

City of Hickory

2016

Community Development

Block Grant Program

Annual Action Plan



Life. Well Crafted.

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines the City of Hickory as an entitlement community due to status as a principal city within the Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metropolitan Statistical Area. As an entitlement community, the City of Hickory receives an annual allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. The City is required to submit a five-year Consolidated Plan identifying community needs and funding priorities in order to receive annual funding. This year the City anticipates receiving a \$280,251 in its grant. The City also anticipates receiving approximately \$130,000 in program income from repayments of loans made with CDBG funds. The Consolidate Plan was most recently adopted in May 2015. Each subsequent year, it is required to submit an Annual Action Plan to The City of Hickory values the importance of strategic planning to ensure good stewardship of public funds. This Annual Action Plan covers program year 2016 which runs from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. Since funding has been trending downward in recent years, it is extremely important that the City identify and prioritize the most critical needs to be addressed with CDBG funds.

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 one year Annual Action Plan provides funding to support the following projects. Specific details can be found in the projects section of this plan.

1. **Owner and Rental Housing Rehabilitation (\$30,000)** - Provide funds to rehabilitate existing housing units.
2. **West Hickory Park Improvements (\$170,000)** - Provide funds to install a new picnic shelter and restroom at an existing park.
3. **Public Infrastructure Improvements (\$75,000)** - Provide funds to construct curbs, gutters, sidewalks. In addition, funds may be used for street resurfacing, install street lights, and plant street trees.
4. **Downpayment Assistance (\$20,000)** - Provide funds to assist eligible first time homebuyers to reduce required downpayment and closing costs.
5. **Microenterprise Assistance (\$8,000)** - Provide assistance to eligible microenterprises and small businesses.
6. **Habitat for Humanity (\$30,000)** - Provide support for the organization's housing rehabilitation program.
7. **City of Refuge (\$3,200)** - Provide staff support to the afterschool program.

8. **ALFA (\$8,000)** - Provide funds to support a case manager position.
9. **Hickory Soup Kitchen (\$8,000)** - Provide funds to support operating costs.
10. **Exodus Homes (\$8,000)** - Provide funds to support an employment and transportation coordinator.
11. **Safe Harbor (\$8,000)** - Provide support to the day shelter.
12. **Cooperative Christian Ministry (\$8,000)** - Provide support to a recently developed anti-poverty program.
13. **Program Administration and Planning (\$15,691)** - Provide funding to administer the CDBG program.
14. **Fair Housing Activities (\$800)** - Provide support to raise awareness of fair housing rights and affirmatively further fair housing.

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's past programs focused on similar projects and funding categories. The City is maintaining many of these programs and is also adjusting its funding priorities to match new priority needs identified by the public. Estimated costs are also associated with each goal to ensure that goals are realistic and achievable. As funding levels decrease it is important that the plan focuses on the most critical community needs.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City of Hickory undertook an extensive citizen participation and consultation process in the development of this plan. Three public hearings were held in January (2) and May 2016. These meetings were advertised in the Hickory Daily Record, as well as on the City of Hickory website. In addition, Community Development staff had numerous meetings and phone interviews with nonprofit organizations in the community. Staff also provides program updates at monthly Continuum of Care meetings, which are attended by nearly all organizations in the community that work with homeless and low income individuals and families. The comments provided during the public meetings and consultation sessions inform the goals and strategies contained in the plan. The citizen participation process will continue throughout the implementation of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and this Action Plan

5. Summary of public comments

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

The issues discussed at the public meetings and discussions with local nonprofit organizations included improvements to public facilities and parks, increased services for school aged children, and services for the homeless. Organizations that met with City staff during the consultation process also identified affordable owner occupied and rental housing and more comprehensive services to the homeless as high priority needs. The City's Business Development Committee also identified services to microenterprises as a priority need.

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

There were no comments or views not accepted.

