

City of Hickory

2015-2019

Community Development
Block Grant Program

CONSOLIDATED PLAN



Life. Well Crafted.

Executive Summary

ES-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 funding. The City is required to submit a five-year Consolidated Plan identifying community needs and funding priorities in order to receive annual funding. The City of Hickory values the importance of strategic planning to ensure good stewardship of public funds. This Consolidated Plan covers program years 2015-2019 and will become effective July 1, 2015. Since CDBG 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. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This Consolidated Plan contains eight primary goals for the five year Consolidated Plan:

1. **Preserve the City's Housing Stock** - Provide support for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing housing units to be used for owner and rental occupancy.
2. **Public Infrastructure** - Provide support for necessary improvements to public infrastructure in low to moderate income neighborhoods.
3. **Downpayment Assistance** - Increase homeownership by providing downpayment assistance to first time homebuyers.
4. **Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV and AIDS** - Provide funding to ensure persons living with HIV and AIDS are able to access case management services and housing services.
5. **Park Improvements** - Provide support for necessary improvements to parks and neighborhood facilities in low to moderate income neighborhoods.
6. **Homelessness Services and Prevention** - Provide services to support the homelessness as well as services aimed at preventing households from becoming homeless.
7. **Youth Services** - Provide support for at risk youth to increase their chances of succeeding in academics and employment.
8. **Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities** - Provide support to microenterprises as a means to increase economic opportunities for low and moderate income individuals.
9. **Increase Fair Housing Outreach and Awareness** - Provide support to increase awareness of fair housing rights in the community and affirmatively further fair housing.
10. **Demolish Dilapidated Structures** - Provide funding to demolish dilapidated structures to reduce blight.

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

1. **Optimist Park Improvements (\$250,000)** - Provide funds to rehabilitate the existing park building into restrooms and a community room and rehabilitate an existing tennis court.
2. **Owner and Rental Housing Rehabilitation (\$20,000)** - Provide funds to rehabilitate existing housing units.
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 (\$25,000)** - Provide funds to assist eligible first time homebuyers to reduce required downpayment and closing costs.
5. **ALFA (\$15,000)** - Provide funds to support a case manager position.
6. **Hickory Soup Kitchen (\$20,000)** - Provide funds to support operating costs.
7. **Exodus Homes (\$10,000)** - Provide funds to support an employment and transportation coordinator.
8. **Program Administration and Planning (\$15,691)** - Provide funding to administer the CDBG program.
9. **Fair Housing Activities (\$800)** - Provide support to raise awareness of fair housing rights and affirmatively further fair housing.
10. **Habitat for Humanity (\$20,000)** - Provide support for the organization's housing rehabilitation program.
11. **Microenterprise Assistance (\$10,000)** - Provide assistance to eligible microenterprises and small businesses.
12. **City of Refuge (\$3,550)** - Provide staff support to the afterschool program.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The City of Hickory undertook an extensive citizen participation and consultation process in the development of this plan. Public hearings were held in January, February, and May 2015. 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. 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 this Consolidated Plan. The City of Hickory's Citizen Participation Plan is attached.

5. Summary of public comments

The comments received at the public hearings are attached to this plan as an appendix. The issues discussed at the public meetings included improvements to public facilities and parks, increased services for school aged children, and services for persons living with HIV and AIDS. 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.

The Process

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

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

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 manages its Community Development programs through the Community Development Division of the Department of Planning and Development Services.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

For more information about the City’s Consolidated Plan, please contact:

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

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

1. Introduction

Throughout the development of this consolidated plan, the City of Hickory has regularly consulted with numerous public service providers, housing providers, and other relevant organizations to ensure that their input is included in the plan.

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

The Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Services Department is responsible for administering the CDBG program and developing the Consolidated Plan. Community Development staff consulted with numerous public service agencies and the Hickory Public Housing Authority. Consultation took place at both public meetings and through individual meetings and phone conversations.

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 and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the 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. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

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?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and 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	City of Hickory Public Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Development Staff met directly with the Executive Director of the Hickory Housing Authority to discuss the organization's needs. It is anticipated that through increased coordination and communication, the City and the Housing Authority will be able to work together to increase the supply of affordable housing in the community.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	ALFA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Development staff met with ALFA staff to discuss the organization's needs. The City has regularly provided CDBG funding to the organization in the past. Regular communications the City maintain awareness about the needs of persons living with HIV and AIDS in the region.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	FAMILY CARE CENTER OF CATAWBA VALLEY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Staff spoke via telephone to organization staff about the services offered by the organization and the needs of homeless families with children in the community. It is hoped that this consultation leads to improved communication and services for homeless families with children.
5	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
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and 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.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	WESTERN PIEDMONT CNCL OF GOVT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Employment Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and 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. Community Development and WPCOG staff speak regularly to coordinate program activities.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	GREATER HICKORY COOPERATIVE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY HEALTHCARE CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Development staff met with representatives from the organization to discuss funding opportunities and organizational needs. The organization currently operates a health care center and food bank. They hope to increase anti-poverty efforts in coming years through more comprehensive program offering. City and CCM staff plan to continue working together to develop and implement anti-poverty programs.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Veterans Helping Veterans
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Development staff met with representatives from the organization, which works with the homeless veteran population. The meeting provided information regarding the needs of homeless veterans and discussed gaps in services for the homeless. The anticipated outcome of the consultation is improved communication between City staff and veterans groups and improved services for homeless veterans.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	CVCC Small Business Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	City staff met with the director of the Small Business Center to discuss the needs of small business owners and entrepreneurs in the community, especially those who with low to moderate incomes. It is anticipated that this consultation will lead to increased discussions regarding possible microenterprise funding for low to moderate income persons in the community.

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

N/A

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

Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(l))

The City of Hickory will continue to be a member of the Unifour Home Consortium headed by the City of Lenoir. The consortium administers HOME funds for the four county area. The City works to ensure that Consolidated Plans submitted by each agency are consistent.

Narrative

The listing above contains the organizations with whom Community Development Staff had an official meeting or telephone conference. Staff also gave updates on the planning process at monthly Continuum of Care meetings. Nearly all nonprofit public service providers that work with the homeless or within anti-poverty programs attend these meetings.

PR-15 Citizen 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. Complete notes from the public meetings are included as an appendix.

The City's Citizen Participation Plan is also attached to this plan as an appendix. This provides a more comprehensive description of the activities the City will undertake during plan implementation to encourage citizen participation.

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	There generally weren't any direct comments received from the ads describing the plan and upcoming public hearings. People did attend public hearings based upon seeing in advertisements in the local newspaper.	A general comment received in response to the newspaper ad was related to the need for additional services for at risk youth who are either ex offenders or already in the justice system.	All comments were accepted.	
2	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-targeted/broad community	This meeting was attended by two neighborhood residents.	A representative from the City of Refuge afterschool program requested continued support for their afterschool program for elementary school students.	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)
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	There were approximately five citizens in attendance at the meeting.	Attendees urged continued support to the local HIV and AIDS nonprofit, which provides case management and other services. A group from the Green Park Neighborhood Association requested that the City complete Phase II of park improvements at Hickory Optimist Park. Another attendee requested continued assistance with completion of improvements to the former Ridgeview Public Library, which is being renovated for use as a community center.	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 Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Three people spoke at the meeting.	A representative from the City of Refuge Afterschool Program spoke about the benefit of the funding on her program. A staff member from ALFA spoke regarding the needs of the organization. A citizen stated that the City should no longer fund Exodus Homes due to management issues.	The management issues discussed about Exodus Homes appear to be based more in hearsay than fact. The City has funded the organization for multiple years, and monitored their activities regularly. A response from Exodus Homes is also attached as part of the notes for the public hearing.	

Table 4– Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The City of Hickory utilized data from HUD's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Study (CHAS) and the American Community Survey (ACS) in the Consolidated Plan template as the basis for its analysis in completing this needs assessment. This information was also used when discussing needs with neighborhood and community groups.

