization/housing rehab 8/25/16; NHP meeting with Housing Authority 12/6/16; Department of Mental Health/HAP sponsored Housing Search Workshop for area providers 1/11/17; Network session with DHCD and Fireman Foundation on statewide goals and programs 2/14/17; Housing Partnership sponsored Landlord Workshop re: fair housing laws 2/15/17; held strategy session with Casa Latina 2/22/17; Habitat session on small/affordable homes 5/22/17; Meeting with Planning Office/NHP re: zoning for affordability 6/6/17.

Safe Passage attended Next Step 5/1 to talk to providers about the new Spanish DV support group and services, Soldier On Women's Program attended on 9/8/16 to discuss their new program/housing; Commonwealth HealthCare presented on 11/10/16. Cooley Dickinson Hospital conducted a Mental Health Policy Session with NAMI, Recovery Learning Center and Starlight, the DMH clubhouse, on 5/19/17.

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's CDBG Administrator served as the regional COC lead agent for 16 years before administration was transferred to the Hilltown CDC five years ago. The CoC collects and publishes Point in Time Count data utilized for Consolidated and Annual Action plan formulation. The CoC (3 counties) interfaces with the Western Mass. Network to End Homelessness (oversees work in 4 counties). The CoC is working to facilitate the creation of a coordinated entry system. The two CoC leads in the region participate on the Network Steering Committee and Leadership Council. The City CDBG Administrator, is also on the Leadership Council. All systems mesh. Currently, the CoC utilizes the Network's committee system (Individual Services, Family Services, Unaccompanied Youth, Veterans, Housing Sex Offenders Task Force, Domestic Violence Committee, Secure Jobs Connect) which yields rich monthly meetings with participants across western Massachusetts. Locations are rotated for ease of access, as the geography covered is extensive. The Network Coordinator provides the staff support, meeting minutes, legislative advocacy and overall coordination for Network efforts and has successfully done so for 8 years.

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

A State line item earmark for the Network was utilized in part this past year to fund technical assistance for the CoC . TAC was hired for 125 hours from January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 to help clarify the governance and committee structure, review the use and management of the HMIS project and services, provide training for grantees on regulations and compliance, develop goals for each sub-population to end homelessness and to develop a strategy for implementing a coordinated entry model with a uniform assessment tool. The results of this effort are guiding activity now. There are no municipalities in the CoC that are ESG entitlement communities. ESG funding for the CoC is allocated by the MA Dept. of Housing and Community Development through a competitive process. As part of the CoC governance structure, the CoC engages in an annual discussion about what the funding priorities should be and supports applications for funds from appropriate agencies for activities that address those priorities. Funds in the past few years have been directed to Prevention Services due to the high number of families in local hotels/motels. The CoC HMIS Data Coordinator is hosting a session in August to solicit feedback on meeting the data needs of the entitlement communities to insure CoC coordination with Consolidated and Action Planning functions.

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	CASA LATINA, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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?	CD staff met with Casa Latina during the year to monitor CDBG grant performance. Agency's priority is to recruit additional board members with fundraising expertise to increase agency revenue to expand staff capacity. 4 new members joined this past. Currently, there is 1 staff position and volunteers. The long time Executive Director left in May 2017. The search for a new Director is underway. United Way and Cooley Dickinson Hospital and Valley Medical Group are supporting the Medical Translation Program and operational costs.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	CENTER FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT / SRO OUTREACH PROJECT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health

	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 Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	CHD provides staffing for the CDBG funded SRO Outreach Project, Big Brothers and Big Sisters and works in the region with homeless families and children. Through the CDBG interview process, updates were given on the SRO Project and BBBS. City CD staff interface with CHD around the family homelessness issues through the sub-committees of the Network and the CoC. Updates from the SRO Outreach Program are provided at every monthly Next Step meeting (City and housing providers) City also works closely with the Community Housing Support Services Coordinator, an employee of CHD. The CHSSP position was a brain child of Housing Partnership members in recognition of the need for housing stabilization and tenancy preservation services for families at risk of eviction in Housing Court. CHD responded to the Request for Services and was awarded the three year grant of \$195,000. The grant will be presented to the Northampton Community Preservation Committee, where hopefully it will be awarded renewal funding. .
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Center for New Americans
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Met with agency leadership during CDBG monitoring visit and got updates through the CDBG public services interview process and at the CDBG Public Hearings. Agency expanded its legal services for immigrants component and continues to work with the Dept. of Education(DESE)on English language and career development offerings. Increased collaboration with homeless and social service agencies, so referrals can be made for households presenting with other challenges. Agency workload increased exponentially, after the Presidential election and resulting ramifications for immigrant populations.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Northampton Department of Public Works
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Implemented a program last year with DPW to install 13 audio signalized pedestrian buttons at high traffic intersections. Met with DPW staff to describe CDBG eligible activities for their consideration moving forward. There are no projects anticipated for next year that could utilize CDBG funding.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Action of the Franklin, Hampshire and North Quabbin Regions, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Anti-poverty Strategy

	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Regional CAP agency staff come to the public hearings. They are also a public services grantee so there is regular interaction between their staff and City staff. Their family and child care programs utilize the James House and Vernon Street School, both City owned. Their annual community needs assessment is utilized by City staff for program planning and evaluation. Agency Director is former Northampton Mayor and active in the CoC and Regional Network to End Homelessness' Leadership Council. Consultation occurred this past year to incorporate weatherization and energy resources into the Housing Rehab Program.</p>
6	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Community Legal Aid, Inc.</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy</p>

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Legal Aid is a CDBG grantee so there is regular interaction between the organization and City staff. Agency staff attended the needs assessment public hearing and relayed poignant anecdotes about how the agency assists individuals and families who are at risk of losing their housing gain stability (i.e. putting in place rep payees or obtaining mental health services) to maintain their tenancy. CLA staff attorneys work closely with the Community Housing Support Services Coordinator, a position funded by the Community Preservation Committee as applied for by the Northampton Housing Partnership.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Northampton Veterans Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless Services-Health Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Northampton's Veterans Agent, Steve Connor, is a regular participant at the monthly Next Step Collaborative meetings, head of the Statewide Veterans Coalition and member of the regional Network Veterans Committee. Mr. Connor regularly brings updates on local, regional and statewide activity. He works closely with the Northampton VA and Soldier On, to bring medical resources and health care, as well as emergency shelter, transitional and permanent supported housing opportunities to men and women Veterans and their children, at the campus in Leeds.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	PIONEER VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	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?	CDBG staff meet often with the Director of the local Habitat chapter. Last year the Planning Director, CDBG Administrator and Habitat Director, Megan McDonough, toured some possible sites for new Habitat projects. One of those, Glendale Road came to fruition and after answering an RFP, secured the property. They will create 4 new homes there in the next few years. There is an additional parcel (Burts Pit Road) that may also see some Habitat development, as well as on the former Housing Authority parcels on Laurel Street and Burts Pit Road. Acquisition of these parcels will accomplish multiple city goals; open space protection, natural resource conservation and creation of affordable housing.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Cooley Dickinson Hospital
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Community physical and mental health issues

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Jeff Harness, at Cooley Dickinson Hospital has assisted with the strategy to build capacity at Casa Latina. The medical interpreter program is important for the Latino community in accessing medical services. CDH has funded it in the past. Mr. Harness also met with the Resident Services Coordinator at Meadowbrook the City's largest affordable apartment complex to address health care access (connection made by the CDBG Administrator). CDH Social work and Emergency Dept. staff attend Next Step meetings regularly to stay informed about discharge planning protocols and placement resources to prevent discharges into homelessness.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	HAP Housing
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Creating Affordable Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City encouraged HAP Housing, rebranded as Way Finders, to undertake the redevelopment of a 58 unit SRO building downtown. They pursued the project, secured funding, relocated the existing tenants, demolished the building and construction is well underway on a new 4 story, mixed use, mixed income development on the site. Way Finders has always been a trusted regional housing agency. The results of the collaboration around the Northampton Lodging SRO will bring 70 new residential units, 48 affordable, with units set aside for clients of the Department of Mental Health, as well as formerly homeless with fully handicapped accessible units as well. Way Finders also owns and manages other affordable housing in Northampton.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Highland Valley Elder Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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?	Highland Valley Elder Services (HVES) is a CDBG public services grantee, therefore there is regular interaction between (HVES) and City staff. CDBG Administrator has assisted with invitations and networking for community visioning sessions so HVES can gain a better understanding of homeless services and community needs.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Literacy Project
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	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 Literacy Project is a CDBG public services grantee and a tenant at the James House so there is significant interaction between the agency and the City. As are many of the City CDBG funded public services, TLP is seen as a form of homelessness prevention, as educational attainment is economic empowerment. The component of the program that CDBG funds, is the "mentoring" support that addresses the student holistically, addressing the multiple challenges that an individual and family with low incomes may face. Being able to navigate the employment world, for example, by learning computer and study skills is a solid approach to stable housing and a secure financial future.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	MANNA SOUP KITCHEN, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Food Security Homelessness Prevention
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy 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?	MANNA Soup Kitchen is a CDBG grantee; staff are consulted throughout the program year. Observations of guests at the MANNA program, relative to numbers and profiles, provide helpful insight to who is struggling in our community. This program embodies the true safety net in Northampton and reduces food insecurity and relieves housing cost pressures.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	MASS FAIR HOUSING CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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 Mayor's Office works with the Mass Fair Housing Center to provide fair housing testing and community outreach and education activities in Northampton. A workshop for local landlords was held 2-11-2016 and addressed medical marijuana, fair housing laws, service animals and other pertinent topics. Northampton is considered a "community of opportunity" in a highly segregated region, so City staff attend meetings where housing choice and mobility strategies are discussed. The Fair Housing Center is leading that effort. Local workshops for the LGBT and DV communities are planned for the fall of 2017. The City regularly attends the annual Fair Housing Conference in Springfield which offers a wide array of inspirational speakers and informative workshops.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Northampton Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Housing Authority Director hired in July of 2015 continues to get oriented and address internal operational issues. There was more of a community presence this last year. The NHA participated in project basing some Section 8 vouchers for the VASH program, and opted to relinquish their development role for 2 parcels they were deed in the disposition of the State Hospital. The City is moving forward on securing the deeds and will do an RFP to develop the parcels. The land disposition agreement has been revised by the State legislature to allow the ownership transfer. The Commonwealth is currently conducting appraisals. The NHA Director attended a Housing Partnership meeting and all agreed to work closely to achieve community goals.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Northampton Survival Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Provision of Food
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	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 Northampton Survival Center (NSC) is a CDBG public services grantee so agency and City staff communicate regularly throughout the program year. City staff made linkages between the Resident Services Coordinator at Meadowbrook and the NSC for nutrition and cooking educational workshops and to sponsor children's meals programming during the summer at the apartment complex.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	SAFE PASSAGE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Safe Passage is represented monthly at the Next Step Collaborative meetings. They also participate on a committee on Domestic Violence Issues within the W. Mass. Network to End Homelessness. The CDBG Administrator met with the Director of Safe Passage on 10/7/16 to identify possible collaborative projects, particularly the need for transitional housing.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	ServiceNet, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless 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?	ServiceNet Inc. is a CDBG public services grantee and a large mental health agency in Western Mass. The Shelter and Housing Division oversees most homeless beds for individuals that are non-Veteran specific in the region. In Northampton, they operate the Interfaith Winter shelter and the Grove Street Inn year round shelter, both for individuals. Program directors attend the Next Step Collaborative monthly meetings regularly and report on shelter capacity, resource development and service coordination. They also attend the Network's Individual Services Committee monthly meetings regularly. ServiceNet also administers McKinney Shelter Plus Care and Permanent Supported housing beds in Northampton, but no beds for families. The CDBG Administrator participates on the Cot Management Committee that oversees the winter shelter with ServiceNet and the Friends of the Homeless cadre of 400 volunteers that supply evening meals and overnight back up coverage to staff. The CDBG Administrator also does a monthly overnight at the shelter, so the City is in close partnership with ServiceNet in the provision of services to the homeless.