7. Summary

Significant efforts were made to obtain public input through public meetings, meetings with nonprofit organizations, and individual conversations. The public input process was used to identify priority needs to be addressed with CDBG funds. All of the objectives and goals contained in the plan address a specific priority identified by the public. The City of Hickory will continue to obtain public input annual to ensure the plan is up to date and activities undertaken with grant funds address current community needs.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	HICKORY	Department of Planning and Development Services

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Hickory Department of Planning and Development Services manages the City's Community Development Block Grant allocation

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Comments can be submitted between 8:30AM and 5:00PM at Hickory City Hall (Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building) in the Planning and Development Services Department

Written comments can be submitted to:

David Leonetti
Community Development Manager
City of Hickory
PO Box 398
Hickory, NC 28603
(828) 323-7414
dleonetti@hickorync.gov

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

1. Introduction

During the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan Development Process, City of Hickory Staff spoke with numerous housing and human service agencies to determine the greatest needs in the community. The City has continued to consult with these organizations on an ongoing basis to ensure that their needs are addressed to the greatest extent feasible.

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

The Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Services Department is responsible for administering the CDBG program and developing the Consolidated Plan and subsequent Annual Action Plans. Community Development staff consulted with numerous public service agencies and the Hickory Public Housing Authority during development of the Consolidated Plan. Consultation took place at both public meetings and through individual meetings and phone conversations. This Annual Action Planning Process continued that effort.

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 Catawba County Housing Visions Continuum of Care meets monthly at the Catawba County United Way offices. The City's Community Development Manager serves on the committee, which includes representatives from organizations that serve the homeless in Catawba County. This group makes decisions on the allocation of Emergency Solutions Grant funding and also provides a forum for member organizations to discuss their needs. In the past, the City has funded homeless serving activities at the Safe Harbor Rescue Mission, Exodus Homes, and the Hickory Soup Kitchen using CDBG funds.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

The Catawba County Housing Visions Continuum of Care participates in the North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care, which applies for ESG funds for nonentitlement communities throughout the state. The Salvation Army Shelter of Hope and the Family Care Center have each received funding in recent years. Both of these organizations are located within Hickory. These applications are made

through the Continuum of Care, which makes recommendations on which organizations to support annually. City staff serves on this committee.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Hickory Soup Kitchen
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Development Staff has had regular phone and in person meetings with Hickory Soup Kitchen staff to determine the organization's needs and other needs and service gaps related to the City's homeless population. This consultation should lead to better coordination with homeless service providers about facility and service needs.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF CATAWBA VALLEY 1
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Development Staff met with the executive director to discuss the organization's needs and housing needs in the community in general. Staff talks with organization staff regularly to determine ways to improve partnership and coordination between the organizations. Habitat has indicated a need for additional affordable rental housing in the community. The City and Habitat are currently investigating a partnership that will increase affordable rental housing options. The City and Habitat are also partnering to provide enhanced housing rehabilitation services for owner occupied properties in the city.

3	Agency/Group/Organization	Western Piedmont Council of Governments
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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?	Community Development staff consulted with staff for the Western Piedmont Workforce Development Board to determine gaps in workforce skills and development programs within the area. Staff hopes to increase communication so that when workforce development issues arise, both organizations will be able to discuss solutions collaboratively. The WPCOG also administers HOME funds for the area's consortium. Community Development and WPCOG staff speak regularly to coordinate program activities.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Centro Latino
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	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?	Community Development Staff met with the Executive Director of Centro Latino regarding housing rehabilitation needs in the community and fair housing issues. The organization also runs an afterschool program that utilizes a nearby park. This has led to the inclusion of improvements to West Hickory Park in this Annual Action Plan.

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

The City also conducted an extensive outreach process in 2015 during its Consolidated Plan development process. It is not anticipated that the needs have changed significantly in the past 12 months.

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	Salvation Army	The Continuum of Care oversees application for ESG funds. The City of Hickory works with the Continuum of Care by providing funds to many public service agencies that work with the homeless.

Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

During the Consolidated Planning process, the City of Hickory encouraged citizen participation, especially among residents of low to moderate income communities. Comments were solicited from citizens, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies during neighborhood meetings, public hearings, and other commission meetings. Three public hearings were conducted to obtain input on the plan. Additional discussions were held individually with nonprofit organizations. These were discussed in the previous section.