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs - 91.415, 91.215 (f)

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

The City of Hickory's low to moderate income population is generally located in the well-established neighborhoods to the south of the Norfolk Southern rail line. These older neighborhoods often have older facilities that may be in need of upgrade. There are parks in these areas that have not seen significant upgrades since the 1960s. The City regularly uses funding to construct or rehabilitate park facilities in low to moderate income neighborhoods. Funds are also needed for upgrades to public facilities operated by nonprofits that currently serve the City's low income and homeless populations.

How were these needs determined?

Needs for public facilities were determined by listening to public comments at various public meetings held during plan development and during previously held public meetings. In addition, the City recently completed an extensive capital needs study that detailed a number of potential projects in low to moderate income areas. As projects move forward, they will be studied as to whether they could possibly be funded using CDBG dollars. As the city updates its capital budget annually, all potential projects are studied to determine whether or not they can possibly be funded with CDBG funds. City staff meets regularly with nonprofit public service providers to discuss facility needs and required upgrades.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

Many of the City's established residential neighborhoods require sidewalk, streetscape improvements, and street improvements. The City continuously notes gaps in the amount of funding for street resurfacing, sidewalk construction, and streetscape improvements due to stagnating property tax and other revenue growth.

How were these needs determined?

These needs were determined by listening to public comments at neighborhood meetings. In addition, Community Development Staff regularly meets with staff in the City's Public Services department to discuss needs related to pavement quality, gaps in the sidewalk network. These needs are developed by looking at pavement studies commissioned by the department, listening to citizen comments over the course of the year, and consulting the City's Sidewalk, Bikeway, Greenway, and Trails Master Plan. When needs are determined, Public Services staff meets with Community Development staff to determine whether any of the identified needs can be funded with CDBG funds.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The City has a robust nonprofit sector that provides extensive public services for the low income and homeless populations. In past years, the City has funded agencies that provide afterschool and daycare services, homeless services, health care services, and case management for persons with HIV and AIDS.

Discussions with local nonprofit service providers indicated a need for afterschool programming in the community.

In addition, providers expressed a need for increased services to the homeless, especially veterans. Stakeholders mentioned transportation as an issue, since the bus service in Hickory and the surrounding towns can be sporadic at times. Transportation issues often make it difficult for individuals and families trying to transition out of homelessness to obtain and hold jobs. Stakeholders have also described a need for more comprehensive day shelter services for homeless individuals. This would include additional counseling and services designed to get homeless individuals into transitional housing and move them towards self-sufficiency. There is also an identified need for more homelessness prevention programs that have similar goals of increasing self-sufficiency for low income individuals and families.

How were these needs determined?

The needs of public service agencies are determined through individual consultation with nonprofit service providers and through comments received at public meetings. Representatives from local public service agencies regularly voice their concerns about needs at these public meetings. In addition, Community Development Staff also attends the local Continuum of Care meetings. At these meetings, agencies attending are given the opportunity to update the group on their programs. During this time, organizations regularly discuss needs for additional services or programs.

Based on the needs analysis above, describe the State's needs in Colonias

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

The City of Hickory used housing market data contained within the consolidated plan template to inform the analysis of the City's housing market. This information was used as a starting point for discussions with local housing and public agencies in the preparation of this plan.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets - 91.410, 91.210(f)

Introduction

In the past, the City of Hickory developed around manufacturing, especially in the furniture, textile, hosiery, and fiber optic cable sectors. While manufacturing has remained an important part of the economy, the number of manufacturing jobs in the community has declined significantly since 2001. The education and health care services sector has emerged as the leading sector in the economy.

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	70	17	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	1,942	4,582	13	13	0
Construction	611	1,070	4	3	-1
Education and Health Care Services	2,367	6,476	16	19	3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	591	1,362	4	4	0
Information	273	674	2	2	0
Manufacturing	3,568	5,629	24	16	-8
Other Services	432	772	3	2	-1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	1,039	3,020	7	9	2
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	2,225	5,899	15	17	2
Transportation and Warehousing	507	943	3	3	0
Wholesale Trade	956	3,863	7	11	4
Total	14,581	34,307	--	--	--

Table 5 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS (Workers), 2011 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	20,229
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	18,437
Unemployment Rate	8.86
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	16.35
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	6.43

Table 6 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	4,024
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	524
Service	1,908
Sales and office	4,453
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,077
Production, transportation and material moving	1,349

Table 7 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	14,584	83%
30-59 Minutes	2,387	14%

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
60 or More Minutes	631	4%
Total	17,602	100%

Table 8 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	1,517	320	1,122
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	3,694	299	1,250
Some college or Associate's degree	4,501	402	1,274
Bachelor's degree or higher	5,192	310	806

Table 9 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	108	246	316	420	826
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	488	632	536	809	804
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	1,532	1,494	1,384	2,365	1,506
Some college, no degree	1,601	1,004	1,090	2,215	1,174
Associate's degree	52	462	635	771	432
Bachelor's degree	442	1,008	1,411	2,077	970
Graduate or professional degree	62	357	478	994	529

Table 10 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	19,367
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	24,822
Some college or Associate's degree	28,438
Bachelor's degree	40,718
Graduate or professional degree	58,610

Table 11 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

The major employment sectors in the community are education and healthcare services with 19 percent of the jobs, retail trade with 17 percent of the jobs, and manufacturing with 16 percent of the jobs. As a regional employment and commercial center, Hickory continues to have significantly more jobs located within the city limits than workers to fill them. A large number of workers commute into the city from the outlying towns and counties for employment. Interestingly 24 percent of the workers living in the city are employed in the manufacturing sector. This is likely an indication that a higher percentage of manufacturing jobs are filled with local residents than in other sectors.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

In development of this plan, Community Development staff consulted with the Director of Workforce Development for the Western Piedmont Council of Governments, who oversees workforce development activities for the four county area. She noted that soft skills such as problem solving, work ethic, verbal communication, and dependability were high priority needs discussed at a recent job summit that included many employers within the community. Additionally, gaps in skills required for newer advanced manufacturing jobs have been identified as need recently. This has led to the development of a Manufacturing Academy at Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC), which will assist students in developing the skills necessary for modern manufacturing employment.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

In November 2014, voters in Hickory approved a \$40 million bond initiative. The bond includes \$15 million for economic development, which includes funding to construct a business park geared towards advanced manufacturing. The initiative also includes funding for extensive public infrastructure improvements such as bikeways, streetscapes, and greenways. At this time, it is anticipated that the workforce development needs of this park will be well served by the manufacturing academy.

How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?

The City continues to have a large segment of the population that lacks a high school diploma. This leaves many potential job seekers unqualified for available jobs in manufacturing that require a high school diploma and more advanced skills. It is the hope that new education initiatives such as the Champions of Education will help lower the dropout rate. The Workforce Development Board and CVCC will continue to work to decrease skill gaps present in the community's workforce.

Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

The two most successful job training programs are the On-the-Job-Training Program (OJT) and the Incumbent Worker Grant Program.

OJT assists eligible individuals in obtaining employment. The candidates are screened and assessed for basic skills, aptitudes, and interests before referral to potential OJT employers. Employers are reimbursed a percentage of the individual's starting wage during the training period.

Participation in the OJT program is an opportunity for employers to gain qualified, enthusiastic workers. Workforce Development Staff will refer eligible individuals to an employer for the interview. The employer makes the final decision on the person selected for hire. During the employee's OJT contract, the Workforce Development staff provides follow-up services to ensure the employer's needs are met and that training is going as planned.

Examples of Cost Savings

\$10.00 per hour x 720 hours of training needed:

$\$10.00 \times 50\% \text{ training wage reimbursement} = \$5.00 \times 720 = \$3,600$ reimbursed to the employer.