19	Agency/Group/Organization	Valley Community Development Corporation (CDC)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Valley CDC is a CDBG grantee for the first time home buyer/down payment assistance program as well as our community partner for affordable housing development. They also administer a CDBG funded small business assistance program. The City has expended \$150,000 in CDBG dollars and \$300,000 in Community Preservation funds this past year for the development of 55 units of affordable housing at 256 Pleasant and will make an investment in the renovation and expansion of an existing SRO building at 82 Bridge Street this coming year. The CDBG Administrator attends quarterly meetings hosted by Valley which brings service providers together for coordinated case management. Valley works hard to preserve tenancies rather than evict people.

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

More expansive consultation occurred when the 5 Year Consolidated Plan was compiled. The agencies listed above were the ones that City staff worked most closely with this past year. The CDBG Administrator also reaches out at least once annually to the municipal counterparts in Amherst and Easthampton to get project updates and discuss trends and challenges. There was also a meeting held on May 16, 2017 with the Housing Partnerships from Northampton, Amherst and Easthampton to discuss affordable housing projects and planning efforts.

The CDBG Administrator also serves on the Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission's Housing Plan Implementation Committee, as well as the Inclusive Communities Advisory group, both with regional representation. The ICAG focuses on fair housing issues, with Northampton being

identified as a "community of opportunity" . Regional efforts are being undertaken to encourage movement of people out of the areas in Hampden county, Holyoke and Springfield where poverty is heavily concentrated, to other communities. The Mass Fair Housing Center is leading that effort with a Mobility Program. Discussions with Hampshire County landlords are occurring to facilitate that movement.

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	Hilltown Community Development Corp.	Creation of permanent supported housing units, homelessness prevention, housing stabilization supports in existing housing, increased focus on substance abuse and creation of new housing and support services for unaccompanied youth.
Western Massachusetts Opening Doors	W.Mass. Network to End Homelessness	Plan created in June of 2015 offers a framework for implementation and accountability to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring by retooling the crisis response system to one of housing focused, data driven and outcome oriented. Municipal work is driven by collective impact framework presented in the report.
Federal Opening Doors Plan	U.S.Department of HUD	Western Mass. Network aligned regional activity with goals in Federal Plan, to insure progress and accountability in one overall framework. The 10 objectives articulated in the Federal plan are pursued at the regional and local level.
Housing Needs Assessment and Strategic Housing Pla	Northampton Housing Partnership	Mayor's Office, CDBG Administrator/Housing Planner work through the Housing Partnership to implement the goals and objectives in the plan. Updates are provided monthly at the Partnership meetings to monitor progress. This plan is more generic than the homelessness plans, but goals align.
Action Plan - Governor's Opioid Working Group	Governor's Office/ Hampshire HOPE	High degree of substance abuse in homeless shelters. Hampshire HOPE - Heroin/Opioid Prevention and Education task force has interfaced with the Next Step Collaborative, and has formed a multi pronged local coalition. Goals of creating public awareness to reframe addiction as a medical disease, foster public private partnerships to leverage resources, community education are overlapping goals. Interface led HOPE to include a housing provider/ liaison to the Regional Network to End Homelessness on the task force.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	PVPC	Identification of Communities of opportunity that commit to creating affordable housing to facilitate movement from areas of minority and poverty concentration/ from Hampden County to Hampshire County. Overlapping goal of being able to increase utilization of Section 8 vouchers in strong real estate markets.
All Roads Lead Home	Three County CoC 10 Yr. Plan to End Homelessness 2008	Build community support for ending homelessness, are goals of the City and the CoC and Network. Coordination and funding for prevention, rapid rehousing, creation of permanent supportive housing units, increase educational opportunities, employment and individual life skills and assets.
Special Report on Unaccompanied Youth	Executive Office of the Governor	Commonwealth created a Special Commission on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth and issued a report in June of 2015. Goal of Commission, which aligns with regional and local planning efforts is to ensure a comprehensive and effective response to the unique needs of homeless youth. Funding for data collection, housing and support services has followed the report, some of which has been secured by both CoC's in the region, now being implemented.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

A new program was added to the local service delivery system this spring. Safe Passage, the local domestic violence organization hired a Latina outreach worker who is offering support groups and case management to Spanish speaking Hispanic residents. This is an exciting opportunity to reach those who may be marginalized by not only their domestic situation but also by language barriers.

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

Preparation for the Action Plan and discussions on priority community needs took place at all local meetings and several Network Committee meetings. Two public hearings, advertised through legal ads in the local newspaper, mailings and on the City's website, and open to everyone, were held for outreach to the broader community. The Draft Plan was also published on the City's website and a hardcopy was made available in the CDBG office. Input and suggestions were taken into consideration when identifying priorities to be addressed.

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)
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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 Hearing	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: all non-English speaking residents</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>Public Hearing on Housing, Community and Economic Development Priorities on February 14, 2017 and March 29, 2017. 15 people attended in total. Two public hearings for Action Plan amendments were also advertised, June 14, 2016 and September 26, 2016. 0 attended.</p>	<p>See minutes of meetings in Appendix.</p>	<p>All comments were accepted.</p>	

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	Public Meeting	Housing and Homeless Service Providers	Next Step Collaborative. Meets monthly with 10-15 attendees. Housing and homeless service providers work directly with City staff to identify service delivery system gaps, work to insure resources are fully utilized and not duplicated, and coordination and collaboration occurs to the greatest extent possible.	Regular networking venue identifies service gaps, shelter capacity issues, program coordination. Work is on-going.	All comments were accepted	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Public Meeting	Housing Partnership members	Northampton Housing Partnership. Meets monthly. 9-11 members attend regularly.	Regular meetings address short and long term housing needs, community education, zoning work, creation and preservation of affordable units. Work is on-going. Follow work plan in Housing Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan of 2011.	All comments were accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Public Meeting	Housing service provider meeting	Valley CDC holds quarterly meetings with housing and homeless service providers that focus on housing stabilization for existing tenants. 10-15 attend regularly.	Tenants facing challenges are case managed in order to stabilize the tenancy and prevent homelessness. Work is on-going. City attends to stay informed of support service gaps, housing inventory capacity and where shelter referrals can be made.	All comments were accepted. HAP has now joined the group to plan for the residents at Northampton Lodging. Relocation of 48 residents during demolition and new construction requires an overall community effort.	

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)
6	Public Meeting	Regional Homeless Service Providers	The Western Mass. Network to End Homelessness holds several monthly meetings attended by City staff. Individual Services, Family Services, Veteran's Services, Housing Sex Offenders, Domestic Violence Committee, Unaccompanied Youth. Providers from 4 counties come together to work on such issues as uniform intake, coordinated entry, legislative advocacy, systems change, grant writing, etc. 10-30 attend every Committee regularly.	Network work is on-going. Data Collection is advancing in ways that permit tracking of local and regional progress towards ending homelessness.		

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Northampton will use its new program year entitlement and carry over funds to implement projects as prioritized in the 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan. City departments, housing developers and public service agencies utilize many other funding sources to operate programs and bring projects to fruition.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1	Expected	Narrative Description
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	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder	
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	613,782	20,000	538,260	1,172,042	1,227,564	CDBG funds will be used for housing programs/projects; economic development; public facilities; demolition; public service programs; planning activities; and administration of the grant. Expected remaining amount is based on level funding over the remaining three years, \$10,000 per year program income and annual carry-over of \$250,000
Continuum of Care	public - federal	Housing	334,210	0	0	334,210	668,420	Permanent Supportive Housing and Shelter Plus Care Programs. Expected remaining amount based on level funding over the next two years. The annual amount is prorated on programs operating in Northampton. Overall award for Franklin, Hampshire and Berkshire counties is \$1,602,351
Other	public - federal	Housing	0	0	0	0	0	
Other	public - federal	Housing Public Services	131,335	0	0	131,335	260,000	Funding for A Positive Place. Expected remaining amount based on level funding administered by the City of Springfield for the region, over the next two years.
Other	public - local	Acquisition Housing Public Improvements	800,000	0	0	800,000	1,600,000	This is an estimate because the amount of the State match fluctuates, as does the amount of local revenue generated.

Table 1 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

All City of Northampton CDBG funded projects require other funding sources in order to achieve full implementation. Public facilities projects often utilize Capital Improvement Program funds and private fundraising dollars. Public infrastructure projects generally utilize State Chapter 90 funding and other grant sources. Public service grants use a variety of other funding sources, such as United Way and private fundraising from foundations and individuals. CDBG funds are often used for affordable housing applications to State and Federal funding sources that require evidence of a local match. Local affordable housing projects also apply to the Community Preservation Committee for CPA Act funding. Smith College has an Affordable Housing Trust fund that is also available to support local development when Smith removes units from the community inventory for their expansion purposes.

The Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development is the primary funding source for affordable housing development, through the One Stop application process. For example, \$150,000 of CDBG funds for the 256 Pleasant Street Lumber Yard Apartment project is leveraging 19 million+ dollars of State funding, similar to the 155 Live HAP project, both 20 million dollar projects. The amounts of the public services grants are so small (\$3-10,000) that the grantees report the biggest value they have is to indicate City support to leverage other more significant funding amounts from other sources.

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

The City's Office of Planning and Sustainability continues to be aggressive in the pursuit of land acquisition for limited development projects. This past year, the OPS negotiated, with CDBG funding, the purchase of a defunct sub-division project that abuts a conservation/wildlife corridor. The parcel was purchased, and a 23 lot plan was reconfigured for open space protection and four affordable house lots. Habitat responded to the Request for Proposals and will begin construction next year. The OPS also purchased a parcel where an RFP will be created for energy efficient affordable homes on Burt's Pit Road. They are conducting a design competition for the house designs which future owners will be required to utilize. The competition challenge is to show how to build small, affordable, energy efficient homes. Also, when the City receives the deeds for the 2 remaining undeveloped Housing Authority parcels on Laurel Street and Burt's Pit Rd (different site from the OPS parcel) an RFP will be disseminated for the development of affordable housing. If Habitat ends up with the responsibility for all these projects (Glendale Road, Burts Pit (1 and 2) and Laurel Street) and they most likely will, as they have the strongest ability to develop smaller projects, they will have a long pipe line of affordable home ownership creation in Northampton. This is exciting, considering how the State is not putting funding into affordable home ownership development. Habitat will depend on CDBG, Community Preservation funding, and other non-traditional sources. The City of Northampton continues to think creatively about the production of new units, despite the lack of available land and high development costs.

Discussion

With the Northampton real estate market continuing to be strong, very few properties become available through tax takings or foreclosures. Municipal land available for development is minimal. The Northampton Housing Partnership is examining tax abatement programs and zoning proposals that may result in the inclusion of affordable units in new developments or subsidies for residents in existing units. The City is watching HUD closely to monitor implementation of a program that will allow for Fair Market Rent rates to be adjusted in high income, strong real estate markets such as Northampton's.