The comments received at public meetings are summarized below.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Staff did not receive any specific comments regarding the newspaper ad describing the CDBG program and the upcoming neighborhood meetings. The newspaper ad described the CDBG program and let the public know about the upcoming public meetings.	No comments were received that could be traced directly to the newspaper ad.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-targeted/broad community	Two citizens were in attendance.	The director of City of Refuge afterschool program discussed the positive impact that CDBG funding has had on her program. Another gentleman discussed a chess program for at-risk boy that he had developed in the Washington, DC area and was thinking about bringing to the Hickory area.	All comments were accepted.	
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	One citizen was in attendance.	The director of the Safe Harbor Rescue Mission discussed her desire for funding to support their day shelter for homeless women.	All comments were accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Hickory intends to apply to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for CDBG funds for each of the five years covered by this plan.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	280,251	130,000	0	410,251	1,230,000	The City anticipates receiving approximately \$280,000 per year as its entitlement grant and roughly \$130,000 per year in program income from the repayment of loans made with CDBG funds and proceeds from the sale of property.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The City of Hickory continuously works to identify matching funds that will help leverage additional resources to spur redevelopment in its economically distressed neighborhoods. The City plans to supplement its housing rehabilitation efforts by continuing to apply for Urgent Repair funding from the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency. These funds are disbursed as forgivable loans to pay for urgently needed home repairs for low income homeowners with special needs.

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

The City of Hickory owns lots located within residential neighborhoods in the SE and SW sections of the City. The City will continue to investigate potential uses for these properties. It is likely that these lots may be used for the development of affordable rental and owner occupied housing for low to moderate income households.

Discussion

The anticipated resources discussed in this section will be used to address the goals outlined within the 2015-2019 strategic plan. While the amount of funding anticipated will not be enough to address all of the City's housing and community development needs, the City plans to work continuously to identify additional resources in order to stretch these dollars further.

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Preserve the City's Housing Stock	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Preservation of the City's Housing Stock	CDBG: \$60,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 1 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 8 Household Housing Unit
2	Public Infrastructure Improvements	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA	Public Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$75,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2500 Persons Assisted
3	Park Improvements	2015	2015	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA	Park Improvements	CDBG: \$175,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted
4	Downpayment Assistance	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Increased Homeownership	CDBG: \$20,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 4 Households Assisted
5	Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS	CDBG: \$8,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 160 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Homeless Services and Prevention	2015	2019	Homeless	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Homelessness Services	CDBG: \$24,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 400 Persons Assisted
7	Youth Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Youth Services	CDBG: \$3,200	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 20 Persons Assisted
8	Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Microenterprise Assistance	CDBG: \$8,000	Businesses assisted: 5 Businesses Assisted
9	Increase Fair Housing Outreach and Awareness	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Fair Housing Outreach and Education	CDBG: \$800	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 150 Persons Assisted

Table 6 - Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Preserve the City's Housing Stock
	Goal Description	The proposed funding in the Annual Action Plan seeks to increase affordable housing opportunities for at least three households. Additional households should be assisted using housing rehabilitation funds that are left over from previous years.

2	Goal Name	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Goal Description	It is anticipated that at least 2500 persons living in low to moderate income neighborhoods will benefit from improvements to public infrastructure through funding provided by this Annual Action Plan.
3	Goal Name	Park Improvements
	Goal Description	The City plans to construct improvements to the West Hickory Park during the 2016-2017 program year. These improvements will likely include restrooms and a picnic shelter.
4	Goal Name	Downpayment Assistance
	Goal Description	The City plans to continue offering downpayment assistance to income eligible first time homebuyers. The City plans to offer deferred loans that help reduce the required downpayment for homebuyers. It is estimated that five households will benefit from this assistance.
5	Goal Name	Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
	Goal Description	This annual action plan will provide funding to ALFA in order to provide support for a case manager position that will assist persons living with HIV and AIDS to ensure that they receive necessary health care and other needed services.
6	Goal Name	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Goal Description	This plan will provide funding to Exodus Homes for a Transportation and Employment Coordinator. Cooperative Christian Ministry will receive funding for their Networx anti-poverty program. The Hickory Soup Kitchen will receive funding for operating expenses.
7	Goal Name	Youth Services
	Goal Description	This plan provides funding to support the City of Refuge Afterschool Program, which provides tutoring and recreational activities to at-risk elementary school aged students.
8	Goal Name	Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities
	Goal Description	In conjunction with the City's Business Development Committee, the City is working to develop a program that will provide assistance to microenterprises.