The Incumbent Workforce Development Program is funded under the federal Workforce Investment Act. This program broadens the scope of the state's existing incumbent worker initiative. An Incumbent Worker is an employed individual who is served with statewide Workforce Investment Act funds. The program provides funding to established North Carolina businesses to provide educational and skills training for current workers. It is designed to benefit businesses by enhancing the skills of employees, thereby increasing employee productivity and the potential for company growth. Training in portable skills results in a more highly skilled and versatile workforce that contributes to North Carolina's ability to attract new business and creates an environment conducive to expansion.

These two programs support this Consolidated Plan by offering additional support and incentives to employers looking to train employees on the job. Many of the City's homeless service agencies work with the Workforce Development Board to find employment for their clients. Training programs such as these help support those efforts.

Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

Yes

If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

The City of Hickory, in conjunction with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments, works to implement a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. This initiative is known as the Future Forward Economic Alliance. Future Forward's goal is to renew the region's economy and make the region more competitive in a global marketplace by 1) improving the education and skills of the workforce, 2) encouraging a renewed sense of entrepreneurship and innovation, 3) promoting a more diverse economy, 4) developing and protecting urban and outdoor amenities, and 5) encouraging teamwork among local governments. This Consolidated Plan will support a number of these goals. The City plans to begin a microenterprise program to support entrepreneurship and small businesses. In addition, funding will be used to protect and improve urban amenities including parks and other facilities.

The City's bond initiative approved in 2014 will involve the construction of a new business park focused on advanced manufacturing. The second part of the bond initiative involved streetscape improvements, greenways, and other infrastructure improvements. While this portion of the bond funds will not be directly related to economic development, the idea behind the initiative is to improve quality of life and make the city more of a destination to potential employers. Indirectly, this should lead to increased economic growth, especially since it will be paired with the direct investment in business park development. The total amount of both bond issues is \$40 million.

Discussion

In the past 15 years, Hickory has begun a transition from a manufacturing based economy to more of a service based economy. However, manufacturing remains a large segment of the economy. The area Workforce Investment Board and community college have shown a strong desire to work with local employers to determine skill gaps and ensure that job seekers are well matched with job opportunities.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

Of the four housing problems discussed in the housing needs assessment, the most common appears to be housing affordability. According to the data, there are relatively low numbers of households that lack complete plumbing or kitchen facilities or suffer from overcrowding. According to data found on CPD maps, housing affordability issues appear to be spread relatively evenly throughout the community, with slightly higher percentages in low to moderate income census tracts.

Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

The City's African American population is largely concentrated within Census Tract 109. According to the 2010 Census, roughly 14.3 percent of the City's Population is African American. Census Tract 109 is approximately 58 percent African American. This is the only Census Tract where more than 23 percent of the population is African American. This tract contains the Ridgeview, Green Park, and Kenworth Neighborhoods.

The City's Hispanic population has higher concentrations of Hispanic residents in Census Tract 104.2 in the Northeast section of the city to the east of NC 127 and Census Tract 110 in the southeastern part of the city to the east of the Kenworth Neighborhood. In the City overall, the population is approximately 11 percent Hispanic. Those two tracts have populations that are at least 22 percent Hispanic.

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

All three of the Census Tracts described have populations that are more than 50 percent low to moderate income residents. While the real estate market is weaker in these sections of the city than other areas, the market is still functioning. For example, a Walmart Neighborhood Market was recently constructed in close proximity to the Ridgeview and Green Park Communities. The City anticipates that this development will spur additional commercial development on the south side of these neighborhoods and help stabilize the residential neighborhoods to the north.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

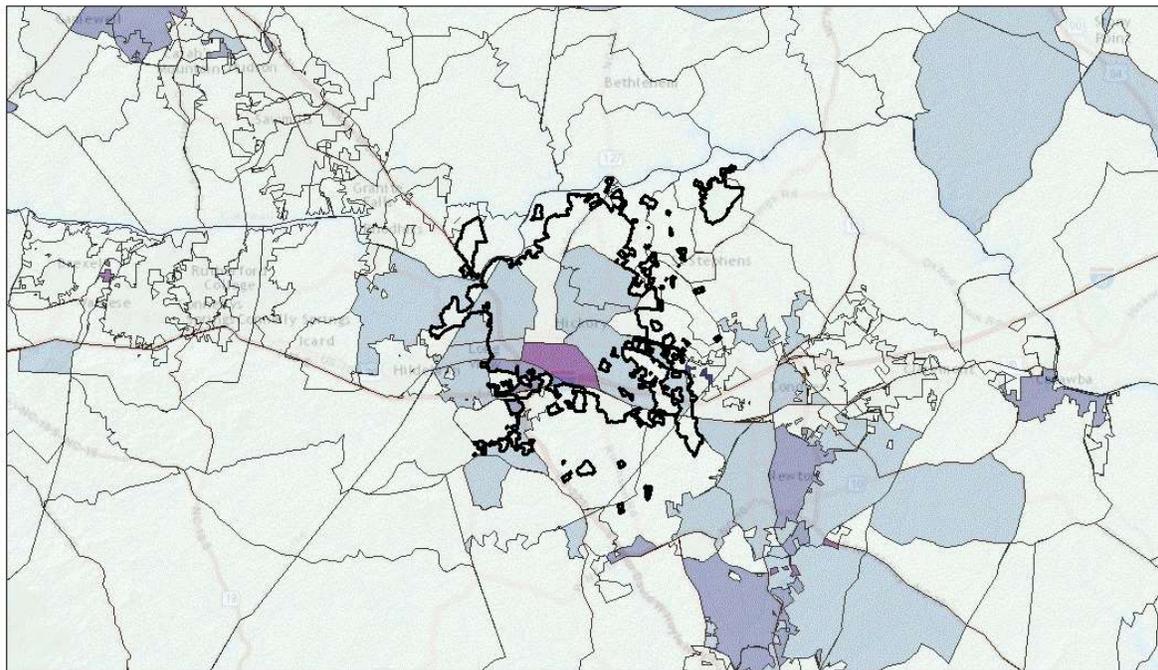
The neighborhoods in Census Tract 109 are in relatively close proximity to the downtown area, where a large number of nonprofit organizations and services are located, including the Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry Health Clinic. Habitat for Humanity of the Catawba Valley's offices are located in this area. They have also constructed significant amounts of housing in this area, which has helped stabilize neighborhoods and increase homeownership. Also, while the region's transit system is relatively limited, there are a number of bus stops located within the neighborhood. Census Tracts 104.2

and 110 are also in the vicinity of Lenoir Rhyne University, which has been expanding significantly over the past decade. LRU is planning an expansion south of the rail line that should help spur redevelopment along Lenoir Rhyne Boulevard.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