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	Homelessness Prevention	2015	2019	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs		Homelessness Prevention	CDBG: \$16,500 Continuum of Care: \$423,076 CPA: \$65,000 HOPWA: \$131,335	Homelessness Prevention: 367 Persons Assisted
2	Support for Emergency Shelter System	2015	2019	Homeless		Support for Emergency Shelter	CDBG: \$20,000	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 300 Persons Assisted
3	Rental Housing for Families	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Rental Housing for Families Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations Housing Support Services	CDBG: \$0 Continuum of Care: \$139,875	Rental units constructed: 70 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Rental Housing for Individuals	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Rental Housing for Individuals Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations Housing Support Services	CDBG: \$215,000 Continuum of Care: \$184,355 CPA: \$325,000 HOPWA: \$131,335	Rental units constructed: 56 Household Housing Unit
5	Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock	CDBG: \$150,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Unit
6	Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Housing Rehabilitation Resources	CDBG: \$330,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 7 Household Housing Unit
7	Affordable Homeownership for Families	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Affordable Homeownership for Families	CDBG: \$81,000	Homeowner Housing Added: 3 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 4 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	Housing for At-Risk and Special Needs Populations	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations	CDBG: \$65,000 Continuum of Care: \$334,210	Housing for Homeless added: 24 Household Housing Unit Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added: 0 Household Housing Unit HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 22 Household Housing Unit
9	Economic Development/Income Maximization	2015	2019	Economic Development/Income Maximization		Economic Development	CDBG: \$16,500	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 75 Persons Assisted Jobs created/retained: 10 Jobs Businesses assisted: 15 Businesses Assisted
10	Housing Support Services	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Housing Support Services	CDBG: \$16,500 CPA: \$65,000	Homelessness Prevention: 345 Persons Assisted
11	Addressing Basic Needs	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development		Addressing Basic Needs	CDBG: \$64,857	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2950 Persons Assisted
12	Elimination of Slums and Blight	2015	2016	Elimination of Slums and Blight		Elimination of Slums and Blight	CDBG: \$45,000	Buildings Demolished: 1 Buildings

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
13	Improvement of Public Facilities	2015	2016	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facilities	CDBG: \$58,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1600 Persons Assisted
14	Improvement of Public Infrastructure	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Infrastructure	CDBG: \$0	
15	Planning and Administration	2015	2019	Program Administration			CDBG: \$122,748	Other: 29000 Other

Table 2 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Homelessness Prevention
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	Goal Description	<p>The City will allocate CDBG funds to Community Legal Aid (\$6,500) and the SRO Outreach Project (\$10,000) to work with low and moderate income residents at risk of homelessness to stabilize their housing. The HOPWA award of \$131,335 to A Positive Place will work to prevent homelessness for residents living with HIV/AIDS and the ServiceNet Shelter Plus Care award of \$184,355 will provide supports as well as subsidies to stabilize chronically homeless individuals in their current housing. The City is committed to the goal of the Regional Network to End Homelessness which is - if homelessness occurs, that it be rare, brief and non-recurring.</p> <p>The Community Preservation Committee funding award of \$65,000 per year (3 year grant) for the Community Housing Support Services Program will continue to operate through 2018. At that time, the Northampton Housing Partnership will put forward a renewal application to the CPC. This program, now operating for three years, works with court involved families to prevent evictions and stabilize tenancies. With a case load of 54, only 3 evictions have taken place, all for extenuating circumstances. The Coordinator works with families on financial literacy, income maximization and life skills enhancement. This is a hugely successful program that works one on one with families experiencing significant challenges.</p> <p>The COC funding for the region also focuses on supports for those in permanent housing, to prevent homelessness. The primary funding recipient is ServiceNet, Inc. who operates and manages permanent housing units and Shelter Plus Care units in Franklin and Hampshire and now Berkshire County.</p>
2	Goal Name	Support for Emergency Shelter System
	Goal Description	Funds will be allocated to the Grove Street Inn homeless shelter for individuals (\$10,000) and to the Hampshire County Inter-Faith Winter Shelter (\$10,000). The ownership of the Grove Street Inn will be transferring from the City to ServiceNet, Inc. the long time program operator. The State legislature agreed to the deed transfer under the proviso that it remain in use as a homeless shelter. ServiceNet will proceed to make property improvements utilizing volunteer labor and private donations, which was difficult to do under City ownership. ServiceNet will continue to administer both shelter programs for the City. No CDBG allocations for public facility improvements are planned for this new program year.
3	Goal Name	Rental Housing for Families

	<p>Goal Description</p>	<p>The City allocated \$200,000 in CDBG funds to the Valley CDC for the Lumberyard Project which will provide 55 units ranging from one bedroom to three bedroom units for families. A CDBG allocation of \$150,000 for Relocation Assistance was made to HAPHousing for the 129 Pleasant Street Lodging development which will create 70 units of rental housing, in studios and one bedroom units of which 48 will be affordable. Both of these commitments were made in prior years but securing the other State funding sources delayed the CDBG fund draws for both. Both projects are now underway. HAP (now WayFinders) is drawing the funds gradually, as they are paying for tenant relocation assistance during the demolition of the existing building and the construction of the new building. The building is expected to be occupied in the spring of 2018. The CoC will garner McKinney funding for Paradise Pond Apartments and A Positive Place, both rental programs for families.</p> <p>The City awarded \$200,000 to Valley CDC to acquire a former lumber yard parcel located at 256 Pleasant Street. Those funds were drawn during the last program year. Site work is now occurring, with occupancy expected for the fall of 2018.</p> <p>Valley CDC and The Community Builders have been awarded development authority for the large remaining parcel at the former Northampton State hospital. Now known as Village Hill, TCB was the original developer of the affordable housing currently on site. MassDevelopment issued an RFP for this last parcel, after a plan for large lot single family development fell apart. The proposal is for a 19 million dollar 65 unit mixed income, mixed use rental development. 8 units will have deep subsidies and 27 will be targetted to low to middle income earners, and 30 units will be work force housing resulting in a broad range of incomes. That project will be seeking CDBG funds for the following program year and will be an additional undertaking in the City to create a range of additional housing opportunities.</p>
4	<p>Goal Name</p>	<p>Rental Housing for Individuals</p>

	<p>Goal Description</p>	<p>The CDBG allocation listed in Rental Housing for Families, is repeated here in part. 14 of the 55 units at the LumberYard project are one bedroom units (could serve individuals or couples). It is possible that of the 70 total units (48 affordable) at 129 Pleasant Street, now known as Live 155, those might all be households composed of individuals, as the total inventory will be studio and one bedroom units.</p> <p>The CoC also has permanent supported housing units across the three counties, 21 are based in Hampshire County. A Positive Place has 22 existing housing placements in the region through HOPWA and the McKinney Program. Typically 2-4 may be located in Northampton.</p> <p>Additionally this year, a CDBG allocation is being made to Dial Self for a new program providing housing and support services to unaccompanied homeless youth. The organization is purchasing a site with an existing residence in Northampton which will provide 4 apartments and a new building will be constructed on an adjacent commonly owned parcel for an additional 4 units. Office and community space will be designed to accommodate on site support services in the new building. The existing building is currently being renovated and will be ready to house occupants in the fall of 2017. The new building will be constructed in the spring of 2018. This project is very exciting as providing services to youth has been a gap in our local service delivery system for many years.</p> <p>Valley CDC has been awarded CDBG funding in this new program year (\$150,000 for pre-development costs) to renovate and expand an existing SRO building they have owned and managed for years at 82 Bridge Street. The building, sorely in need of updating contains 15 units and the addition will create 16 new units. All will be enhanced SRO units. The income mix will include 8 units at 30% of area median income and below, 8 units at 50% ami and 15 units at 80% and below. This 7 million dollar project will result in a huge improvement in the quality of life of the existing tenants, provide additional affordable housing opportunities for 16 more individuals and enhance the visual appeal of the property which is on a major entrance corridor to the downtown.</p> <p>In summary, new construction will produce 14 (LumberYard) + 48 (Live 155) + 8 (Dial Self) + 16 (Bridge Street)= 86 new units of affordable rental housing for individuals in the next 2-3 years. The Live 155 units (48) and the Dial Self units (8) are expected to come on line in this program year/ 56. The 22 market rate units in Live 155 will be affordable to moderate income households, a boost to the market rate affordable rental inventory in the downtown.</p>
5	<p>Goal Name</p>	<p>Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock</p>

	Goal Description	<p>Preservation of affordable housing is a high priority in the community development strategy. Now that new construction of affordable housing units is in the \$300,000 per unit cost range, preserving existing units is highly cost effective. The CDBG allocation for the 82 Bridge Street SRO project (\$150,000) in this new year will preserve and improve 15 existing SRO units and add an additional 16. Last year's CDBG investment in the recently completed roof repair at 18 Summer Street (Gandara Center Housing for Individuals in Recovery) also helped to preserve existing affordable rental stock in the City.</p> <p>CDBG program administration staff regularly monitor the 1,521 units on the Subsidized Housing Inventory to insure none are lost. Efforts are being made currently to identify project based Section 8 units to preserve affordability at the Leeds Village Apartments, a property whose use restrictions expire in 2018.</p> <p>The newly implemented Housing Rehabilitation Program currently targets owner occupied single family homes, but could move to include investor owned/rental property in the future.</p>
6	Goal Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	<p>The City is contracting with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to administer a housing rehabilitation program. With funding in the current program year of \$160,000 (July 1, 2015- June 30, 2016) and an additional \$240,000 added this past year, the program became fully operational this past year.</p> <p>An informational session was held, the program was advertised and now 7 households are in process. Five additional applications are pending. We are successfully reaching the target population, which is owner occupied single family home owners. PVPC is handling the environmental reviews, the Massachusetts Historical Commission and local Historic Commission sign-offs, the estimating and bidding processes and client communication. The jobs to date are ranging from \$20,000 to \$35,000. The CDBG Administrators are assisting with outreach since we are more connected to local networking paths.</p>
7	Goal Name	Affordable Homeownership for Families

	<p>Goal Description</p>	<p>The City will provide direct financial assistance to four first time homebuyers in the program year (\$16,000). The CDC's First Time Homebuyer workshops and counseling services (\$20,000) will be focused on identifying and qualifying households that are eligible to utilize the direct financial assistance.</p> <p>Additionally, the City's Office Of Planning and Sustainability's limited development project at Glendale Road, utilizing last year's \$220,000 CDBG contribution, issued a Request for Proposals to create 4 affordable homes on 4 lots. Habitat for Humanity was awarded the project and will begin construction during 2018. Habitat will also construct a house in the Garfield /Verona development. This originally was to be a market rate lot in a small subdivision where 4 other Habitat homes were constructed over the past 10 years. The purchaser of the market rate lot opted not to move forward and donated the lot to Habitat.</p> <p>The City is still in the process of securing the deeds from the State's Capital and Asset Management division to transfer ownership from the Northampton Housing Authority. The parcels were deeded to the NHA during the disposition of the state hospital. There were 4 parcels transferred and 2 have been developed. The NHA opted not to develop the final two and agreed to transfer them to the City. CDBG has paid for an appraisal, and there have been funds set aside in the past 3 years in Annual Action Plans to demolish an existing farmhouse on the Burts Pit Road parcel. The City will move ahead with the demolition (\$45,000) and issue a Request for Proposals for affordable housing development as soon as site control is achieved. The demolition and the RFP issuance will occur during this program year.</p>
8	<p>Goal Name</p>	<p>Housing for At-Risk and Special Needs Populations</p>