9	Goal Name	Increase Fair Housing Outreach and Awareness
	Goal Description	Conduct fair housing outreach and education activities for citizens and housing professionals.

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

This section details the projects that will be undertaken with CDBG funding in the 2016-2017 program year.

#	Project Name
1	Owner and Rental Housing Rehabilitation
2	West Hickory Park Improvements
3	Public Infrastructure Improvements
4	Downpayment Assistance
5	Microenterprise Assistance
6	Habitat for Humanity
7	City of Refuge
8	ALFA
9	Hickory Soup Kitchen
10	Exodus Homes
11	Safe Harbor
12	Cooperative Christian Ministry
13	Program Administration and Planning
14	Fair Housing Activities

Table 8 – Project Information

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

The housing rehabilitation and program administration projects are funded at a lower level than in previous years due to the fact that the City anticipates carrying over unspent funds from a prior year.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Owner and Rental Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Preserve the City's Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Preservation of the City's Housing Stock
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	This project will involve the acquisition and rehabilitation of existing homes for rental or owner occupied housing. This project will also include the provision of loans to low income homeowners to fund necessary repairs.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that four families will benefit from this funding. Additional housing rehabilitation funds will be used from other sources as they become available.
	Location Description	These funds will be available city-wide where they will benefit low to moderate income families.
Planned Activities	These funds will be utilized to preserve the existing housing stock for both owners and renters. The City will offer housing rehabilitation loans to income eligible homeowners for needed repairs to their homes. These funds may also be used for purchase of existing housing units for rehabilitation. These housing units will either be sold to income eligible homeowners or used for rental housing. The City plans to work with nonprofit housing providers to help increase the supply of rental housing in the community.	
2	Project Name	West Hickory Park Improvements

	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Goals Supported	Park Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Park Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$170,000
	Description	This project will involve improvements to West Hickory Park. These will likely include restrooms and a picnic shelter.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project will serve the two census block groups in the immediate vicinity of the park. There are approximately 1,635 people living in these two block groups. In addition, Centro Latino operates an afterschool program at a church located two blocks from the park. They regularly use the playground and will also be served by the project.
	Location Description	The project is located at 401 17th Street SW in the West Hickory neighborhood.
	Planned Activities	This project involves improvements to West Hickory Park. These will likely involve the construction of restrooms, a picnic shelter, and the demolition of a functionally obsolete pool house from the previously demolished pool that was located on site.
3	Project Name	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Goals Supported	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,000
	Description	This project will involve installation or replacement of needed curbing, gutters, street trees, street lights, and sidewalks along the City's right-of-ways. In addition, funds may be used to re-surface deteriorated streets in low to moderate income areas.
	Target Date	11/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	All activities will be undertaken in areas where more than 50 percent of the residents are low to moderate income. It is estimated that the service area of proposed improvements will include about 2,500 persons.
	Location Description	These activities will take place within low to moderate income census tracts within the City of Hickory. Additional public infrastructure activities may take place at low income housing locations.
	Planned Activities	This project will include installing or repairing curbs, gutters, and sidewalks in low and moderate income neighborhoods. Additional services may involve street resurfacing, installing street lights, and planting street trees in income eligible areas.
4	Project Name	Downpayment Assistance
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Downpayment Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increased Homeownership
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	This project involves providing deferred loans to first time home buyers who meet program eligibility criteria.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that four income eligible households will be able to take advantage of this assistance in program year 2015.
	Location Description	These activities will take place city-wide depending on where eligible applicants purchase homes.
	Planned Activities	Assistance will be provided to eligible first time homebuyers in the form of a deferred loan to help reduce closing costs or the required downpayment for the purchase of a primary residence.
5	Project Name	Microenterprise Assistance

	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Microenterprise Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	Provide funding to eligible microenterprises to support small business development and increase entrepreneurship.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that three businesses will benefit from the proposed activities. The exact number of households that will be dependent on the actual number of additional jobs created by the existing businesses.
	Location Description	This assistance will be available city-wide provided that the recipient meets income eligibility guidelines.
	Planned Activities	The City, in conjunction with the Business Development Committee, plans to offer assistance to eligible microenterprises as a way to encourage and support small business activity in the community.
6	Project Name	Habitat for Humanity
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Preserve the City's Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Preservation of the City's Housing Stock
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	This project provides funding to Habitat for Humanity to assist their homeowners with needed repairs.
	Target Date	6/30/2017