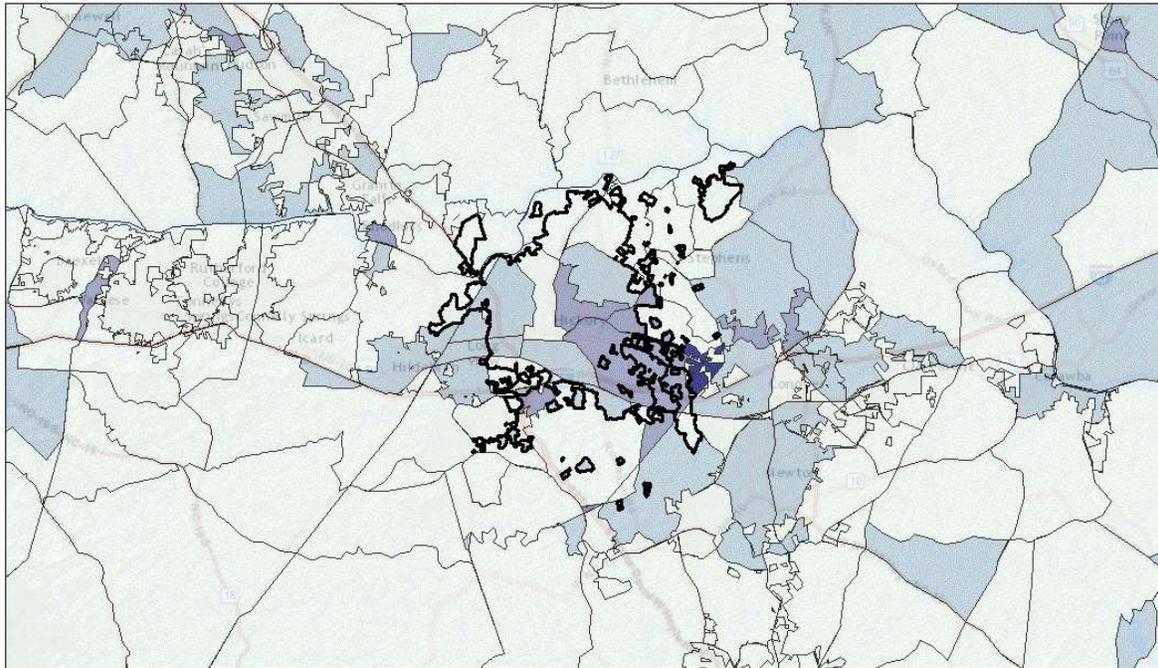
The City's low and moderate income areas, especially Census Tract 109, have seen significant demolition of dilapidated housing. This has left the opportunity for significant infill development. These areas also contain established neighborhoods that are more walkable than many newer subdivisions. Revitalization of the downtown area, the railroad corridor, and the US 70 SW corridor could lead to improvements in the adjacent residential neighborhoods. Some of this revitalization is in progress with significant mill redevelopment along the rail corridor and the construction of the Walmart Neighborhood Market on the site of a former hotel. The City of Hickory also owns a number of vacant lots in these areas that could be used for new infill development.

City of Hickory - Concentration of African American Population

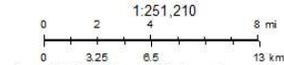


City of Hickory - Concentration of African American Population

City of Hickory - Concentration of Hispanic Population



April 23, 2015



Source: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri, Japan, METI, Esri, China, Hong Kong, Esri, Thailand, TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

City of Hickory - Concentration of Hispanic Population

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

This section contains the Strategic plan for housing and community development that will guide the City of Hickory's investment of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding during the 2015-2019 planning period. The City of Hickory's priority needs were identified through an extensive public input and consultation process. Goals and deliverables were developed directly from the priority needs identified through the public input and consultation process. All needs and goals were identified through the context of eligible uses of HUD funding. The City will use its available CDBG resources to fund activities that will help achieve the goals identified in the plan and address the priority needs identified in the plan.

SP-10 Geographic Priorities - 91.415, 91.215(a)(1)

Geographic Area

Table 12 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	Area Name:	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	This target area contains the census tracts and block groups where a majority of the residents are in households earning less than 80 percent of the area median income.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	Many of these areas contain housing and commercial buildings that are in need of redevelopment. Some low and moderate income areas have seen significant investment recently, but others have not seen significant development in decades.
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	Low and moderate area benefit funds for public facilities and infrastructure must be spent in these neighborhoods.
	Identify the needs in this target area.	These neighborhoods have extensive needs for park improvements and public infrastructure improvements. In addition, many of these neighborhoods have an older housing stock, which has significant rehabilitation needs.
What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	Many of these areas are located on strategic transportation corridors. Improvements to these corridors can help spur redevelopment in surrounding areas.	
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	Real estate values and rents are generally lower in these areas, which can make redevelopment difficult.	

2	Area Name:	City-Wide
	Area Type:	Eligibility Area
	Other Target Area Description:	Eligibility Area
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	The boundaries for this area are the entire jurisdiction.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	As a means of deconcentrating poverty, housing rehabilitation funds and downpayment assistance funds are available city-wide. In addition, numerous other public service agencies work with clients throughout the city.
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	There are needs city-wide for housing rehabilitation and downpayment assistance.
	Identify the needs in this target area.	There are needs city-wide for housing rehabilitation and downpayment assistance.
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	The Hickory by Choice 2030 Comprehensive Plan discusses general growth priorities for the jurisdiction.
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	The overall housing and employment markets slowed significantly during the most recent recession.	

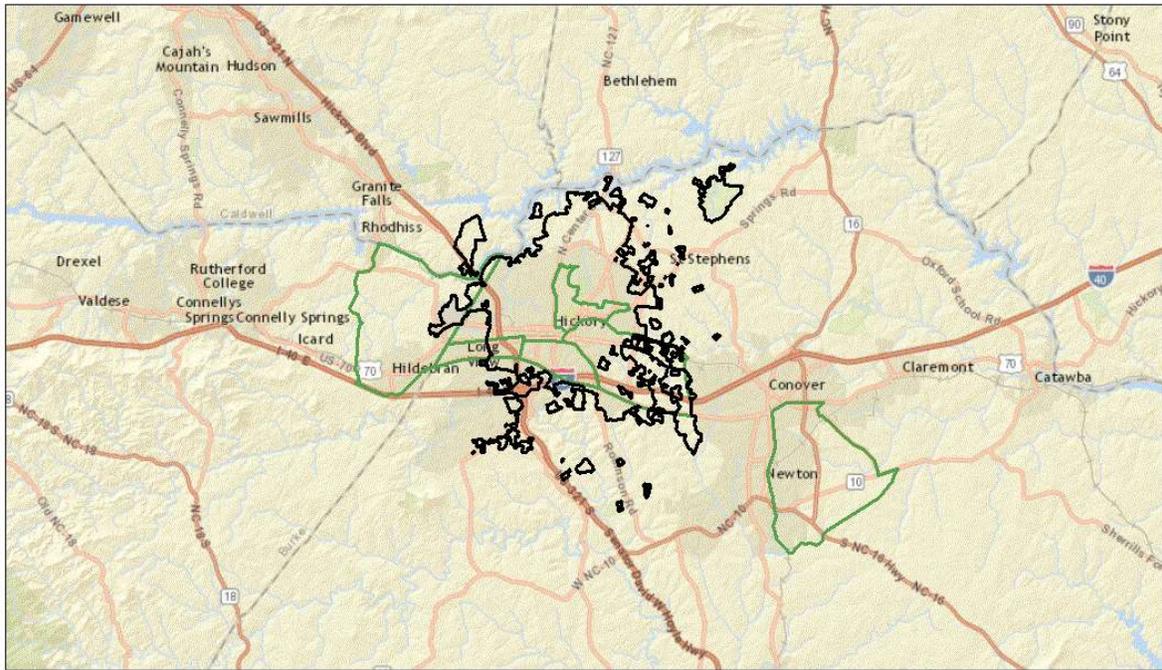
General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the state

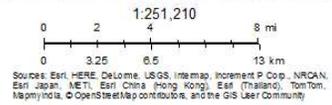
The city plans to invest a majority of CDBG funds city-wide due for most of its affordable housing programs. There are low to moderate income residents in need of housing rehabilitation and downpayment assistance in all census tracts in the city. The city will plan to invest in affordable housing city-wide as a means to affirmatively further fair housing. Investing city-wide should help reduce poverty concentration. CDBG infrastructure and facility improvements will be targeted towards block groups and census tracts containing at least 51 percent low to moderate income residents. Census Tracts 107, 109, 110, and 104.2 all have significant low to moderate income populations. These tracts include portions of

the West Hickory, Green Park, Ridgeview, Kenworth, and Highland neighborhoods in addition to other less formally organized neighborhoods and residential areas.