	Goal Description	<p>The allocations to the new Valley CDC and HAPHousing projects on Pleasant Street are counted within this goal too, as the units being created will be available to homeless, formerly homeless and special needs populations. Live 155 (formerly Northampton Lodging) will contain 8 apartments reserved for homeless households earning less than 30% AMI, and five apartments will be reserved for clients of the Department of Mental Health. Four apartments will be fully handicapped-accessible and two apartments will be equipped for the visual and/or hearing impaired. Support services through an on site Resident Coordinator and community agencies will be available to building residents.</p> <p>The LumberYard Apartments will contain 2 two bedroom Community Based Housing units, units intended as alternatives to institutional living units that are handicapped accessible; 3 additional handicapped accessible units (1 one bedroom and 1 two bedroom and 1 three bedroom) are planned; 2 units adapted for persons with sensory impairments and 6 units will have preferences for households experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>The CoC will continue to provide funding to house formerly homeless families and individuals and those with HIV/AIDS, as will A Positive Place.</p> <p>This years allocation of \$65,000 to Dial Self for their new housing and support services program will accommodate 8 at risk homeless youth. Because the program is not yet operational, the number that will be served annually can not be projected, as we do not yet know how long the average length of stay will be.</p>
9	Goal Name	Economic Development/Income Maximization
	Goal Description	Funds will be allocated to the Valley CDC's Small Business Assistance Program (\$10,000) and Community Action's Youth Employment Readiness Program (\$6,500).
10	Goal Name	Housing Support Services
	Goal Description	The City will allocate funds to the SRO Outreach Project (\$10,000) for housing stabilization activities to support SRO residents and to Community Legal Aid (\$6,500) to assist residents at risk of eviction. The City's Community Preservation Committee three year grant award to the Community Housing Support Services Program is in its third year of operation (\$65,000) The Coordinator works with court involved families around housing stabilization and eviction prevention.
11	Goal Name	Addressing Basic Needs

	Goal Description	Funds will be allocated to MANNA Soup Kitchen (\$3,357); the Northampton Survival Center (\$10,000); the two emergency shelters (\$20,000); the Literacy Project (\$9,000); Casa Latina (\$10,000); The Center for New Americans (\$8,500); and Highland Valley Elder Services (\$4,000) to address shelter, education, food and other basic needs for households with low and moderate incomes.
12	Goal Name	Elimination of Slums and Blight
	Goal Description	The farmhouse on Burts Pit Road on a parcel deeded to the Northampton Housing Authority through disposition of State Hospital property will be demolished to allow for future affordable housing development. The project was designed and permitted to accommodate 10 clients of the Department of Developmental Services, but no State funding has been allocated to date. The Northampton Housing Authority has opted not to move forward on developing the Laurel Street or Burt's Pit road parcels. The City accomplished a revision of the Land Disposition Agreement from the State which deeded the parcels to the NHA and is working with the Department of Capital Asset Management to transfer ownership of the parcels to the City. The parcels are being appraised. Once the City has site control, the farmhouse will be demolished and a Request for Proposals for the development of affordable housing will be issued.
13	Goal Name	Improvement of Public Facilities
	Goal Description	The City has allocated \$58,000 of CDBG funds for handicap accessibility improvements at 33 Hawley Street. The sub-recipient is the Northampton Community Arts Trust and the existing building will be the new home of the Center for the Arts. The multi year renovation project is being completed in phases. It is hoped the building will be open for some activities in the fall of 2017. The CDBG funded portion is currently out to bid with the work to be completed this summer.
14	Goal Name	Improvement of Public Infrastructure
	Goal Description	There are no CDBG funded public infrastructure improvement projects planned for this program year. The City did secure a State MassWorks grant (after several applications) which will accomplish a variety of improvements to the Pleasant Street corridor. The grant, now underway includes, removal and relocation of a storm drain channel that traverses the property that Valley CDC will be constructing the Lumber Yard apartments on, as well as traffic calming islands and streetscape improvements that will benefit the Live 155 project, the Lumber Yard project and the existing neighborhood.
15	Goal Name	Planning and Administration

	Goal Description	Funds will be used for affordable housing planning, homeless services coordination, community and economic development project formulation and implementation, for the conduct of fair housing activities, in addition to administration of the Community Development Block Grant Program.
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Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

For the program year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018, the City of Northampton will receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of \$613,782. Unexpended funds from previous program years will be reallocated and applied to projects moving forward. Oldest funds will be committed first as contracts are executed and activities are entered into IDIS.

The Annual Action Plan details how CDBG funds will be spent on priorities identified in the City's 5-Year Consolidated Plan as reviewed and updated for the new program year.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Valley CDC Down Payment Assistance (2017-2018)
2	Valley CDC Down-Payment Assistance Program (2016-2017)
3	82 Bridge Street Pre-Development
4	Housing Rehabilitation Program
5	Dial-Self Homeless Youth Program Acquisition
6	Burts Pit Road Farmhouse Demo / Laurel St Project Delivery Costs
7	Vernon Street School Handicap Accessibility
8	Northampton Community Arts Trust Accessibility Project
9	Micro-Business Assistance Program
10	Puentes: Bridges for Latinos
11	Education and Services for Immigrant Economic Independence
12	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Program
13	Community Housing Support Services
14	Youth Employment Readiness Initiative
15	CLA Tenancy Preservation Project
16	Northampton Nutrition Program
17	Pathways to Success
18	Manna Soup Kitchen
19	Grove Street Shelter
20	Interfaith Winter Shelter
21	Emergency Food Pantry
22	Senior Services EARN Program

#	Project Name
23	Administration and Planning

Table 3 - Project Information

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

Northampton has a critical need for an increased supply of deeply subsidized affordable housing, preservation and improvement of existing units, services to address basic needs, an increased supply of jobs that pay a living wage and public infrastructure improvements. Coupled with that is a 30% decrease in CDBG funds over the past several years. Fortunately, the City's adoption of the Community Preservation Act has allowed the CDBG funds to be augmented for affordable housing unit creation and housing support services. The Community and Economic Development Office, in conjunction with the Mayor strives to allocate funds over a variety of categories for a broader community impact and to address multiple City goals.

With such a rich and valuable social service community providing a range of programming, it has been the City's goal to fund as many organizations as possible. With the past years of CDBG funding reduction, that has translated into very small funding awards. Those amounts require the agencies to have to look to multiple sources to fully fund programs. The Public Services Review Committee struggles with this annually and tries to not go below the \$3,000 level. Agencies say that below that amount, the data collection requirements become too burdensome.

Additionally, one of the primary service agencies for underserved populations is experiencing diminished staff capacity and organization strength. The Committee faced the challenge of finding the balance between being supportive and holding them accountable to performance measurement goals.

It is the City's hope to work closely in the new program year with the Northampton Housing Authority to institute family self sufficiency programming, so households can move up and out into the community, facilitating movement on the Section 8 waiting lists and the public housing waiting lists.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Valley CDC Down Payment Assistance (2017-2018)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Homeownership for Families
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Homeownership for Families
	Funding	CDBG: \$36,000
	Description	The Valley CDC will work to identify and assist income eligible households looking to buy their first home in Northampton. Efforts will be made to link people to HOME funded units and down payment assistance. CDBG funds will be used to provide grants in the amount of \$4,000 each to four first time buyers for down payment assistance.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 down payment/closing cost assistance grants.
	Location Description	Valley Community Development Corporation, 30 Market Street, Northampton
	Planned Activities	4 first time homebuyer grants in the amount of \$4,000 each to eligible residents; referrals to HOME funded homeownership opportunities. The program will address the increasing challenges many LMI households face such as, student loan debt and high rental costs that affect their ability to attain homeownership. Services will focus on individual household financial literacy, financial planning and advocacy as needed to sustain affordable homeownership. Counseling is targetted to identifying households that can utilize the down payment assistance grants.
2	Project Name	Valley CDC Down-Payment Assistance Program (2016-2017)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Homeownership for Families
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Homeownership for Families
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,000

	Description	The Valley CDC will work with low and moderate income households to qualify for down payment assistance grants, as well as make referrals to HOME funded opportunities. Down payment/closing cost grants will be in the amount of \$3,000. This project is carried over from the previous program year (HUD #0844) and will utilize prior year funds.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2 down payment/closing cost assistance grants
	Location Description	Valley Community Development Corporation, 30 Market Street, Northampton, MA
	Planned Activities	2 income eligible first time homebuyers will be awarded down payment/closing cost assistance grants in the amount of \$3,000 each
3	Project Name	82 Bridge Street Pre-Development
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Housing for At-Risk and Special Needs Populations
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Prevention Rental Housing for Individuals Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000
	Description	Pre-development costs for rehabilitation and expansion of an existing SRO building at 82 Bridge Street, Northampton. The project will serve several income tiers, including 30% of the area median income, 50% AMI, and 60% AMI. Eight units (25%) will have a preference for homeless individuals and two units will be reserved for clients of the Department of Mental Health; at least two units will be handicap accessible. Rehabilitation will expand the property from 15 to 31 units and will convert the units from single bedrooms to small efficiencies (about 250 sf) containing a kitchenette and bathroom. The site is located on a bus route and is .4 miles from the train station.
	Target Date	

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	31 individuals with low and moderate incomes
	Location Description	82 Bridge Street, Northampton, MA
	Planned Activities	Pre-development costs for substantial rehab and expansion of one of the City's SRO buildings.
4	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Rehabilitation Resources
	Funding	CDBG: \$375,214
	Description	Through an administrative contract with the City, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission will provide assistance for income eligible owner occupied single family home owners focusing on remediation of code violations and lead paint abatement. This project is carried over from the previous program year. New activities will be set up in IDIS using prior year funds as projects are identified. The following activity numbers are currently in process and being carried over to this program year: HUD #0845 (admin); HUD #0850; HUD #0851; HUD #0852; HUD #0853
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8 - 10 homeowners with low and moderate incomes
	Location Description	City wide
	Planned Activities	Repairs to heating, plumbing, electrical, roof and structural systems to remediate code violations. Lead paint abatement will be given high priority if costs allow. Up to \$45,000 will be available per unit in the form of 15 year deferred payment loans. The average cost per home is approximately \$20,000- 30,000.
5	Project Name	Dial-Self Homeless Youth Program Acquisition
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Housing for At-Risk and Special Needs Populations

	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Prevention Rental Housing for Individuals Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations
	Funding	CDBG: \$65,000
	Description	Dial-Self will acquire property at 11 Hatfield Street in Florence to provide affordable rental housing and support services for 18-24 year old at-risk young adults. The property is located on a bus route, close to the bike trail, across the street from an urgent care facility and within walking distance to two high schools and a college.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8 homeless or at risk of homeless youth and young adults age 18-24
	Location Description	11 Hatfield Street, Florence
	Planned Activities	CDBG assistance with acquisition costs. The property currently has a low-income restriction in place through CPA funds and a matching Affordable Housing Deed Restriction will be put in place upon acquisition. Rents will be the most recent HUD FMR regional rates and will include utility costs. Case management and supportive services will also be provided.
6	Project Name	Burts Pit Road Farmhouse Demo / Laurel St Project Delivery Costs
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Elimination of Slums and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Elimination of Slums and Blight
	Funding	CDBG: \$37,100
	Description	Demolition of a vacant and deteriorating residential structure and detached garage on Burts Pit Road. Parcel was formerly owned by the Northampton Housing Authority but they no longer wish to develop it. The parcel was associated with the former Northampton State Hospital and has been abandoned for more than 20 years. Plans are to transfer the deed to the City to develop affordable housing. Two parcels, this one and the one on Laurel Street, are involved in this ownership transfer. The Burt's Pit demo project is carried over from the previous year (HUD #0856); prior year funds will be used for these activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2018

Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<p>Under the Northampton Housing Authority, years ago, the Burts Pit parcel was designed and permitted to construct new housing to serve 10 clients of the Department of Developmental Services. The funding never came from the State and the time period given to the Housing Authority in the State Hospital Land Disposition Agreement to develop the parcel (as well as the one on Laurel Street) has expired. The NHA agreed to transfer the parcels to the City for development. CDBG paid for an appraisal of the sites in the prior program year, as requested by the Commonwealth' Department of Capital and Asset Management. Once the deeds are secured, the City will issue a Request for Proposals to locate an affordable housing developer, therefore, the nature, scale and end user is undetermined at this time.</p>
Location Description	<p>278 Burts Pit Road, Northampton 23 Laurel Street, Northampton</p>
Planned Activities	<p>Demolition of vacant residential structure and detached garage on Burts Pit Road and issuance of RFP for Burt's Pit Road and Laurel Street for future affordable housing development at both sites.</p>
7	Project Name
Target Area	
Goals Supported	<p>Improvement of Public Facilities</p>
Needs Addressed	<p>Public Facilities</p>
Funding	<p>CDBG: \$100,000</p>
Description	<p>Plans are being made to re-construct a handicap ramp on the exterior of the building and retrofit the entrance vestibule to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The building is used by the Community Action Head Start Program. It is a City owned building, leased to the region's anti-poverty agency for children's programming.</p>
Target Date	<p>6/30/2018</p>
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<p>100-200 children use the facility in the course of the year.</p>
Location Description	<p>Vernon Street School, 56 Vernon Street, Northampton</p>
Planned Activities	
	Project Name
	<p>Northampton Community Arts Trust Accessibility Project</p>

8	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Improvement of Public Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$58,000
	Description	Accessibility improvements ensuring access for those with disabilities at a community art center where artists create, rehearse, exhibit, perform, and otherwise practice their art. Prior year funds will be used for this activity.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,600 individuals with mobility difficulties identified by Census data, in the City.
	Location Description	33 Hawley Street, Northampton
	Planned Activities	Installation of exterior metal stairs at the north and south ends of the building at street level that will provide an area of refuge/assisted rescue. Also, ramp assemblies with rails will be installed at the lower level and handicap ramp rails will be installed at the main entrance.
9	Project Name	Micro-Business Assistance Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Economic Development/Income Maximization
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	The Valley Community Development Corporation (CDC) will provide technical assistance to income eligible residents to plan and launch new businesses and assist existing micro businesses with five or fewer employees to improve the revenue and profitability of their businesses.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	15 individuals and/or micro-businesses will be served.
	Location Description	Valley CDC provides services at 30 Market Street, Northampton and conducts workshops in the community at various locations.

	Planned Activities	The program includes individual counseling, assistance with developing business plans and financial projections and conducts workshops.
10	Project Name	Puentes: Bridges for Latinos
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Addressing Basic Needs
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Housing Support Services Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Casa Latina, Inc. will provide information, referrals and individualized case management to Latino residents with low and moderate incomes.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	125 Latino residents with low and moderate incomes will be served.
	Location Description	140 Pine Street, Florence
	Planned Activities	Translation of applications and medical interpretation; referrals and information to access MassHealth, SNAP benefits and other local resources, such as, the Northampton Survival Center and English as a Second Language classes; advocacy for Latino elders and persons with disabilities; outreach to new residents; and individualized case management to increase life skills and economic empowerment.
11	Project Name	Education and Services for Immigrant Economic Independence
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Addressing Basic Needs
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$8,500
	Description	The Center for New Americans will provide education and resources to immigrant adults in Northampton to facilitate their goals of attaining economic stability and self-sufficiency.
	Target Date	6/30/2018

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 immigrant individuals with low and moderate incomes will be served.
	Location Description	James House Community Learning Center, 42 Gothic Street, Northampton
	Planned Activities	ESOL classes, computer instruction, career pathways classes and advising, immigration legal services, and referrals to area support services.
12	Project Name	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Addressing Basic Needs
	Needs Addressed	Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000
	Description	The Center for Human Development (CHD) Big Brothers Big Sisters program will create mentoring relationships for children in families with low and moderate incomes facing multiple challenges, in Northampton. Children are referred from school personnel and other agencies.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 at-risk youth and their families will be served.
	Location Description	The program's target population will be children residing at Florence Heights and Hampshire Heights (both Northampton Housing Authority public housing properties) and Meadowbrook Apartments in Florence.
Planned Activities	<p>Mentoring relationships using a community or site-based model. For both, volunteer mentors make an initial commitment to get together with their mentees for at least one year.</p> <p>With the community based model, the pair get together on weekends or after school. The amount of their time together may vary from week to week.</p> <p>The site-based model is the <i>Kids to Campus</i> program where the mentees are matched with Smith College students. The program provides transportation for youth to weekly get togethers on the Smith College campus.</p>	

13	Project Name	Community Housing Support Services
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homelessness Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Prevention Housing Support Services Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	The Center for Human Development's Community Housing Support Services Program will integrate the work of two separate program - the Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Outreach Project (previously funded by CDBG) and a Community Preservation Committee funded eviction prevention initiative - into a single coordinated effort to prevent homelessness, provide access to critical needs, and deliver case management and resource referral to at-risk households in Northampton with low and moderate incomes.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	300 individuals from households in subsidized housing and tenants in SRO units in Northampton and Florence; and 20 families that are currently court involved facing eviction.
	Location Description	The program is located at 129 Main Street, Northampton. SRO locations are: Go West, 1-3 North Main Street, Florence The Maples, 16 North Maple Street, Florence Earle Street Apartments, 180-182 Earle Street, Northampton King Street SRO, 96-98 King Street, Northampton The Lorraine, 96 Pleasant Street, Northampton Bridge Street SRO, 82 Bridge Street, Northampton

	Planned Activities	Case Manager will provide services to SRO tenants to address housing stabilization; access to medical and mental health care; food security; provide transportation to and from appointments; assist with linkages to other community resources; provide support for relocation of tenants during renovation of LIVE 155 (previously Northampton Lodging). Coordination between the two Case Managers will increase capacity to prevent evictions with both advocating regularly with Housing Court, property managers, and legal counsel for subsidized housing programs.
14	Project Name	Youth Employment Readiness Initiative
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Addressing Basic Needs
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,500
	Description	Community Action will provide individual assessment and support; Signal Success curriculum training; Career Pathways education and paid work-based learning experiences in their field of interest to at-risk Northampton youth ages 14-24.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	75 at-risk Northampton youth
	Location Description	The program located at 17 New South Street works closely with the Northampton High School Guidance Department to identify at-risk youth in need of employment readiness instruction.
	Planned Activities	Individual assessments for youth to set and achieve their training and employment goals; youth complete the 20-hour <i>Signal Success</i> curriculum developed by Commonwealth Corporation and participate in <i>Career Pathways Education</i> which focuses on green jobs, allied health, manufacturing, information technology and human services and; are provided the opportunity to participate in a paid internship in a field of their interest.
15	Project Name	CLA Tenancy Preservation Project
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homelessness Prevention

	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Prevention Housing Support Services Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,500
	Description	Community Legal Aid (CLA) will provide free legal services to Northampton tenants at risk of eviction. Clients are participants in rent subsidy programs (such as Section 8). Goals are to preserve the tenancy or secure alternate housing in order to avoid termination from the Section 8 program.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 households with low incomes at risk of losing their housing and rental subsidy will be served.
	Location Description	20 Hampton Avenue, Northampton
	Planned Activities	Working closely with area agencies, CLA will provide individualized legal services to eligible households; including advice and counseling; preparation of court pleadings and other legal documents; representation in mediation, trials and administrative hearings; and linkages to agencies who provide supportive services.
16	Project Name	Northampton Nutrition Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Addressing Basic Needs
	Needs Addressed	Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$4,000
	Description	Highland Valley Elder Services will provide noon-time meals to income eligible home-bound elders in Northampton.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 income eligible home bound elders will be served.
	Location Description	City wide
	Planned Activities	Delivery of hot, nutritionally balanced noon-time meals to home bound elders Monday - Friday.

17	Project Name	Pathways to Success
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Addressing Basic Needs
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$9,000
	Description	The Literacy Project will provide Adult Basic Education (ABE) services to adults and out-of-school youth age 16 and over to develop college and career readiness as pathways to economic opportunity and security.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 Northampton residents with low and moderate incomes will be served.
	Location Description	James House Learning Center, 42 Gothic Street, Northampton
	Planned Activities	<i>Career Pathways</i> activities integrated into ABE classes offered at three levels (basic, intermediate and High School Equivalency preparation) with intensive individualized counseling to overcome barriers to college and career readiness.
18	Project Name	Manna Soup Kitchen
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Addressing Basic Needs
	Needs Addressed	Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$3,357
	Description	The MANNA Soup Kitchen, Inc. will provide three free meals per week to residents with low and moderate incomes. Special Thanksgiving and Christmas meals are also provided.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	450 Northampton residents with low and moderate incomes will be served.

	Location Description	Meals are provided at two locations: St. John's Episcopal Church located at 48 Elm Street, Northampton and Edwards Church located at 297 Main Street, Northampton.
	Planned Activities	Free meals every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday with a special meal on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. CDBG funds will cover a small portion of salary for part time staff, food and overhead costs. Volunteers work on a rotational basis to support the program.
19	Project Name	Grove Street Shelter
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Support for Emergency Shelter System
	Needs Addressed	Support for Emergency Shelter Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Service Net operates Grove Street Inn, a 22-bed emergency shelter for homeless individuals. Guests may stay up to 90 days. The Grove Street Inn is open 5:00 pm-9:00 am Monday-Friday and 24 hours per day on Saturday and Sunday with hours expanded as needed for weather emergencies.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	100 homeless individuals will be served in this year round emergency shelter.
	Location Description	91 Grove Street, Northampton; case management is provided through the Resource Center, 43 Center Street, Northampton.
	Planned Activities	Over night shelter for up to 90 days with intensive case management focused on rehabilitation, participant involvement and accountability.
20	Project Name	Interfaith Winter Shelter
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Support for Emergency Shelter System
	Needs Addressed	Support for Emergency Shelter Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000

	Description	Service Net, in collaboration with the Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Individuals will provide a 20-bed overnight winter emergency shelter for homeless individuals from November 1-April 30 from 6:00 pm -7:00 am. Breakfast and dinner are also provided. Evening meals and volunteer overnight coverage (in addition to paid ServiceNet staff) are provided by a volunteer cadre of 400+ community residents.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 homeless individuals will be served.
	Location Description	43 Center Street, Northampton. During the day, ServiceNet operates the Resource Center which provides case management to sheltered and unsheltered residents. Health Care for the Homeless medical personnel, as well as a Benefits Analyst are also on site.
	Planned Activities	Overnight winter shelter with showers, laundry facilities, an evening and morning meal, as well as, once weekly visits from a Nurse Practitioner, a Licensed Social Worker and once a month visits from a Physician. Case management is provided through the Resource Center at the same address.
21	Project Name	Emergency Food Pantry
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Addressing Basic Needs
	Needs Addressed	Addressing Basic Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	The Northampton Survival Center will provide free, nutritious food to residents of Northampton with low and moderate incomes. Clients can access the food pantry once per month for a 7-day supply of food for each member of the household and may return on a weekly basis for fresh produce and day old breads and bakery items.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2,000 residents of Northampton with low and moderate incomes will be served.
	Location Description	265 Prospect Street, Northampton