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 6 families will benefit from these repair activities. All families will have incomes below 80 percent of the area median income.
	Location Description	Project activities will take place city-wide for income eligible clients. Habitat does plan to target activities where possible to assist neighborhoods in need of revitalization.
	Planned Activities	These funds will be used to provide a grant to Habitat for Humanity of the Catawba Valley that will be used to make necessary home repairs for income eligible homeowners.
7	Project Name	City of Refuge
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Goals Supported	Youth Services
	Needs Addressed	Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$3,200
	Description	Provide support to the City of Refuge Afterschool Program.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 20 families will benefit from the proposed activities. The families served by the program are primarily African American and low income.
	Location Description	Program activities will take place at the Brown Penn Senior Center, which is located at 735 3rd Street SW, Hickory, NC 28602
	Planned Activities	This funding will support the operation of an afterschool program. The program will provide tutoring and homework assistance three days per week during the school year.
8	Project Name	ALFA
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Goals Supported	Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS

	Needs Addressed	Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	This project will provide funding for a case manager to work with clients living with HIV and AIDS.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 160 individuals living with HIV and AIDs will benefit from the proposed activities during the project year.
	Location Description	ALFA is located in SE Hickory at 1120 Fairgrove Church Road SE Suite 28, Hickory, NC 28602 within Census Tract 110.
	Planned Activities	These funds will be used to fund a portion of the salary of a case manager for ALFA.
9	Project Name	Hickory Soup Kitchen
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	Provide funding to support the Hickory Soup Kitchen, which provides hot meals and a food pantry for homeless and extremely low income individuals
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Hickory Soup Kitchen serves approximately 160 individuals per day. These are generally homeless and extremely low income individuals who suffer from food insecurity.

	Location Description	The Hickory Soup Kitchen is located at 131 Main Avenue NE, Hickory, NC 28601. In spring 2016 they will be moving to a new location at 110 Second Street Place SE, Hickory, NC 28602. The new location is approximately 3 blocks from the current location.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be used to provide hot meals and a food pantry to individuals in need.
10	Project Name	Exodus Homes
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Goals Supported	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	This project will provide funding to support an employment and transportation coordinator at Exodus Homes.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is anticipated that approximately 35 homeless clients will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Exodus Homes has multiple housing locations, primarily within the Ridgeview Community. Their main offices are located at 122 8th Avenue Drive SW, Hickory, NC 28602
	Planned Activities	This funding will funding to Exodus Homes in order to provide employment and transportation services to program clients.
11	Project Name	Safe Harbor
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Services

	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	Provide support to a day shelter for homeless women.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is anticipated that at least 40 women will benefit from these services.
	Location Description	Safe Harbor Rescue Mission is located at 210 2nd Street SE, Hickory, NC.
	Planned Activities	It is anticipated that funds will be used to provide staff support for the day shelter program, which gives homeless women a safe place to spend the day and receive counseling and other training when the overnight shelter is closed.
12	Project Name	Cooperative Christian Ministry
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	This project will provide support to Cooperative Christian Ministry's NETworX Catawba program, which aims to provide low income families at risk of homelessness the tools to rise out of poverty.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is anticipated that 20 low income families will benefit from this program.
	Location Description	Cooperative Christian Ministries is located at 133 1st Avenue SE, Hickory, NC 28602
	Planned Activities	The NETworX Catawba program works with low income individuals and families living in poverty to help them reach financial self sufficiency. The CDBG funding will help provide staff support to the program.

13	Project Name	Program Administration and Planning
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Preserve the City's Housing Stock Public Infrastructure Improvements Downpayment Assistance Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS Park Improvements Homeless Services and Prevention Youth Services Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities Increase Fair Housing Outreach and Awareness
	Needs Addressed	Preservation of the City's Housing Stock Public Infrastructure Improvements Park Improvements Increased Homeownership Homelessness Services Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS Youth Services Microenterprise Assistance Removal of Dilapidated Structures Fair Housing Outreach and Education
	Funding	CDBG: \$33,251
	Description	This funding will be used to administer the CDBG program.
	Target Date	6/30/2017