City of Hickory - Low and Moderate Income Census Tracts



April 23, 2015
Override 1
Low Mod Tract



City of Hickory - Low and Moderate Income Census Tracts

SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.415, 91.215(a)(2)

Priority Needs

Table 13 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Preservation of the City's Housing Stock
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Frail Elderly Persons with Physical Disabilities
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA Eligibility Area
	Associated Goals	Preserve the City's Housing Stock
	Description	Preserve existing housing through rehabilitation and repair efforts, as well as code enforcement efforts.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Nearly half of the city's housing stock was built before 1980. Therefore many of these older homes are nearing the time period where they will require upgrades. In addition, low to moderate income homeowners, especially elderly households, do not have the disposable income necessary to make required repairs when larger building systems are in need of replacement. The needs assessment revealed that many low income persons had very high cost burdens. In addition, anecdotal information from housing providers that target low to moderate income families indicated a need for affordable and safe rental housing for their clients. Due to age and condition, much of the city's rental housing is in need of significant upgrades.
2	Priority Need Name	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Associated Goals	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Description	There is a need for improvements to public infrastructure in low to moderate income neighborhoods. This may include sidewalks, curb and gutter, street resurfacing, and streetscape improvements necessary to improve the living environment in low to moderate income neighborhoods.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Many of the city's low to moderate income residents reside in well-established older residential neighborhoods where the sidewalks and streets are often in need of replacement and upgrade.
3	Priority Need Name	Park Improvements
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Associated Goals	Park Improvements
	Description	Complete park improvements in low and moderate income neighborhoods.

	Basis for Relative Priority	The need for park improvements within low to moderate income neighborhoods has been discussed at multiple public meetings and neighborhood association meetings. Conversations with Parks and Recreation Department staff indicated needs for significant upgrades at many of the City's older parks and recreation centers.
4	Priority Need Name	Increased Homeownership
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA Eligibility Area
	Associated Goals	Downpayment Assistance
	Description	Increase homeownership through homebuyer assistance programs and construction or rehabilitation of affordable housing units.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Increased homeownership is a goal of the City's Hickory by Choice 2030 Comprehensive Plan, which urges taking steps to increase the homeownership rate within the City of Hickory.
5	Priority Need Name	Homelessness Services
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Families with Children Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Unaccompanied Youth
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA Eligibility Area

	Associated Goals	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Description	There is a significant need in the community to provide additional services targeted towards homeless individuals. One high priority issue is the need for a more comprehensive day shelter program aimed at moving homeless individuals towards self-sufficiency. Additional identified needs for the homeless population include transportation services, especially to individuals in transitional housing. There is also a continued need to provide everyday services such as food assistance to the homeless and extremely low income.
	Basis for Relative Priority	The need for increased services to the homeless was identified by numerous groups that regularly work with the homeless and the data identified in the point in time count.
6	Priority Need Name	Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Persons with HIV/AIDS Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA Eligibility Area
	Associated Goals	Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
	Description	Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS.
	Basis for Relative Priority	According to information received from ALFA, the area's HIV and AIDS nonprofit organization, there has been a significant increase in new infections in the Catawba Valley area. Currently, North Carolina is 8th in the nation in persons living with HIV and AIDs. And the southeast has seen significant increases in new infections. In past years, the city has funded a portion of a Case Manager's salary at ALFA. Case managers provide counseling services, coordinate medical care, assist with transportation, and other related assistance to ensure that persons living with HIV/AIDS stay in treatment.
7	Priority Need Name	Youth Services

	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Families with Children Public Housing Residents
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA Eligibility Area
	Associated Goals	Youth Services
	Description	Stakeholders and service providers have identified a need for assistance to efforts designed at improving outcomes for at-risk youth, including both elementary school students and teens. In the past, the City has used CDBG funds to fund the City of Refuge afterschool program, which provides afterschool tutoring and learning activities to approximately 22 students.
	Basis for Relative Priority	This need was discussed at neighborhood meetings by service providers.
8	Priority Need Name	Microenterprise Assistance
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA Eligibility Area
	Associated Goals	Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities
	Description	Grants or loans for low and moderate income individuals looking to start small businesses.
	Basis for Relative Priority	This need was discussed in consultation with the Catawba Valley Community College Small Business Center and the City of Hickory Business Development Committee.

9	Priority Need Name	Removal of Dilapidated Structures
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA
	Associated Goals	Demolish Dilapidated Structures
	Description	Removal of vacant, dilapidated, and dangerous structures through demolition.
	Basis for Relative Priority	The City's Code Enforcement Division has noted that there are many structures whose condition has deteriorated to the point that rehabilitation is no longer feasible.
10	Priority Need Name	Fair Housing Outreach and Education
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families
	Geographic Areas Affected	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA Eligibility Area
	Associated Goals	Increase Fair Housing Outreach and Awareness

	Description	There is a need to continue to affirmatively further fair housing in the community. While the number of fair housing complaints in the community are low, it is still important that all citizens are aware of their fair housing rights.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Affirmatively furthering fair housing is required of all recipients of community development funding. While the number of complaints received in the City remains low, the City plans to continue to expanding on its efforts to raise awareness about fair housing rights. This will help ensure that people in the community are aware of their rights. In addition, the city plans to continue working on projects that aim to deconcentrate poverty and reduce racial segregation in the community.

Narrative (Optional)

This section details the priority needs that arose from the consultation and citizen participation processes.

SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.420(b), 91.215(a)(4), 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	300,041	165,000	0	465,041	1,800,000	The City anticipates receiving approximately \$300,000 per year as its entitlement grant and roughly \$150,000 per year in program income from the repayment of loans made with CDBG funds and proceeds from the sale of property.

Table 14 - Anticipated Resources

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 state 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 this 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.

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure - 91.415, 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
HICKORY	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities	Jurisdiction
ALFA	Non-profit organizations	public services	Region
City of Refuge	Non-profit organizations	public services	Jurisdiction
Hickory Soup Kitchen	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness public services	Jurisdiction
Exodus Homes	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness public services	Jurisdiction

Table 15 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

Activities in this Consolidated Plan will be carried out primarily by the City of Hickory. Local nonprofit organizations will be identified through an annual request for proposals to conduct activities that meet goals identified in the plan. The organizations listed above have been identified during the current program year's process. The nonprofit organizations carrying out public services may change over the course of the plan as new organizations are identified during annual planning processes. All nonprofit subrecipients operate under a subrecipient agreement and are monitored annually by Community Development staff.

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy		X	X
Legal Assistance			
Mortgage Assistance			
Rental Assistance	X		X
Utilities Assistance	X		X
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X		
Mobile Clinics			
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X		
Child Care	X		
Education	X		
Employment and Employment Training	X		
Healthcare	X		
HIV/AIDS	X		X
Life Skills	X		
Mental Health Counseling	X		
Transportation	X		
Other			

Table 16 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)

Within the City of Hickory, the two largest emergency shelter programs are located at the Salvation Army and the Family Care Center. These programs have staff members that work with shelter residents to connect them to services within the community. In addition, the Family Guidance Center operates a shelter for abused women and their children. They work with their clients to ensure access to services and transitional housing. The Safe Harbor Rescue Mission Day Shelter and Grace House offer day shelter programs for homeless within the community.

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above

Many organizations listed transportation as a major stumbling block for many homeless and special needs residents. Since many of the available services are spread out over the city and county, it can be difficult for homeless and special needs individuals to access services that may be available.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs

Community Development Staff and additional City staff plan to continue attending Catawba County Continuum of Care Meetings. This enables the City to keep aware of gaps and issues confronting the organizations that serve the area's homeless and special needs populations. Staff will continue to work with organizations to determine gaps in services. Identified gaps in service will be used to help prioritize funding decisions during the annual action plan process.