	Planned Activities	Free monthly food packages which are nutritionally balanced and customized to individuals' dietary needs, as well as, weekly access to fresh produce and day-old breads and bakery items. For ten weeks in the summer, the Survival Center the <i>Kids' Summer Food Program</i> will provide extra groceries to families with youth who rely on the schools' free and reduced meal programs for their children's nutritional needs.
22	Project Name	Senior Services EARN Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Economic Development/Income Maximization
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$4,000
	Description	The Northampton Senior Services' new Employment After Retirement Network (EARN) will provide services to connect skilled retirees who wish to work after retirement to local employers.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 Northampton retirees with low and moderate incomes will be served.
	Location Description	Northampton Senior Center, 67 Conz Street, Northampton
	Planned Activities	Community outreach and marketing to seniors seeking employment and local employers; trainings to update job search, computer and other necessary job skills; an employment fair for seniors featuring local employers seeking skilled, experienced workers; creation of an in-house senior job bank and resource database; and identification of collaborative community partners. Funds will be used to hire a part-time EARN Coordinator to work with the Steering Committee to accomplish the proposed goals.
23	Project Name	Administration and Planning
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Planning and Administration

Needs Addressed	Homelessness Prevention Support for Emergency Shelter Rental Housing for Individuals Rental Housing for Families Preservation of Existing Affordable Rental Stock Housing Rehabilitation Resources Affordable Homeownership for Families Housing for At - Risk & Special Needs Populations Economic Development Housing Support Services Addressing Basic Needs Elimination of Slums and Blight Public Facilities Public Infrastructure
Funding	CDBG: \$122,756
Description	Administration of the CDBG Grant Program, housing, community and economic development activities.
Target Date	6/30/2018
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5,000 residents with low and moderate incomes is the number assigned to this category, although it is difficult to determine with any certainty.
Location Description	City wide
Planned Activities	Community and economic development planning activities and administration of the CDBG program

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

Funds were allocated to priorities as identified from citizen participation and public input during the five year consolidated planning process and the current year action plan process. Census tracts with more than 20% minority population are defined as areas of minority concentration. Using OneCPD and extensive examination of census tract and block group information by the CDBG Administrator and GIS Coordinator in the Office of Planning and Sustainability did not reveal areas of concentration beyond the public housing family developments and larger affordable apartment complexes. Outreach by Casa Latina will be focused on Hampshire Heights, and Florence Heights which contain concentrations of Spanish speaking residents. Meadowbrook Apartments (254 units) and Hathaway Farms (207) also contain diverse resident populations and the CDBG Administrator works closely with the Resident Services Coordinators there. River Run (216) is a condo complex but many of the units are rented by households with low and moderate incomes. Targeting services at those locations is prioritized when possible.

As the success of the housing rehabilitation program continues, there may be a time when program participants are chosen from neighborhood revitalization areas where other activities are occurring, such as the Pleasant Street corridor.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
No geographic Priorities Designated	100

Table 4 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Public services are delivered City wide. Outreach to sub-populations that the individual public service agencies target, however, is done in specific locations. The Housing Partnership and Office of Planning and Sustainability sponsored forums for private and non-profit housing developers to stimulate housing development in the downtown. There is also a neighborhood citizen participation process to revitalize the Pleasant Street corridor, a primary gateway into the downtown. Both proposed mixed use affordable housing projects are on Pleasant Street and include vibrant first floor commercial spaces that will make them major contributors to the revitalization strategy.

Northampton is a small city. There are properties in need of rehabilitation scattered throughout but no concentrations of deteriorated structures. Projects are evaluated on a case by case basis. The Fair Housing Assessment Tool may identify areas in need of additional services. If the Office of Planning and Sustainability identifies entranceway corridor improvements, the Housing Rehab Program might do

specific outreach to homes in those areas.

Discussion

Block group level data will be reviewed further to determine additional target areas and locations for housing rehabilitation and public infrastructure projects. As the City moves through the Fair Housing Assessment analysis later this year, deeper data will be revealed that may indicate new community outreach and activity target areas.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	300
Non-Homeless	3,390
Special-Needs	60
Total	3,750

Table 6 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	1,777
The Production of New Units	68
Rehab of Existing Units	27
Acquisition of Existing Units	8
Total	1,880

Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

It is difficult to get unduplicated counts of numbers to be served as individuals often utilize multiple services. For example, individuals counted as participating in MANNA's program could also be in an emergency shelter. Individuals participating in Casa Latina's services could also be attending classes at The Center for New Americans and obtaining food from the Survival Center.

The number of homeless people to be supported is the total served last year at the Hampshire Interfaith Shelter (200) and the Grove Street Inn Homeless Shelter (100). The number to be supported in the non-homeless category (3,690 - 300) is the total of all served by the public service grantees, minus the two shelters (3,390).

The rental assistance number is the number of VASH Vouchers administered by the Northampton Housing Authority (285) which is misleading because not all participants find housing in Northampton, and the 874 Housing Choice Vouchers which is also misleading because not all units are in Northampton. A breakdown of Northampton specific units was not available. The Special Needs number is an estimate of the younger disabled residents in Housing Authority properties.

The production of new units number (68) includes the affordable units that will come on line at Live 155 (48) next spring, the 16 new SRO units being created in the expansion of 82 Bridge Street, and the 4 new units that will be built at 11 Hatfield Street by Dial -Self. It is likely the Bridge Street units will not be created in this program year, depending on the State funding application cycle outcome.

The rehab of existing units number (27) includes the 15 existing units at 82 Bridge Street , the renovation of the 4 existing units at 11 Hatfield Street (Dial Self) and an estimate of 8 homeownership units being improved via the Housing Rehabilitation Program.

The acquisition of existing units total (8) includes the four in the existing home being purchased by Dial Self and the 4 units now owned by Habitat for Humanity through the CDBG funded acquisition of the Glendale Road parcel in last year's program.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City of Northampton has an established working relationship with the Northampton Housing Authority (NHA). CDBG funds have been utilized for improvements to a variety of Housing Authority properties over the past several years. The NHA has collaborated with the City to house tenants being relocated from the Northampton Lodging SRO during construction of a new building. The Community Housing Support Services Program Coordinator works with the NHA Attorney to provide stabilization services that prevent evictions. The new NHA Director has made strides to improve the physical appearance of their properties, modernized the maintenance work order system and encouraged input from tenants and the formation of tenant associations.

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

According to the 2015-2016 Annual Report, the physical plant improvement projects the Northampton Housing Authority is slated to continue or undertake in the new program year include the following:

- Hampshire Heights/ roof replacement phase 2
- Cahill Apartments/ replacement of the fire alarm system
- State Street/ replacement of hot water tank
- Bridge St. 689/ Upgrades to common areas, exterior door replacement, reconfiguration of entrances
- Grace House/ replacement of windows in old building and new entrance door
- McDonald House/ new roof, replace glass in 200 defective windows, revamp of computer system, email, phones, reconfiguration of administrative offices
- Tobin Manor/ replacement of entry door, conversion of 3 bedroom unit to two units; a one bedroom unit and a two bedroom unit
- Market Street/ chimney replacement

The NHA is also instituting smoke free housing policies and working with tenants to identify areas on housing sites where smoking is permissible and weather protection structures can be constructed.

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

participate in homeownership

According to the 2015-16 Annual Report the NHA " continues to work to develop incentives and initiatives to attract partnerships to the Authority and is working hard to have multiple programs for the entire Authority population". With regard to tenant associations, the report states "We value feedback from our resident communities. Tenant associations help us listen and act as a liaison between residents and NHA staff to address residents' needs, concerns and ideas. Engaging our residents enables us to better serve their needs." The NHA recently hired a Resident Services Coordinator who is in the process of assessing resident needs and will create appropriate programming.

Their mission statement says: "The NHA is committed to ensuring decent, safe and affordable housing and housing opportunity for the citizens of Northampton and the region, in an effort to maintain the economic diversity of the community. To this end, the NHA shall strive to create and maintain clean and secure housing developments, offer a variety of housing opportunities for the community's citizens, assure fiscal integrity of all program participants and work to support initiatives to provide opportunities for residents who wish to gain self-sufficiency and economic independence. The effectiveness of these endeavors is measured, in part, by the dedication of an innovative and caring staff to efficient program management and collaboration with residents, community service providers and Northampton's government and community leaders." They do have tenant representation on the Board of Commissioners and a tenant association at the Salvo House (elderly and younger disabled). There is also a newly formed tenant association at Hampshire Heights, the public family housing property on Bridge Road.

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 according to criteria established by HUD or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. They typically operate at a 95% or higher utilization rate.

Discussion

The Housing Authority owns and manages 618 public housing units. Additionally, 408 private landlords participate in providing housing to those with low incomes through the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) administered by the NHA. The NHA also administers 321 VASH vouchers for the region.

The new Executive Director was evaluated at the conclusion of her first year and subsequently given a three year contract. She attended a Housing Partnership meeting in December of 2016, participated in a strategy session held by the Mayor's Office to find housing for tenants needing to be relocated from 129 Pleasant Street/ Northampton Lodging, has instituted smoke free public housing and reorganized internal operations. Capital improvements continue to be made on the properties. Discussion is underway to identify the possibility of project basing some Section 8 vouchers at Leeds Village, an

expiring use property, in order to maintain some affordability.

The Housing Authority typically provides housing to approximately 2,253 people annually. In the last Annual Report available (2015-16) 849 of those housed were considered disabled, 594 were children, 482 were considered elderly (over 65) and the average annual income was \$14,033. 67% identified as Caucasian, 23% African American and 10% were classified as other, or declined to report.

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

Introduction

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 of Northampton works closely with Eliot Homeless Services. Eliot is the selected vendor across the Commonwealth for a contract from the Department of Mental Health which funds street outreach activities to identify and serve homeless individuals. This PATH Program (Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) has outreach workers in Pittsfield, Greenfield, Northampton, Amherst, Holyoke, Westfield and Springfield which allows for very comprehensive coverage in Western Massachusetts. The Path Worker in Northampton has been in the position for almost 20 years and is well connected with the local population, knows where the unsheltered reside outdoors and is a critical link in our local service delivery system. Brendan P. works closely with ServiceNet's Shelter and Housing division as well as its clinical division, to link clients with housing and mental health and substance abuse services. This program, in conjunction with ServiceNet Resource Center staff, is responsible for housing some very chronically homeless mentally ill people that have been on our streets for decades.

Brendan reports monthly at the City sponsored Next Step meetings and is our first alert warning system if the unsheltered numbers become high enough that we need to locate additional shelter beds. He visits camps and conducts "office" hours at the Main Street bagel shop and is the City's eyes and ears on the street. He builds trust through the engagement process, does individual therapy as a trained clinician and runs a group meeting early in the morning to catch folks coming out of the winter shelter at 7 a.m. He participates in a weekly meeting with ServiceNet Resource Center staff for coordinated case management to assist with helping people move their lives forward. Brendan and his counter part in Amherst work closely, as many clients go back and forth between the 2 communities for shelter and services. Brendan has been joined by outreach staff from Dial Self. Dial Self is the Franklin county agency that provides housing and support services for unaccompanied youth. They recently received funding from HUD to create an outreach position to serve Hampshire County. Between the two programs, our community is confident that all persons sheltered or unsheltered are aware of available resources and can receive the assistance they may seek to access them successfully.

Because many of the people actively panhandling are clients of Tapestry Health (needle exchange program), Tapestry is investigating how they can do some street outreach as well. There is currently a work group doing research on how to address our panhandling issue. Because the homeless services are so accessible, and most of the panhandlers are housed, it presents other challenges. For this reason, the

Work Group is not only composed of the Police Chief and shelter and service providers (and Mayor and City Councilors), but the Coordinator for Hampshire Hope, a local coalition working to address the opioid epidemic and Tapestry Health are also present. The eventual public education campaign that is developed will speak to services that are available so donors have a choice between giving to people directly or to service programs. Because there is no family homeless shelter in Northampton, we are less active in shelter level programming. CDBG funding does support housing stabilization activities however, to prevent family homelessness. State funding sources had been increased during the past year, which allowed for a reduction in the hotel/motel population (none in Northampton) from several hundred to zero. The recent cuts to the State budget will result in that cycle starting all over, again. Cuts to funding for homeless youth, RAFT, and not allowing RAFT for individuals will lead to rising numbers this coming year, should those vetoes stand.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

CDBG funding will continue to be provided to the City's two shelters, the Grove Street Inn and the Inter-Faith Winter Shelter for Homeless Individuals for staffing. Collaborative advocacy and support will be provided to Safe Passage for the operation of their emergency shelter for domestic violence victims and to Soldier On, for their emergency shelter beds serving Veterans. The CDBG Administrator participates on the Management Committee that meets monthly to oversee the operation of the Inter-Faith Winter Shelter and volunteers once a month to stay overnight. CDBG funding has been used for physical improvements to the City owned Grove Street Inn although the ownership of that facility is being transferred to ServiceNet, Inc. the program administrator. Because HUD funding has been shifted away from transitional housing units in favor of housing first and permanent supportive housing beds, there are very few programs that continue to utilize time limited transitional housing program models.

There are no plans to create additional emergency shelter beds. With the year round beds at the Grove Street Inn, the winter shelter beds at the Inter-Faith shelter during the coldest winter months and the annex for winter shelter overflow in Easthampton (6), the numbers of those seeking shelter in Northampton can usually be accommodated. There were a number of turnaways this past year at the winter shelter, however. This will be analyzed over the coming months to assess needed program changes. Folks turned away in Northampton for actively abusing substances can usually be accommodated at Craigs Doors in Amherst, which is a wet shelter. There were some operational difficulties at the Amherst program in past years that have improved. With the close communication between the City and ServiceNet, the operators of both shelters for individuals in Northampton, a close watch occurs and shifts can be made mid-season if necessary.

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

Victims of domestic violence presenting to Safe Passage have access to their emergency shelter in Northampton, if there is an opening. People finding themselves chronically homeless work with ServiceNet staff at the Resource Center to identify locally available units. ServiceNet has some permanent housing units on Hawley Street (9) and they own and manage the Florence Inn (17). Those units provide some ability to house those coming out of homelessness. People entering the InterFaith Shelter are often moved up to the Grove Street Inn when beds are available to allow more time for people to do the work necessary for self-sufficiency. There are no emergency shelter beds for families in Northampton, so the City is less involved with that realm of service. Grace House, a program of the Center for Human Development is a closed referral residence for women in recovery and their children through the State's Department of Public Health and Soldier On recently brought 60 new housing units on line. There is a beautiful new building containing 16 units on the VA Campus for women Veteran's and their children, as well as 44 units of limited equity coops for older male Veterans at that site. Soldier On is in the process of renovating buildings in Agawam and Chicopee to provide additional PSH units to the region. Soldier On has emergency shelter beds, transitional beds and permanent supported housing options on the campus. Soldier On is able to serve men and women Vets at every stage of the housing and services continuum of care. They also will pick up and serve Veterans leaving the jail system if they have no other immediate housing options. The Northampton Housing Authority administers approximately 300 HUD VASH vouchers for the region and the case managers at the VA in Leeds participate in Next Step meetings and serve on the Network to End Homelessness's Veteran's Committee.

The 3 County Continuum of Care has received funding to develop a more formal coordinated entry system and Soldier On is taking the lead on developing it for the entire CoC. This will streamline intake and placement, as well as rapid rehousing efforts. The key to this success will be increasing the production of units so referrals can be made. Great strides have been taken in the prevention and diversion realm, however, and the availability and utilization of State resources has greatly reduced the number of families in hotels and motels. The number in Western Mass. (primarily Greenfield, Holyoke, West Springfield and Chicopee) has gone from 400 in the last couple of years to zero. We have seen in the past that when there are dollars available for case management, first and last months rent and security deposits and for rental and utility arrearages, permanent housing placements can be made. When those dollars disappear, the cycle starts over and the number of homeless families needing to be placed in hotels and motels starts the upward climb when shelters get full.

Through private fundraising efforts, a CDBG allocation, Community Preservation funds and applications to area foundations, Friends of Hampshire County Homeless Individuals has acquired an existing building to house and serve 4 unaccompanied homeless youth. A new building on an adjacent parcel will house 4 additional youth, an office and a community room. They are partnering with Dial Self. This will be the

third house created by FOH. The first is Yvonne's House which serves 6 chronically homeless men and women; now owned and managed by ServiceNet, the second is the Gandara/Friends House which serves 6 formerly homeless men and women committed to sobriety. The first phase of the Dial Self project, the renovation of the existing building is expected to be completed in the late fall of 2017. This is an exciting addition to our local service delivery system.

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 has conducted the following activities to prevent homelessness:

- Created the Community Housing and Support Services Program to provide assistance to families facing eviction. The Coordinator identifies court involved families with non-payment issues and provides intensive case management services to preserve tenancies. 3 year grant, initiated by the Northampton Housing Partnership, funded by the Northampton Community Preservation Committee. Grant was the vision of legal aid attorneys and front line support service people who acknowledge the multiple challenges some families face and the need for one trustworthy person in their lives to help them navigate those challenges. The application for renewal will be submitted to the Community Preservation Committee in the second round of 2018.

- Next Step meeting held with 3 Social Workers at Cooley Dickinson Hospital (5-12-16) to revisit the Discharge Planning Protocol developed by the Network several years ago. Phone numbers were exchanged, faces put to names and all agreed to work together to avoid discharging people into homelessness whenever possible. They have continued to attend meetings this past year.

- Soldier On picks up any Veteran being discharged from the Hampshire County House of Correction and will shelter them if they have no immediate other housing options. The City's Veteran's agent does extensive case management with Veterans to find and preserve affordable housing and works closely with the Northampton Housing Authority in the administration of the VASH Voucher Program.

- City funds the Community Legal Aid Homelessness Prevention Program which also does tenancy preservation work through the Court System, in a more triaged fashion. Tenant landlord mediation occurs at Housing Court and payment plans are established and services secured in order to avoid evictions into homelessness.

- a Veteran's Court has been established in Holyoke. This Court takes into consideration special issues being faced by Veterans that may have contributed to law violating activities, such as Post Traumatic

Stress disorder. The Court has already preserved many tenancies and linked people with needed resources.

- The City views most of the public service activities funded by CDBG as homelessness prevention efforts. Increasing language competency in order to secure economic self-sufficiency, accessing free food to be better able to afford housing costs, preparing at risk youth for employment opportunities and career paths, are some examples. Enhancing self-worth, life skills and training for economic security are all critical components to having stable housing and healthy lives.

- Local service delivery system includes homelessness prevention activities, housing search assistance and housing stabilization services as well as employment and educational programs to provide paths to self-sufficiency and economic security.

Discussion

Non-homeless special needs activities:

Elder Households are served by the Highland Valley Elder Services, the Northampton Housing Authority and the Northampton Senior Center and Council on Aging. Services include home modification grants and loans to age in place, home delivered meals, public housing and outreach, education and socialization opportunities. Frail elders are served by HVES Protective Services division. The newly CDBG funded program entitled EARN will provide employment training and job information to elders who still need to work after retirement, to make ends meet.

Households with disabled members will be served by Stavros Center for Independent Living, the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Developmental Disabilities. The Community Housing Support Services Coordinator will also be available, as well as the Resource Center and Housing Authority.

Households with mentally ill members will be served by Community Support Options, ServiceNet, Inc. and the Department of Mental Health. There are several residential settings in the City which function as community based housing for the mentally ill with 24/7 staffing on site.

The Department of Public Health operates a new detox center in Greenfield which increases the bed availability in the region, as well as continuing to operate residential programs. Gandara Center operates Hairston House, the former Alliance for Sober Living residence on Summer Street and the Gandara/Friends House on Maple Avenue to serve individuals in recovery from substance abuse.

Victims of domestic violence receive emergency shelter, legal assistance and support services through Safe Passage. People with HIV/AIDS are served through a Positive Place, a community program based

out of Cooley Dickinson Hospital. The program has 22 rental vouchers utilized in properties owned privately, located throughout the region. Their HOPWA allocation through the City of Springfield is \$122,659 and \$116,062 from the 3 County COC. 11 vouchers are from HOPWA and 11 are from the McKinney Vento Program. They have no funds for short term rent, mortgage or utility allowances, nor do they operate any facilities themselves.

The CDBG Administrator holds the Next Step Collaborative meetings monthly. Those sessions provide the vehicle for keeping that close watch on the numbers of unsheltered and shelter capacity in order to make needed adjustments. The Network to End Homelessness Individual Services Committee provides the on-going communication around regional capacity, as other area shelter providers are present and report on their statistics and bed capacity. Between the local and regional networks, providers and policy makers are up to date on fluctuating activities. The recent cuts from the State budget included one for the Network to End Homelessness. The earmark for Craig's Doors shelter in Amherst was left in, so that was a huge relief. The Steering Committee of the Network will be assembling soon to strategize how to keep the Network's committee facilitation role going, with reduced funds. It has been invaluable for coordination and achieving regional goals.

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

Introduction:

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

Northampton works and will continue to work to identify and remove barriers to affordable housing. Current efforts include:

- The Northampton Housing Partnership is examining a home rule option to allow tax relief to developers of affordable housing. Such a program was adopted by the town of Amherst. Tax relief is given to account for the reduction in rental amounts (between market rate units and subsidized units) for projects of 10 units or more. City staff have met with Amherst staff to learn more. Discussions will continue as Amherst has its first project to utilize the program about which we can learn.
- The City's zoning ordinance is being analyzed to identify additional costs that could possibly be removed or reduced in order to facilitate the creation of affordable units; such as the need for site plan review for new detached accessory apartment units. The Zoning Committee of the Northampton Housing Partnership has met with the Office of Planning and Sustainability and created a list of zoning revisions that may enhance the creation of more market rate affordable units.
- The City is monitoring HUD's movement to allow test pilot projects for establishing small area fair market rent rates in high cost areas to increase utilization of Section 8 rental vouchers.
- The City has purchased two large land tracts on which to create affordable home ownership, although there are few State funding sources currently available for homeownership development. One is the CDBG funded Glendale Road parcel, and the other is on Burt's Pit Road. Habitat for Humanity responded to the RFP for Glendale Road and will construct 4 homes. The RFP for the second parcel has not yet been issued.
- Mass. Fair Housing Center will continue to conduct confidential testing of Northampton landlords to ascertain discriminatory practices.
- The City re-instituted a Housing Rehabilitation Program to assist households with low and moderate incomes, allowing them to remain in their homes and experience improved living environments. The program is operating very successfully with 7 units in various stages of completion in the first year of operation.