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This funding will be used to support all program activities.
	Location Description	These activities will take place at Hickory City Hall and throughout the City of Hickory.
	Planned Activities	These funds will be used to pay a portion of the Community Development Manager's salary along with a portion of a Community Development Assistant's salary.
14	Project Name	Fair Housing Activities
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Increase Fair Housing Outreach and Awareness
	Needs Addressed	Fair Housing Outreach and Education
	Funding	CDBG: \$800
	Description	Provide funding for activities to support fair housing outreach and awareness.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	All city residents can benefit from activities designed to promote fair housing.
	Location Description	These activities will be undertaken at Hickory City Hall, which is located at 76 N. Center Street, Hickory, NC 28601.

Planned Activities	<p>These funds will be used to affirmatively further Fair Housing, increase awareness of Fair Housing laws, and continue to receive complaints and comments concerning Fair Housing practices. There are three components of Fair Housing planning. The first was the development of an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, which the City completed in 2013. Now the City is committed to addressing the issues identified in that analysis and will continue to implement its plan to affirmatively further Fair Housing opportunities. Since education and awareness of Fair Housing laws were identified as the primary impediment to fair housing choice, education and awareness efforts are at the core of the Fair Housing activities for 2016.</p>
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AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

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

The City of Hickory's CDBG funds for owner occupied housing rehabilitation will be allocated city-wide to income eligible homeowners. The majority of funds will be allocated for area benefit activities, which include areas where a majority of the households are low and moderate income.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA	70
City-Wide	30

Table 9 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Area benefit activities are required to take place in areas where a majority of the households have incomes below 80 percent of the area median income. The City targets its public infrastructure activities to low and moderate income areas. Specific projects are chosen based on community input and existing city plans.

Discussion

The City of Hickory does not have a specific target area for CDBG funds. Allocating housing rehabilitation funding city wide is one of the City's methods for affirmatively furthering fair housing. Public infrastructure improvements are generally targeted towards low and moderate income neighborhoods in order to ensure that these activities meet a HUD national objective.

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

Introduction

This sections identifies additional actions that the City will take as part of its annual action plan.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City plans to continue working with local organizations that serve the homeless population to determine ways that services to homeless individuals and families can be improved. The city plans to work with these agencies to improve transportation coordination for the homeless. Additional actions will include working with agencies to provide more extensive day shelter programs that will assist homeless individuals to find transitional housing and employment opportunities.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City plans to continue working with Habitat for Humanity to identify locations where the two organizations can partner in the development of new affordable housing units. The City plans to target existing rental units in need of significant rehabilitation as a way to stabilize existing neighborhoods and increase the supply of affordable housing.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City will use portions of available CDBG funds to remedy lead-based paint hazards through its housing rehabilitation program. Homes will be rehabilitated in accordance with HUD's Lead Safe Housing Rule. The level of rehabilitation will determine the specific lead hazard reduction activities in accordance with program requirements.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City will continue to participate with local agencies, faith-based or church groups, and nonprofit organizations that provide shelter and transitional housing opportunities that benefit homeless and transient families and individuals. Funding is provided in this annual action plan to organizations that provide health and case management services, transitional housing, afterschool programming, and food support for poverty level families. The City will continue to investigate additional partnerships to provide additional services aimed at decreasing the number of poverty-level families.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City will continue to work with local nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance to local nonprofits to ensure that they are aware of federal requirements and to increase their organizational capacity. In addition to annual monitoring, Community Development staff plans to work with agencies

to determine priority needs in the community and develop partnerships to address those needs.

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

The City plans to continue working with the Catawba County Housing Visions Continuum of Care to foster effective communication amongst agencies. City staff will continue to attend monthly Continuum of Care Meetings to provide updates on the City's Community Development activities and provide opportunities to discuss new initiatives.

Discussion

CDBG funds will not be sufficient to address all of the needs identified in this Consolidated Plan. However, it is the City's hope that through increased coordination and partnerships, it will be able to stretch these dollars as far as possible to have the greatest impact on the community possible.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

This section details program income that has been received but not yet reprogrammed. It also details the estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used to benefit low to moderate income individuals. It is anticipated that all funds will be used to benefit low to moderate income individuals.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

Discussion

All the program income that has been received to date has been reprogrammed as part of this Annual Action Plan.