SP-45 Goals - 91.415, 91.215(a)(4)

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: \$350,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 20 Household Housing Unit
2	Public Infrastructure Improvements	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA	Public Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$350,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5500 Persons Assisted
3	Downpayment Assistance	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Increased Homeownership	CDBG: \$100,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 25 Households Assisted
4	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: \$60,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 750 Persons Assisted
5	Park Improvements	2015	2015	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA	Park Improvements	CDBG: \$875,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 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: \$125,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1500 Persons Assisted
7	Youth Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Youth Services	CDBG: \$50,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 150 Persons Assisted
8	Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Microenterprise Assistance	CDBG: \$50,000	Businesses assisted: 15 Businesses Assisted
9	Increase Fair Housing Outreach and Awareness	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Fair Housing Outreach and Education	CDBG: \$5,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Persons Assisted
10	Demolish Dilapidated Structures	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA	Removal of Dilapidated Structures	CDBG: \$30,000	Buildings Demolished: 4 Buildings

Table 17 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Preserve the City's Housing Stock
	Goal Description	The City aims to help preserve the City's housing stock by acquiring and rehabilitating housing units. The units rehabilitated may be owner occupied units or vacant units that are purchased for resale to low and moderate income homeowners or rental housing purchased for rehabilitation by nonprofit affordable housing providers. The City plans to continue offering low interest loans to low and moderate income homeowners. The City may also purchase homes as funds are available in order to rehabilitate these homes for sale as affordable housing.
2	Goal Name	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Goal Description	Construct or rehabilitate needed infrastructure in low to moderate income neighborhoods. Improvements will include street resurfacing, curb, gutter, and sidewalk installation as well as streetscape improvements.
3	Goal Name	Downpayment Assistance
	Goal Description	Provide downpayment assistance to income eligible households.
4	Goal Name	Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
	Goal Description	Provide funding to ALFA to support a case manager that will provide services to persons living with HIV and AIDs.
5	Goal Name	Park Improvements
	Goal Description	Construct needed improvements in city parks located within income eligible areas.
6	Goal Name	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Goal Description	Provide funding for services that aim to serve the homeless population and also aim to prevent homelessness.
7	Goal Name	Youth Services
	Goal Description	Provide services to at risk youth of all ages to ensure that they receive adequate tools to succeed in their life's pursuits.

8	Goal Name	Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities
	Goal Description	Increase entrepreneurship opportunities by providing assistance to microenterprises within the community.
9	Goal Name	Increase Fair Housing Outreach and Awareness
	Goal Description	Provide fair housing information and education to citizens and housing professionals in the City.
10	Goal Name	Demolish Dilapidated Structures
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to demolish dilapidated properties where necessary.

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)

The City anticipates providing affordable housing through owner and rental rehabilitation and downpayment assistance programs. It is estimated that there will be funding to assist 85 households during this five year consolidated plan.

SP-65 Lead-based Paint Hazards - 91.415, 91.215(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards

The City will continue to reduce the number of units containing lead-based paint hazards, primarily through its housing rehabilitation programs. To a lesser extent this will also be accomplished when unsafe dilapidated structures containing lead based paint are demolished. The City requires all homes rehabilitated through its housing rehabilitation program to be lead safe upon completion of rehabilitation activities. The City utilizes a licensed risk assessor to provide a lead hazard risk assessment on all projects requiring an assessment. The city works to educate contractors and homeowners about lead based paint hazards through its owner occupied housing rehabilitation program.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

The City requires all houses to be lead-safe upon completion of rehabilitation activities. The City also follows EPA Renovation Repair and Painting rules, and works to ensure all contractors are following those requirements. Each project that includes a lead risk assessment includes a final clearance inspection prior to approval of the final payment to the contractor.

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy - 91.415, 91.215(j)

Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

The City of Hickory's anti-poverty strategy focuses on education, meaningful employment opportunities, and continued coordination with the local Continuum of Care. These goals are supported through CDBG funds and numerous other funding sources within the community. These funding sources include the Catawba County United Way, which provides funding for anti-poverty and educational programs in the community. Additional measures include consultation with the Catawba County Continuum of Care since nearly all of these organizations seek to reduce poverty and prevent homelessness. In addition, the City will continue to support the efforts of area public and private educational institutions that provide essential skills for productive lives. The City will continue to encourage quality economic development that provides meaningful employment opportunities for its residents.

How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan

The goals listed above are coordinated through consultation with Continuum of Care agencies to identify and eliminate gaps in services. The City will continue to refer applicants for housing programs to relevant programs within the community as applicable.

SP-80 Monitoring - 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures that the jurisdiction will use to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and will use to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

The City of Hickory will continue to take every measure necessary to ensure its long-term compliance with all applicable program requirements. For all city initiated projects, Community Development staff will conduct file reviews to ensure compliance with all applicable requirements including environmental review, labor standards, income verification, and all other applicable requirements. The City will continue to monitor all subrecipients of CDBG funds annually for compliance with program requirements and objectives. Staff will work with all subrecipients to ensure they are aware of and in compliance with all program requirements.

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	300,041	165,000	0	465,041	1,800,000	The City anticipates receiving approximately \$300,000 per year as its entitlement grant and roughly \$150,000 per year in program income from the repayment of loans made with CDBG funds and proceeds from the sale of property.

Table 18 - 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 this 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: \$20,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 1 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 1 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	Downpayment Assistance	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide	Increased Homeownership	CDBG: \$25,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 5 Households Assisted
4	Park Improvements	2015	2015	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA	Park Improvements	CDBG: \$250,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2500 Persons 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: \$15,000	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: \$30,000	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: \$3,550	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: \$10,000	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 19 – 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 two 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	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.
4	Goal Name	Park Improvements
	Goal Description	This year's Annual Action Plan provides funding for Phase II of improvements to Hickory Optimist Park. The first phase involved drainage improvements, construction of a walking trail, and the addition of an outdoor gym. Phase II will involve rehabilitation of an existing building into a community room, conversion of a tennis court into pickle ball courts, and the purchase of addition picnic tables and grills.
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 and to the Hickory Soup Kitchen 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.

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

This section details the projects that will be undertaken with CDBG funding in the 2015-2016 program year.

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

Table 20 – 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: \$20,000
	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	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that two families will benefit from this funding. Additional housing rehabilitation funds will carry over from previous years. These funds will assist additional households.
	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	Optimist Park Improvements
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA

	Goals Supported	Park Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Park Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,000
	Description	This project will involve the rehabilitation of an existing building along with the conversion of an existing tennis court into pickleball courts.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project is located within the Green Park Neighborhood, which is within a low to moderate income area. This project will increase the availability and usefulness of the park for residents of all age groups.
	Location Description	The park is located at 751 2nd Avenue SW in a low to moderate income area within in the Green Park Neighborhood, which is contained within census tract 109.
	Planned Activities	This project represents phase II of planned improvements to Hickory Optimist Park. The first phase involved drainage improvements, a new entrance, a walking trail, and an outdoor gym. This phase will include rehabilitation of an existing storage building into a community room with new restrooms, and the conversion of an existing tennis court into a pickleball court.
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	6/30/2016

	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: \$25,000
	Description	This project involves providing deferred loans to first time home buyers who meet program eligibility criteria.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that five 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	ALFA

	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Provide Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
	Needs Addressed	Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	This project will provide funding for a case manager to work with clients living with HIV and AIDS.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	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.
6	Project Name	Hickory Soup Kitchen
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	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	6/30/2016

	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.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be used to provide hot meals and a food pantry to individuals in need.
7	Project Name	Exodus Homes
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Homeless Services and Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	This project will provide funding to support an employment and transportation coordinator at Exodus Homes.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is anticipated that approximately 35 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.
8	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: \$20,000
	Description	This project provides funding to Habitat for Humanity to assist their homeowners with needed repairs.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 4 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.
	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.
9	Project Name	City of Refuge
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Youth Services
	Needs Addressed	Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$3,550
	Description	Provide support to the City of Refuge Afterschool Program
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	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.
10	Project Name	Microenterprise Assistance
	Target Area	CDBG ELIGIBLE AREA City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Increase Entrepreneurship Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Microenterprise Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Provide funding to eligible microenterprises to support small business development and increase entrepreneurship.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	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.
11	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 and raise awareness about fair housing.