Discussion:

The City Council approved a line item of \$20,000 to hire a consultant to implement the Fair Housing Assessment Tool requirement from HUD. The Northampton Housing Partnership will work during the late summer and fall of 2017 to develop a Request for Proposals to identify the consultant. Even though the tool is not required for submission until 2018-19, the work is critical to undertake and the City is moving forward. The Tool is very comprehensive and the information it will yield through targeted focus group work and data collection and assessment is essential for relevant policy formation, program development and planning activities.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The most important role the City can play is to facilitate communication and collaboration in the face of diminishing resources. With continued cuts in program funding sources across the board, it is imperative that our service delivery system operate as effectively and efficiently as possible, insuring services are not duplicated or wasted. Specifically with CDBG funding, the City will support people and organizations carrying out public social service programming, preserving and creating affordable housing, increasing economic self-sufficiency and improving public facilities and infrastructure to improve the quality of life for the residents of our City that may be underserved, have insufficient incomes or face challenges that are preventing them from achieving their life goals.

City support for and participation in the Western Mass. Network to End Homelessness, the Western Mass. Inter-Agency Council on Housing and Homelessness, the Three County Rural CoC, the Next Step Collaborative, the Housing Partnership and the committees of the regional network will facilitate coordinated actions to meet the needs of the underserved. The City of Northampton is a strong and committed partner in those venues.

The City will support agencies to the extent possible with CDBG funding that provide direct front line services to those finding themselves most in need in Northampton. The on-going communication with those entities through meetings and interactive monitoring sessions facilitates the identification of service delivery gaps. The CDBG administrators and Mayor's Office works diligently to address those gaps.

With the numbers of Hispanic households increasing and many with language challenges, it is imperative that Casa Latina, the grass roots organization serving the Latino community in Hampshire County be viable and strong. Outreach, advocacy and connection to resources will become increasingly critical to prevent people from slipping beyond the safety net. The City is committed to supporting the organization as it seeks to redefine its mission and goals, and identify new resources in order to move fully forward.

The City will work with the Northampton Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners, Executive Director and newly hired Resident Services Coordinator to insure the NHA is a collaborative partner in meeting the affordable housing needs and support services of its tenants.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

CDBG and CPC financial resources have been allocated to several housing projects in the past few years. The Valley CDC Lumber Yard Apartments, Live 155 (formerly Northampton Lodging), the Friends of the Homeless/Dial Self housing for unaccompanied youth, Valley CDC's expansion and renovation of 82 Bridge Street SRO and improvements to the Gandara House for those in recovery. Additionally, the CDBG staff assists with permitting, conducting environmental reviews and contracting, writing support letters to garner other funding, as well as identifying and coordinating support services that can be brought to the projects.

Efforts will continue to prevent any additional loss of units from the subsidized housing inventory. Demolition of NHA property on Burts Pit Road and plans for new development at the Laurel Street site will move forward.

Added to the affordable housing inventory are: 16 transitional housing units for women Veterans and their children (completed in December 2015) and 44 new units of limited equity cooperative ownership units for older male Veterans at the VA campus, slated for completion in 2016, and 43 new affordable units (of 83) at the Christopher Heights Assisted Living Development at Village Hill (the former State Hospital site), creating 87 new units of affordable housing. The 55 units at Valley CDC's Lumberyard project and the 48 affordable units at 129 Pleasant Street through HAPHousing, will add an additional 103 permanently affordable rental units for individuals and families when State funding is secured (2016-2017) and construction completed (2018-19).

Ten homeownership units will be improved through the creation of a Housing Rehabilitation Program. If Habitat for Humanity gets involved with parcels through the City's acquisition of property for limited development projects, new construction of home ownership units could occur in the coming years. 4 are now planned for the Glendale Road site.

The Housing Partnership will continue to meet monthly to strategize about preservation issues, as well as identify opportunities for new unit production. Outreach will continue with one of the property owners of an expiring use development (Leeds Village Apartments, 2018).

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

CDBG funds have been being utilized for a Housing Rehabilitation Program. With the age of the housing stock, it is conceivable that each residential rehab project undertaken may include remediation of lead paint to some degree. All of the seven units progressing to date have had lead inspections. Some limited remediation has been done on one unit. The program parameter of permitting up to \$45,000 of work

per unit was set that high to accommodate remediation if it is needed. The goal of the program would be for six to ten units participating to be able to achieve full compliance for deleading. The Northampton Board of Health has agreed to keep a separate data file for all units with deleading certification in order to keep track of abated units.

Through the City's Fair Housing activity, information on resources for lead abatement are disseminated at the annual Landlord Workshop held in February.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

According to the American Community Survey 2014 data, 6.0% of all families and 13.9% of the total population had incomes below the poverty level. The City will work to insure the following services are available through the existing delivery system: the MANNA Soup Kitchen, the SRO food pantry and the Northampton Survival Center to address food insecurity which addresses food insecurity and frees up income for housing costs. The Literacy Project, The Center for New Americans and Community Action's Youth Employment Readiness Program will assist residents with economic empowerment. Valley CDC's Small Business Assistance Program will help increase incomes for small business entrepreneurs.

The Northampton City Council supports the work of the Living Wage Campaign. Volunteers doing this work conduct outreach and education activities with area employers about the benefits of paying wages that can support household living expenses. The Pioneer Valley Workers Center educates and advocates for employees about their rights and responsibilities and strives to improve employer/employee relationships and working environments. Community Action administers a wide variety of programming, as the anti-poverty agency in the region.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

With the Western Mass Network to End Homelessness and Three County Continuum of Care meetings, the City is regularly informed and participates in regional activity relative to individual and family homelessness, unaccompanied youth and Veterans efforts. The only gap previously identified in the existing institutional structure was a youth component. DialSelf now has a presence in Hampshire County with a new youth street outreach program and plans for a residence for youth, so that gap has been filled.

Between the Next Step Collaborative, Valley CDC's Homeless Services Providers quarterly sessions and the Northampton Housing Partnership meetings, the City gains a holistic sense of what is happening in the community at a local level. Next Step meetings are attended by providers working with the unsheltered individual homeless, sheltered homeless individuals, Veterans, people with HIV/AIDS and people at risk of homelessness in the SRO's. Housing Partnership members are composed of a legal aid

attorney doing eviction prevention work, local clergy, a Community Reinvestment Act Banking compliance officer, a financial advisor/realtor, a Housing Authority tenant, social service providers, a private landlord and interested citizens. Valley CDC meetings are attended by DMH case managers, housing search workers, housing stabilization staff and PATH workers who identify tenants whose housing is at risk. The institutional structure that currently exists is comprehensive and collaborative. People work together and support each other.

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

The Northampton Housing Authority hired a new executive director last year. During this past year, the NHA stepped forward to house many of the tenants needing temporary relocation from Northampton Lodging. It is the City's expectation that the NHA will continue to improve its role as a collaborative community partner and that support services to existing NHA tenants will be enhanced by that collaboration.

The City will continue to attend HAP Housing's and Valley CDC's quarterly meetings with housing service providers for coordinated case management and tenancy preservation for residents in their buildings. The City is grateful for the meaningful partnerships it has with Valley CDC and HAP Housing (now Wayfinders). Between the two Pleasant Street developments, those two agencies are investing 40 million dollars to create affordable and market rate mixed use housing in Northampton. These are just the latest projects in a long list of collaborative efforts. With Valley pursuing the 82 Bridge Street project and now partnering with The Community Builders to develop the final parcel at the former State hospital, the inventory of quality affordable housing opportunities in Northampton continues to grow.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(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.	90.00%

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Reference 91.220(l)(4)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)
2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.
3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).
4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.
5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

Housing Trust Fund (HTF)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(5)

1. Distribution of Funds
 - a. Describe the eligibility requirements for recipients of HTF funds (as defined in 24 CFR § 93.2).
 - b. Describe the jurisdiction's application requirements for eligible recipients to apply for HTF funds.
 - c. Describe the selection criteria that the jurisdiction will use to select applications submitted by eligible recipients.

d. Describe the jurisdiction's required priority for funding based on geographic distribution, which is a description of the geographic areas of the State (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) in which it will direct assistance during the ensuing program year.

e. Describe the jurisdiction's required priority for funding based on the applicant's ability to obligate HTF funds and undertake eligible activities in a timely manner.

f. Describe the jurisdiction's required priority for funding based on the extent to which rents for units in the rental project are affordable to extremely low-income families.

g. Describe the jurisdiction's required priority for funding based on the financial feasibility of the project beyond the required 30-year period.

h. Describe the jurisdiction's required priority for funding based on the merits of the application in meeting the priority housing needs of the jurisdiction (such as housing that is accessible to transit or employment centers, housing that includes green building and sustainable development features, or housing that serves special needs populations).

i. Describe the jurisdiction's required priority for funding based on the location of existing affordable housing.

j. Describe the jurisdiction's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the application makes use of non-federal funding sources.

2. Does the jurisdiction's application require the applicant to include a description of the eligible activities to be conducted with HTF funds?

3. Does the jurisdiction's application require that each eligible recipient certify that housing units assisted with HTF funds will comply with HTF requirements?

4. Performance Goals and Benchmarks. The jurisdiction has met the requirement to provide for performance goals, consistent with the jurisdiction's goals established under 24 CFR 91.215(b)(2), by including HTF in its housing goals in the housing table on the SP-45 Goals and AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives screens.

5. Rehabilitation Standards. The jurisdiction must establish rehabilitation standards for all HTF-assisted housing rehabilitation activities that set forth the requirements that the housing must meet upon project completion. The jurisdiction's description of its standards must be in sufficient detail to determine the required rehabilitation work including methods and materials. The standards may refer to applicable codes or they may establish requirements that exceed the minimum requirements of the codes. The jurisdiction must attach its rehabilitation standards below. If the jurisdiction will not use HTF funds for the rehabilitation of housing, enter "N/A".

In addition, the rehabilitation standards must address each of the following: health and safety; major systems; lead-based paint; accessibility; disaster mitigation (where relevant); state and local codes, ordinances, and zoning requirements; Uniform Physical Condition Standards; and Capital Needs Assessments (if applicable).

6. Resale or Recapture Guidelines. Below, the jurisdiction must enter (or attach) a description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HTF funds when used to assist first-time homebuyers. If the jurisdiction will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

7. HTF Affordable Homeownership Limits. If the jurisdiction intends to use HTF funds for homebuyer assistance and does not use the HTF affordable homeownership limits for the area provided by HUD, it must determine 95 percent of the median area purchase price and set forth the information in accordance with §93.305. If the jurisdiction will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

8. Limited Beneficiaries or Preferences. Describe how the jurisdiction will limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population to serve unmet needs identified in its consolidated plan or annual action plan. If the jurisdiction will not limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income

population, enter "N/A."

Any limitation or preference must not violate nondiscrimination requirements in § 93.350, and the jurisdiction must not limit or give preferences to students. The jurisdiction may permit rental housing owners to limit tenants or give a preference in accordance with § 93.303 only if such limitation or preference is described in the action plan.

9. Refinancing of Existing Debt. Enter or attach the jurisdiction's refinancing guidelines below. The guidelines describe the conditions under which the jurisdiction will refinance existing rental housing project debt. The jurisdiction's refinancing guidelines must, at minimum, demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing. If the jurisdiction will not refinance existing debt, enter "N/A."

Discussion:

The Plan details how funds expected from the 2017 grant (B17-MC-25-0027) will be expended including the anticipated program income of \$20,000. These loans consist of a 1st time home buyer repayment of \$21.08 per month and a housing development loan payment of \$1,000 per year. The anticipated amount includes additional program income, if any, which is unknown as it is dependent on whether or not housing rehab and home repair loans are paid off. Over the past several years, due to the difficult economic situation, the City has seen fewer repayments. The majority of homeowners request subordinations. All unanticipated program income received during the prior program year not included in the 2016-2017 plan has been allocated in this year's document and no reimbursements, other than program income, have been made to the local account.

This plan covers program years 2015, 2016, 2017.