	Target Date	6/30/2016
	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	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 2015 as identified in the Fair Housing Plan activities described in Appendix 2.
12	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: \$15,691
Description	These funds will be used for administration and planning activities necessary to carry out the CDBG program.
Target Date	6/30/2016
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	The program is administered primarily at Hickory City Hall, 76 N. Center Street, Hickory, NC 28601.
Planned Activities	These funds will be used to conduct planning and administration activities necessary to implement CDBG program activities.

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 21 - 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.

Attachments

Citizen Participation Comments

CDBG Public Hearing Ridgeview Library January 21, 2015

Dave introduced himself and gave a brief summary of the programs and examples of what activities are eligible for funding. He also stated that 15% of the grant can be used for non-profits (public service activities).

- Angela Heard-City of Refuge-Provide part-time after school tutoring. They currently have 22 children in the program. The children have a lot of academic need. She is requesting funds to help with staffing. The funds will be used to fund a part-time after school tutor. They currently are located at the Brown Penn Center. Angela also stated that she is picking the kids up at school and transporting them to the center for assistance. They communicate with the schools and are able to measure the progress for each student. The teachers are seeing the kids improve each year.

**CDBG Public Hearing
City Hall
February 4, 2015**

Dave introduced himself and gave a brief summary of the programs and examples of what activities are eligible for funding. He also stated that 15% of the grant can be used for non-profits (public service activities).

- Paula Atwood-Green Park Neighborhood-Paula started by reading a letter (See Attached) from the Green Park Neighborhood President Ed Farthing. She is very excited about the renovations to Optimist Park. They have a very active neighborhood association of about 300+. This is an older neighborhood. There are families with children moving into homes that were once for sale. They are asking for help with a Community Facility with bathroom and Heating/Air Conditioning.
- Annie Earle-Aids Leadership Foothills Alliance (ALFA)-ALFA has served this area for 28 years. They are the only aids agency in this region. Last year they educated 10, 000 and tested 2,000. They provide case managers, section 8 housing, transportation and an emergency food pantry. North Carolina is ranked 8th. Catawba County has increased in the past year. Housing is a strong need for their patients. Those who have housing reduce their risk behaviors. They are in need of additional case managers. They are requesting funding of \$15,000 for a part-time case worker to be hired on full-time.
- Mike Watkins-Interfaith Housing Group- They are made up of 2 area church Pastors and 5 additional members in the community. They are requesting funds to help with interior renovation to the old Ridgeview Library. The goal is to have the renovations completed by the end of 2015. The library will be a museum and meeting space.

Dave Leonetti

From: Susan Smith Walker <revsusanwalker@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2015 11:28 AM
To: Brad Lail; Councilman Bruce Meisner; Councilman Hank Guess; Danny Seaver; Councilman David Zagaroli; Fred Hollar; Heidi Hedrick; Mick Berry; Mayor Rudy Wright; Yaidee Fox; Councilwoman Jill Patton; Warren Wood; Dave Leonetti; Tom Adkins
Subject: Clarification of Comments Made at City Council Last Night

Good morning

I understand some comments were made about Exodus Homes last night during the City Council meeting. Here is our response:

1. I was with Dave Leonetti yesterday for our annual monitoring visit. I shared all the great things we are doing to meet needs in our community and be a stronger organization programatically and fiscally. I gave him a copy of our 2014 audit (done in record time). It was a positive report with no ongoing concerns in the management letter. I believe Dave was very pleased with the improvement of our financial situation and our ongoing commitment to excellence.
2. We have been a United Way agency since 2001 and our funding has been continuous. We have met all of the requirements to be a partner of the United Way and no problems exist there. Our funding goes up and down like all of the other partner agencies depending on the success of the local campaign.
3. Years ago we provided workers for a car wash on 127. The car wash had a tip box, and the car wash folks took the tips out of the box and distributed them into individual envelopes to the workers on a weekly basis. The tips were divided among those who washed the cars and also a few people on the inside who ran the car wash. Our workers did not think it was fair that people on the inside were getting a portion of the tips. This was not our decision, and ultimately we ended the relationship because there were too many problems like that. We had nothing to do with the distribution of tips.

Thanks for all you do. Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." Dr. Martin Luther King

Rev. Susan Smith Walker
Assistant Executive Director
Exodus Homes
P.O. Box 3311
Hickory, NC 28603
828-962-8196 Cell
828-324-7983 FAX
revsusanwalker@gmail.com
www.exodushomes.org

Grantee Unique Appendices

Appendix 1 – Citizen Participation Plan



Life. Well Crafted.

Citizen Participation Plan

City of Hickory, North Carolina.

Participation

The City of Hickory provides for and encourages citizen participation in the development and implementation of the Consolidated Plan and any subsequent amendments, Action Plans and performance reports. Particular emphasis is placed on participation by persons of low and moderate income who are residents of low and moderate income neighborhoods and/or slum and blighted areas, and residents of public housing.

Access to Information

The City of Hickory provides citizens with reasonable and timely access to local information and records related to the City's proposed and actual use of funds. This is done through public meetings of the City, which are advertised in a local newspaper of general circulation. Meetings are held within the City limits in or near areas identified as slum and blighted and areas of predominantly low and moderate income persons. All meetings of the City are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Anti-displacement

In order to comply with the requirements of Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the City of Hickory intends to minimize any displacement resulting from any HUD activities. However, should any displacement occur as a result of a HUD activity, the City intends to follow the regulations for displacement and relocation as described in 24 CFR 570.606. Should any real property acquisition result because of a HUD assisted activity, the guidelines of 49 CFR part 24 subpart b will be followed.

Publishing the Plan

A summary of the plan was published in the Hickory Daily Record in April 2015. Copies of the full Consolidated Plan were made available for public inspection at libraries, government offices and public housing authority offices within the City. Copies of the Plan were made upon request in accordance with City policies regarding making copies. The City considered any and all comments or views in writing or

orally received at the public hearing in preparing the Consolidated Plan, and such comments will be attached to the final plan to be submitted to HUD.

Public Hearings

The City of Hickory provides for a minimum of two public hearings per year to obtain citizen's views and to respond to proposals and questions at all stages of the Consolidated Plan, including its development, substantial amendments, Annual Action Plans and Annual Performance Reports. Public hearings are advertised twice in a newspaper of general circulation ten days prior to the hearings and the day of the public hearings. The City of Hickory will provide a translator for non-English speaking residents in the case of public hearings when the City is notified that a non-English speaking resident will be in attendance. An interpreter will be provided for hearing-impaired residents as needed. Such requests must be made to the City Clerk's office no later than 48 hours prior to the public hearing.

Notice of Hearings

A public notice of the plan was published in a newspaper of general circulation in January 2015 for hearings held January 21, 2015 and February 4, 2015. A third public hearing was held in May 2015. Copies of the full Consolidated Plan were available for public inspection at libraries, government offices and public housing authority offices within the City. Copies of the entire plan are available upon request in accordance with City policies regarding making copies. The City considered all comments or views in writing or orally received at public hearings in preparing the Consolidated Plan, and such comments are attached to the final plan to be submitted to HUD.

Access to Meetings

The City of Hickory held three meetings in identified low and moderate income neighborhoods and City Hall during the development of the Plan. All public meetings and hearings were advertised ten days prior to their date and the dates of the meetings. These notices are published in the Hickory Daily Record. All locations of public meetings are handicapped accessible.

Comments

There will be a 30 day comment period prior to the submission of the Consolidated Plan and subsequent Action Plans beginning April 15, 2010. Comments will be considered and incorporated in the final approved Plan submitted to HUD. The availability of the Plan will be advertised in the Hickory Daily Record detailing where the Plan can be reviewed. The Plan will be available at the City Planning and Development Department of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building, 76 N. Center Street, Hickory.

Amendments to the Consolidated Plan

A public hearing will be conducted whenever amendments are proposed which add, delete or substantially change the adopted Consolidated Plan and subsequent Action Plans. Proposed amendments to the plans will be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation for two consecutive weeks at least 10 days prior to the public hearing, stating the time, date and place. A period of 30 days will be provided to receive public comments. A change to the Consolidated Plan is considered substantial whenever a budget line item is changed 25% or more, if an objective is deleted or added to the Plan, or if an activity within an annual Action Plan is added or deleted.

Performance Reports

The City of Hickory will perform a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to report the use of CDBG funds. Further, an independent audit will be performed annually to examine the use of CDBG funds. Such reports will be available for public inspection and review. A notice will be published stating where and when the CAPER will be available to the public for inspection. The CAPER will be made available for public inspection for at least 15 days prior to its submission to HUD. Further, a public hearing will be held to receive citizen comments, input and questions regarding the CAPER prior to its submission. All comments, written or oral, received at the public hearing will be considered and a summary of those comments will be attached to the CAPER.

Availability to the Public

The City of Hickory will make available to the public the Consolidated Plan, substantial amendments and the CAPER will be made readily available to the public both upon request at the City Planning and Development Department and on the City's website. Copies will be provided according to the City's policies of making copies for the public. Translated copies into specific languages will be provided upon request to non-English speaking city residents. Access to Records -- The City will make available to anyone during normal business hours access to information and records relating to the Consolidated Plan and use of funds for programs in previous years.

Technical Assistance

The Hickory Community Development Office provides technical assistance to groups providing services to low and moderate income persons. Those groups must meet the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) national objectives and providing programs and activities consistent with this Consolidated Plan. Further, participation by residents of public and assisted housing is expressly encouraged. Notices of upcoming meetings and public hearings are mailed to and posted at public housing sites and posted in areas known to be predominantly low and moderate income.

Complaints

The City will be responsible for receiving and responding in writing to written complaints and grievances related to the Consolidated Plan activities. All complaints will be reviewed by the Citizens Advisory Committee at their next regularly scheduled monthly meeting. City staff will respond to written complaints and grievances in writing within 15 days of their receipt, where practical, based on the Citizens Advisory Committee's finding if the complaint(s) is (are) justified.

Appendix 2 – Fair Housing Plan Activities

The City of Hickory is committed to affirmatively further fair housing, increasing awareness of Fair Housing laws. 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 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 FY 2014 as identified in the Fair Housing Plan activities listed below.

- The City of Hickory will continue to serve on the Catawba Valley Board of Realtors Equal Opportunity in Housing Committee. This committee works to ensure equal housing opportunity in the region.
- City staff will partner with the City's Community Relations Council on an annual basis to discuss fair housing issues and plan additional events to promote fair housing the community. This council is tasked with furthering good human relations in the community.
- City staff will also discuss fair housing issues with the Hickory International Council and the Citizen's Advisory Committee on at least an annual basis. The Hickory International Council promotes positive relations among different nationalities residing within the city. The Citizen's Advisory Committee provides input to city council on various issues related to housing and community development.
- The City of Hickory staff will provide information to various neighborhood associations or groups about local housing programs offered throughout the area. Staff will make available printed materials designed to inform citizens of their fair housing rights as outlined in state and federal fair housing laws. Information will be translated into Spanish for our Hispanic population.
- City of Hickory will observe April as "Fair Housing Month." The Hickory City Council will adopt a fair housing resolution each April to recognize and support fair housing. The City of Hickory will sponsor public service announcements regarding fair housing and promote "Fair Housing Month" in local newspapers and/or radio.
- The City of Hickory will attempt to partner with the Catawba Valley Hispanic Ministry, better known as "Centro Latino." Centro Latino is a non-profit organization offering a wide variety of programs including: health, social and educational services, community building, and advocacy for the Latino community of the region. Written material will be provided in Spanish and English.
- Fair Housing brochures and other material supplied by HUD and the North Carolina Human Relations Commission will be made available at the City of Hickory Municipal Building for citizens. The City of Hickory will order supplies of fair housing materials in English and Spanish. Brochures
- The City of Hickory will attempt to participate in community meetings in predominately African-American neighborhoods in order to present information about various local housing programs and to make available printed materials designed to inform citizens of their fair housing rights as outlined in state and federal fair housing laws.
- The City of Hickory will use its utility bills and utility bill inserts to inform citizens of their rights to fair housing. These will include articles in the city's utility bill newsletter at least annually.
- The City of Hickory plans to supply informational posters, brochures and/or flyers to historically African-American churches and community centers to inform citizens about their fair housing rights.

- The City of Hickory will continue to provide down-payment assistance for first-time low to moderate income homebuyers. Staff will make a concerted effort to ensure that this program is affirmatively marketed to minority populations, especially African Americans and Hispanics.
- The City of Hickory will look to partner with local radio station to air public service announcements related to Fair Housing.
- The City of Hickory will make public improvements related to low income housing tax credit projects that will be developing affordable housing for low to moderate income families, older adults and disabled persons. Examples of this include sidewalks and landscaping in city rights of way directly adjacent to properties being developed as affordable housing.
- The City of Hickory will continue to partner with Habitat for Humanity to assist in the provision of housing to low and moderate income families. Recent partnership efforts have included the development of an eleven lot single family subdivision to provide affordable housing units in the city's Green Park neighborhood. The city has also provided assistance for the rehabilitation of existing homes.
- The city will continue to provide grants and loans to low and moderate income homebuyers in order to assist in the rehabilitation of owner occupied housing units.

Grantee SF-424's and Certification(s)

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text" value="City or Township Government"/>	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type <input type="text"/>	
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type <input type="text"/>	
Other (specify): <input type="text"/>	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency: <input type="text" value="Department of Housing and Urban Development"/>	
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: <input type="text" value="14-016"/> CFDA Title: <input type="text" value="Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program"/>	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number: <input type="text" value="14-218"/> Title: <input type="text" value="Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program"/>	
13. Competition Identification Number: <input type="text"/> Title: <input type="text"/>	
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>	
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: <input type="text" value="This project will include all Community Development activities described in the City of Hickory's 2015-2019 Annual Action Plan."/>	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions. <input type="button" value="Add Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>	

Specific CDBG Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated housing and community development plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that provide decent housing, expand economic opportunities primarily for persons of low and moderate income. (See CFR 24 570.2 and CFR 24 part 570)

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan (or Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy) that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. **Maximum Feasible Priority.** With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it certifies that it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low and moderate income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available;
2. **Overall Benefit.** The aggregate use of CDBG funds including section 108 guaranteed loans during program year(s) _____, _____ (a period specified by the grantee consisting of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years), shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period;
3. **Special Assessments.** It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

The jurisdiction will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108, unless CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of fee or assessment attributable to the capital costs of public improvements financed from other revenue sources. In this case, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds. Also, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its

ESG Certifications

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program Recipient certifies that:

Major rehabilitation/conversion – If an emergency shelter's rehabilitation costs exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed rehabilitation. If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed conversion. In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 3 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation.

Essential Services and Operating Costs – In the case of assistance involving shelter operations or essential services related to street outreach or emergency shelter, the jurisdiction will provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families for the period during which the ESG assistance is provided, without regard to a particular site or structure, so long the jurisdiction serves the same type of persons (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or persons in the same geographic area.

Renovation – Any renovation carried out with ESG assistance shall be sufficient to ensure that the building involved is safe and sanitary.

Supportive Services – The jurisdiction will assist homeless individuals in obtaining permanent housing, appropriate supportive services (including medical and mental health treatment, victim services, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living), and other Federal, State, local, and private assistance available for such individuals.

Matching Funds – The jurisdiction will obtain matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201.

Confidentiality – The jurisdiction has established and is implementing procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted under the ESG program, including protection against the release of the address or location of any family violence shelter project, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of that shelter.

Homeless Persons Involvement – To the maximum extent practicable, the jurisdiction will involve, through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise, homeless individuals and families in constructing, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, in providing services assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under the program.

Consolidated Plan – All activities the jurisdiction undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Discharge Policy – The jurisdiction will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING

A. Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U. S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources