



**City of Cleveland
Mayor Justin M. Bibb**

Department of Community Development

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Fifth Program Year Action Plan for 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan

Presented to
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Community Planning and Development
Columbus Field Office

July 13, 2025

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

This is the fifth and final Annual Action Plan for the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan.

The Consolidated Plan is a collaborative process whereby a community establishes a unified vision for community development actions. It offers a local jurisdiction the opportunity to shape the various housing and community development programs into effective, coordinated neighborhood and community development strategies. It also creates the opportunity for strategic planning and citizen participation to take place in a comprehensive context, and to reduce duplication of effort at the local level.

The City of Cleveland Five-Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2021-2025) describes the needs of low and moderate-income residents, persons with special needs and homeless individuals and families. The Strategic Plan section outlines goals, strategies, partners, and anticipated financial resources that will be available to implement projects using several HUD programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). The Annual Action Plan is a companion document that sets forth specific projects that will be implemented during FY 2025-2026. At the conclusion of each year, the City of Cleveland submits the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), describing the community's results in implementing projects.

HUD funding is intended to assist individuals and families that earn less than 80% of the Median Family Income (MFI) in a metropolitan area. HUD defines these categories based upon household income, adjusted for family size. The maximum income for a family of four in 2025 is: \$32,150 (0-30% of MFI), \$49,700 (31-50% of MFI), and \$79,500 (51-80% of MFI).

The City estimates the following entitlement funding allocations for Year Five (2025) of the 2021- 2025 Consolidated Plan. At a minimum, the City anticipates level funding throughout the implementation period of this Consolidated Plan. The total funding anticipated over the next 5 years is \$150,000,000.

Furthermore, as per 24 CFR 570.200(h), 24 CFR Part 92.212, and 2 CFR 200.458, the public is hereby notified that under certain conditions, the City of Cleveland and/or its subrecipients may incur costs associated with the CDBG, HOME, and ESG activities identified and described in the 2025-2026 Action Plan prior to the effective date of its grant agreement with HUD. The total amount of any pre-award costs incurred will not exceed 25% of the amount of the City's anticipated 2025-2026 CDBG allocation. Costs related to the HOME program may not exceed 25% of the County's current program amount. Costs related to the ESG program will comply with the regulatory requirements as outlined in 24 CFR 576. Citizens are advised that such pre-award costs will have no effect on future grants and will be in compliance with all the regulations that govern the CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs as stated in 24 Part 570, 24 CFR 92, and 24 CFR Part 576, respectively as well as the Environmental Review Procedures state in 24 Part 58. Activities that may incur pre-award costs include CDBG public service, program administration, economic development, infrastructure, and housing activity costs as well as HOME and ESG administration and project costs.

Table 1 - HUD Allocations to the City of Cleveland

	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA
2021 Allocations	\$21,569,725.00	\$4,893,451.00	\$1,852,356.00	\$1,773,969.00
2022 Allocations	\$21,125,150.00	\$5,331,747.00	\$1,839,879.00	\$2,119,409.00
2023 Allocations	\$20,779,240.00	\$5,462,346.00	\$1,856,678.00	\$2,356,937.00
2024 Allocations	\$19,883,456.00	\$4,200,828.80	\$1,826,276.00	\$2,374,534.00
2025 Allocations	\$19,463,970.00	\$4,257,956.71	\$1,764,744.00	\$2,368,588.00

Table 2 - 2025 Proposed Entitlement Budget- 10-YEAR HOUSING PLAN

Initiative	2025 CDBG	Prior Year CDBG	2025 HOME	Prior Year HOME	2025 ESG	2025 HOPWA	Total Budget
A. STRATEGIC INITIATIVES							
Abatement, Demolition, and Board-Up							
Land Reutilization Activities	\$930,377.77						\$930,377.77
CDC Activity Grants	\$1,027,697.62						\$1,027,697.62
Citywide Assistance Grants	\$543,044.76						\$543,044.76
Middle Neighborhoods	\$194,639.70						\$194,639.70
Banking Relations	\$97,319.85						\$97,639.70
B. SAFE HOUSING INITIATIVES							

Home Repair Program	\$1,415,030.62		\$391,732.02				\$1,806,762.64
Housing Rehab Administration	\$891,449.83						\$891,449.83
C. AFFORDABLE HOUSING EXPANSION AND PRESERVATION							
Housing Trust Fund	\$251,085.00		\$2,767,671.86				\$3,018,756.86
CHDO Set-Aside			\$638,693.51				\$638,693.51
Fair Housing Administration							
Housing Development Office Admin			\$459,859.32				\$459,589.32
TOTALS	\$5,350,645.15		\$4,257,956.71				\$9,608,651.71

Table 3 - 2025 Proposed Entitlement Budget- ENDING POVERTY AND RACIAL DISPARITIES

Initiative	2025 CDBG	Prior Year CDBG	2025 HOME	Prior Year HOME	2025 ESG	2025 HOPWA	Total Budget
A. SUPPORT THE CITY/COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE							
Homelessness	\$486,599.25				\$1,764,744.00		\$2,254,343.25
ESG Administration	\$77,855.88						\$77,855.88
B. PUBLIC SERVICES ADDRESSING NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA							
Systemic Poverty, Youth Violence, Poverty and Accessibility Among Elderly, Other Public Services	\$1,448,119.37						\$1,448,119.37
Public Services Administration							
C. HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH HIV/AIDS							
HOPWA	\$270,549.18					\$2,368,588.00	\$2,639,137.18
TOTALS	\$2,283,123.68				\$1,764,744.00	\$2,368,588.00	\$6,419,455.68

Table 4 - 2025 Proposed Entitlement Budget- NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

Initiative	2025 CDBG	Prior Year CDBG	2025 HOME	Prior Year HOME	2025 ESG	2025 HOPWA	Total Budget
A. COMMUNITY GARDENS							
Community Gardens	\$116,783.82						\$116,783.82

B. IMPROVEMENT AND PRESERVATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD PUBLIC FACILITIES							
Neighborhood Public Facilities	\$270,549.18						\$270,549.18
TOTALS	\$387,333.00						\$387,333.00

Table 5 - 2025 Other Budget Items

Initiative	2025 CDBG	Prior Year CDBG	2025 HOME	Prior Year HOME	2025 ESG	2025 HOPWA	Total Budget
OTHER BUDGET ITEMS							
Neighborhood Development Grants	\$7,409,933.38						\$7,409,933.38
General Administration	\$4,032,934.58						\$4,032,934.58
TOTALS	\$11,442,867.96						\$11,442,867.96

Table 6 - 2025 Proposed Entitlement Budget- TOTALS

Initiative	2025 CDBG	Prior Year CDBG	2025 HOME	Prior Year HOME	2025 ESG	2025 HOPWA	Total Budget
10-YEAR HOUSING PLAN	\$5,350,645.15		\$4,257,956.71				\$9,608,601.86
ENDING POVERTY AND RACIAL DISPARITIES	\$2,283,123.68				\$1,764,744.00	\$2,368,588.00	\$6,419,455.68
NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT	\$387,333.00						\$387,333.00
OTHER	\$11,442,867.96						\$11,442,867.96
GRAND TOTAL	\$19,463,969.79		\$4,257,956.71		\$1,764,744.00	\$2,368,588.00	\$27,855,258.50

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan outlines various activities the City proposes to carry out to achieve federal program objectives required by HUD: provide decent housing; establish and maintain a suitable living environment; and expand economic opportunities. These objectives are combined with three performance outcome categories: availability/accessibility; affordability; and sustainability. The City is required by federal law that housing and community development grant funds primarily benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The City will undertake the following activities to achieve these objectives and outcomes:

Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan

Cleveland's 10-Year Housing Plan is designed to foster a housing market that provides a full range of housing choices for existing residents, and that attracts new residents to Cleveland neighborhoods. The plan also provides financial strategies for the City and neighborhoods to support affordable housing, mixed-income neighborhoods and municipal growth; and will help ensure existing programs are not only improving the quality of life of residents today, but are also developing the building blocks to catalyze long term neighborhood revitalization.

Using data from the City and residents, and national data sets to create informed, practical policy and investment, this priority will invest in the following strategic initiatives, including but not limited to:

- Mayor's Transformation Initiative;
- Lead Safe Coalition;
- FHAct 50- Clark-Fulton Low Income Housing Tax Credit Initiative;
- Support strategies identified in Cleveland's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan (NRSA Plan);
- Demolition and Board-Up of Blighted buildings;
- Project Clean;
- Citywide Assistance Grants;
- CDC Activity Grants;

Safe Housing Initiatives, included but not limited to:

- Housing Rehabilitation Programs such as Senior Homeowner Assistance Program (SHAP) or Repair-A-Home (RAH) program;
- Competitive Lead Grants from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD);
- Affordable Housing Expansion and Preservation, including but not limited to:
- Housing Trust Fund;
- Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) Set-Aside and project support;

Support Housing Infill Development, including but not limited to:

- Support the use of Land Bank property for the use of permanent supportive housing and
- other public facilities that address poverty.

Economic Opportunities

Cleveland's objectives for expanding economic opportunities involve both the creation of more jobs for low-income residents and helping those residents with the least skills to improve their employability. The Department of Community Development and Department of Economic Development are charged with working toward these objectives through a variety of program strategies. This priority will support the following initiatives:

- Use of Land Bank property for economic development initiatives;
- Support initiatives for economic development identified in Cleveland's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan (NRSA Plan); and,

Support workforce development initiatives (public services)

Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities

Ending systemic causes that allow poverty and racism to persist, under this priority the City will invest in the following initiatives:

- Support the City/County Continuum of Care;
- Support the goal to End Chronic Homelessness;
- Provide necessary public services program identified in the City's HUD-approved Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSA Plan);
- Provide necessary public services that address systemic poverty;
- Provide necessary public services that address youth violence;
- Provide necessary public services that address poverty and accessibility among the elderly;
- Support housing and public services for persons with HIV/AIDS; and,

Support the use of Land Bank property for permanent supportive housing and other public facilities that address poverty.

Neighborhood Improvements

Cleveland neighborhoods have seen a persistent cycle of disinvestment that has resulted in most of the City being designated as slum and blight. In order to address slum and blight conditions and the needs of the resident, we must invest in public infrastructure, public facilities; and reutilization of vacant land for interim or permanent uses. Under this priority, neighborhood improvements include activities such as:

- improvements to existing public facilities,
- construction of new public facilities,
- creation and maintenance of community gardens,
- creation of parks and greenspace,
- improvements that create walkable neighborhoods,
- improvements that create bikeable neighborhoods,
- improvements to access mass transit,
- improvements to infrastructure, such as roads and sidewalks, or
- other improvements that benefit residents on a neighborhood level.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

In order to provide a context for the Consolidated Plan, the City reviewed Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs) submitted to HUD during 2016-2021 and HUD's subsequent Program Year- End Review Letters. The CAPER lists the City's accomplishments in meeting the goals and priorities established in the Consolidated Plan. The City has demonstrated compliance with 24CFR 570.200(a) (3), the Overall Benefit Certification which requires that not less than seventy percent of the aggregate of CDBG expenditures be used for activities benefiting low-moderate income constituents.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

During the development of the FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan, the City of Cleveland Department of Community Development utilized various outreach methods, including notices in a newspaper of general circulation, virtual public meetings, email notifications to grantees and internet postings to solicit public comment. During the 30-day public comment period, hard copies of the documents were available at the Department of Community Development and the Cleveland Public Library/Public Administration Branch. The documents were also posted on the Department of Community Development's website. For more specific details about the citizen participation process, please refer to section AP-12-Citizen Participation.

The Department of Community Development is also active throughout the year, consulting with the community development corporations, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies to gain input and feedback on citywide and neighborhood issues, along with departmental programs. For more specific details about the consultation process, please refer to section AP-10-Consultation.

5. Summary of public comments

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

Several informational questions were received during the public meetings, including requests for information about existing programs and the City's RFP processes. A summary of questions and our responses is contained in the appendix.

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

All comments received were accepted. Please refer to the appendix.

7. Summary

In addition to this plan, the Department of Community Development develops a Entitlement Budget Briefing book for council. A copy of the brief book can be found in the appendix.

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

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

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

Agency Role		Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency		CLEVELAND	
CDBG Administrator			City of Cleveland Dept. of Community Development
HOPWA Administrator			Cleveland Department of Public Health
HOME Administrator			City of Cleveland Dept. of Community Development
ESG Administrator			City of Cleveland Dept. of Community Development
HOPWA-C Administrator			

Table 7 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

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 following are several examples of existing coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and government health, mental health, and service agencies in Cuyahoga County that have the potential to involve Cleveland residents. While being treated for mental health issues that require a stay in an institutional setting, persons may be located in either a public or private facility. Upon release, it is the portion of this group in the public facilities that is more likely to be at-risk of homelessness. The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County, through its network of provider agencies, works to retain and add housing units for persons that are part of the mental health system caseload. The housing units can include public or assisted housing, depending upon the circumstances of the person involved. There are also persons released from physical health institutions that could be at-risk of homelessness, such as persons who have lost employment during their hospital stay, do not have sufficient savings to pay ongoing housing and housing-related costs during their hospital stay, and do not have a support network of other persons to assist them through this period. Social workers at physical health institutions have access to resources such as United Way of Greater Cleveland's 211/First Call For Help, an information clearinghouse staffed 24- hours-a-day to provide information on a variety of health, housing, and human service needs. In addition to United Way and its partner organizations, the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services is also available to assist in an effort to prevent a homelessness situation from occurring. Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority police officers participate in a training program to better handle social problems they confront, such as poverty, domestic violence, drug abuse, and child welfare. The project is a partnership that includes CMHA, Case Western Reserve University, Partnership for a Safer Cleveland, and Kent State University. For example, officers will be able to refer at-risk youth and their families to social services agencies to address their problems. Counselors will respond within 72 hours for mental health, substance abuse, and child welfare needs.

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.

Housing providers and health and service agencies in Cuyahoga County have a long record of working together to address the needs of homeless persons, including the chronically homeless, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth, as well as persons at-risk of homelessness. The following

are selected projects. Guaranteed Access to Shelter The Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care (CoC) and government officials, county and city departments, and non-profit housing and service providers guarantee that everyone will have access to emergency shelter, or, if a shelter is full, transportation and space at another facility. Housing First Initiative (HFI) HFI is a successful public/private partnership effort to develop permanent supportive housing and end chronic homelessness countywide. HFI moves chronically homeless persons into stable housing and then links the person to comprehensive support services on-site. About 80% of residents remain in their apartments, with almost all engaged in services. The rate of emergency room visits and hospitalizations has been substantially reduced. About 20% of the residents move on to more independent housing situations and/or reunite with family. Only a small percentage of persons return to a shelter. Hospital Protocols for the Homeless One difficulty for shelters, hospitals, and homeless persons who are hospitalized is when the patient is about to be discharged. If the patient has recovered sufficiently, the hospital cannot continue to keep him/her, however a shelter often does not have the medical expertise or appropriate accommodations to care for someone with more extensive medical needs. Through the Care Alliance and the CoC, a coalition of shelter providers, hospital social work staff and administrators, and local foundations implemented screening guidelines at time of discharge. If the patient is homeless at discharge but does not meet ten basic, functioning measures, the hospital sends the patient to a nursing home or alternative care facility until such time as the person can be safely discharged to a non-medical living situation. 211/First Call for Help The United Way of Greater Cleveland administers this 24-hour/7 day-a-week hot line. This resource, developed collaboratively by United Way and social service providers, allows anyone, including homeless persons or persons at-risk of homelessness, to call with questions regarding service needs and receive an answer or a referral on the spot. United Way also provides a searchable internet database, available free at any library. Discharge Policies The McKinney-Vento Act requires State and local governments to develop and implement Discharge Coordination Policies and Protocols to ensure that a person being discharged from a publically funded institution or system of care, such as a health care facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program and institution, is not discharged into homelessness. The CoC has adopted existing State policies and procedures or developed its own policies and procedures to address this need. Cuyahoga County Office of Re-Entry The Cuyahoga County Office of Re-entry addresses the needs of persons returning to Cuyahoga County from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. In collaboration with the City of Cleveland, United Way, and local foundations, the comprehensive re-entry strategies include housing, behavioral health access, and employment support. For youths, the Ohio Department of Youth Services' (ODYS) written policy is to return youth to their own home, if possible. Release planning for all youth begins within 60 days of admission to the facility and continues for the duration of commitment.

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

Funding Allocation

The City of Cleveland is a recipient of Emergency Solutions Grant funding. The Strategic Plan section of this Five-Year Consolidated Plan describes goals, objectives and strategies for addressing the problem of homelessness. The Plan references the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care's (CoC) Blue Print for Change, which states: "... the CoC has developed an approach to transform the current community response to homelessness to emphasize prevention and rapid re-housing." Among the specific strategies included in the Blue Print for Change plan are:

- Implement a Centralized or Coordinated Intake System whereby all persons seeking shelter are assessed immediately to determine if there are any potential options to shelter.
- Within the shelter system provide assessment and linkages to case management and mainstream social services.
- Utilize rapid re-housing resources to reduce the length of shelter stays.

The City of Cleveland's ESG allocation is made available to all interested nonprofit institutions and participating units of local government who have the capacity and interest in delivering services that meet the priorities described above.

Performance Standards and Outcome Evaluation

Cuyahoga County OHS is the Systems Administrator for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Agencies receiving sub-awards of ESG are required to participate in the HMIS. Non-publicly funded providers are encouraged and welcome to participate in HMIS. The HUD-required sixteen data elements are entered for every client accessing ESG services. HEARTH ACT regulations prohibit homeless data for persons who identify as victims of domestic violence (DV) from being entered into the HMIS data collection system. The DV shelter participates in an HMIS comparable data system unique to domestic violence shelter providers. The aggregated data related to numbers served, demographics of the population, and program services and outcomes is provided to the HMIS Administrator to add to the CoC aggregated numbers. Exit data is also collected.

The HMIS data, combined with the DV data, enables outcomes to be evaluated based on the following measures:

- Diversion: 20% of persons/households, seeking shelter will be successfully diverted to alternative, safe housing.
- Length of Stay: Implementing rapid exit strategies will shorten the Average Length of Stay (ALOS) by 10%. The ALOS benchmark will be determined based on the 2011 Annual Homeless Assessment report (AHAR).

Return to Shelter: Utilizing the 2011 AHAR, the benchmark for the percentage of persons who return to shelter from CoC funded services will be established. ESG participants who return to shelter will be tracked in HMIS and demonstrate a reduction of 5%.

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

DRAFT

Table 8 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Alcohol Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Health Agency Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Cleveland and the Continuum of Care have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Cleveland - Department of Building and Housing
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Condition and Code Enforcement

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Department of Community Development staff work closely with this department, which is responsible for code enforcement, building demolition, and other key aspects of the City's neighborhood revitalization strategies.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Cleveland - Department of Public Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Health Agency Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The department is responsible for developing plans for HOPWA funds and other resources for addressing the needs of persons with HIV/AIDS, and implementing lead-based reduction strategies.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Cleveland Housing Advisory Board
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This board provides guidance to the City on the use of local resources for housing purposes and housing aspects of the Consolidated Plan process. The board includes representatives of for-profit and non-profit developers, rental housing developers, real estate brokers, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, a tenant advocacy organization, non-profit intermediaries, and neighborhood residents.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Cleveland Housing Capital
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Non-Profit Organization Community Development Financial Institution
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The organization is a major non-profit housing developer and manager, with ongoing interaction with City staff.

6	Agency/Group/Organization	Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City works with OHS staff, its Advisory Board, and committees on an ongoing basis to coordinate the needs of homeless and at-risk homeless county residents.

7	Agency/Group/Organization	Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City and the Continuum of Care have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Cuyahoga County Division of Senior and Adult Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City and the Continuum of Care have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address foreclosure and property disposition issues in Cleveland. The City and this agency jointly plan and implement projects that impact low- and moderate-income areas, including acquisition, sale, demolition, and rehabilitation of buildings.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of Cleveland residents.

11	Agency/Group/Organization	Greater Cleveland Partnership
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	GCP is the regional chamber of commerce for the greater Cleveland area. It concentrates on business retention and civic initiatives of interest to business leaders. The City discusses business retention and expansion issues with the organization.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Services- Transportation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Non-Housing Community Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the current public transit system and needs of Cleveland residents, particularly the impact on low- and moderate-income areas.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	Northeast Ohio Area-wide Coordinating Agency
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has seats on the NOACA Board of Directors, and the City has policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the infrastructure and transit needs of Cleveland. The City of Cleveland and this agency jointly plan and implement infrastructure projects that positively impact low- and moderate-income areas.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization Services- Utilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As the sanitary sewer provider in Cleveland, the City has policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address sewer infrastructure needs. The City and this agency jointly plan and implement infrastructure projects that positively impact low- and moderate-income areas.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Team NEO
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Business Leaders Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Team NEO is the regional business attraction organization for Northeast Ohio including Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. Economic development staff work with Team NEO staff to understand the conditions that will best attract new businesses to the region. These conditions include place-based considerations which can be addressed by community development activities.

16	Agency/Group/Organization	Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Planning organization Non-Profit Organization Foundation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Non-Housing Community Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, formerly Neighborhood Progress Inc., is a funding intermediary that provides financial support, training, and capacity building to the community development corporation network. CNP's subsidiary, Village Capital Corporation provides real estate financing to community projects. The City and CNP coordinate on many projects and programs.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	DigitalC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Non-Profit Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Broadband
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	A non-profit focused on making Greater Cleveland's digital future equitable. The City and Digital C partner to provide high speed internet access to low and moderate income households particular in neighborhoods that have low penetration of affordable high speed internet access.

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

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care	The Consolidated Plan Strategic Plan goals support the goals of the Continuum of Care (CoC). The Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS) serves all 59 communities in Cuyahoga County and coordinates the CoC, an extensive network of public, private, and non-profit agencies that facilitate and/or provide, either directly or indirectly, assisted housing, health services, and/or social services to persons in Cuyahoga County who are chronically homeless, homeless, or are at-risk of homelessness. Blue Print for Change http://development.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf_development/enUS/Appendix-A%202009HPRPBLue%20Print.pdf
Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan	City of Cleveland Department of Community Development	The vision of Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan is to:1. Ensure that all Clevelanders renters, homeowners, and those who are unhoused have access to a safe, healthy, and affordable home in a vibrant neighborhood2. Tackle the racial and geographic divides that define the Cleveland housing market3. Promote growth that lifts up individuals and communities that have been excluded from housing opportunity, including the opportunity to participate in housing design and development4. Support Clevelanders who want to remain in their homes, and attract new residents to the city https://www.clevelandhousingplan.com/

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Connecting Cleveland 2020 Citywide Plan	Cleveland City Planning Commission	This comprehensive plan for the City of Cleveland and its neighborhoods utilizes the theme of connections in terms of people, places, and opportunities. The document also includes tools to implement the plan, such as a future land use map to guide upcoming development patterns, zoning map and zoning code recommendations, identification of development opportunity zones in each neighborhood including housing, retail, office, and industrial uses, bike route and greenway connectors, transportation and infrastructure improvements, and policy recommendations for development and community services program. The Consolidated Plan Strategic Goals focus on investing in neighborhoods, their assets, and creating new opportunities to both physically improve places and communities. http://planning.city.cleveland.oh.us/cwp/cpc/html
Economic Development Plan	Cuyahoga County	This plan, updated annually by Cuyahoga County government, focuses on the areas of innovation, investment, collaboration, and education as themes for County economic development decisions. The Plan emphasizes that investments anywhere in Cuyahoga County should create high-quality, well-connected places, ensure access to and preparation for jobs and careers, and accelerate business growth. The Consolidated Plan Strategic Plan goals focus on investing funds in housing, businesses, and infrastructure in neighborhoods, which reinforces the goals of the Economic Development Plan. http://development.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/EDCPlanExeSummary-053111.aspx
Vibrant NEO 2040	Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium Initiative	Funded by a HUD/USDOT/USEPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities Initiative grant, this twelve county regional project guided by 33 organizations developed a vision for the future of Northeast Ohio. The eight objectives include promoting investment in established communities, developing the regional economy with accessible employment opportunities, and enhancing the regional transportation network. The Consolidated Plan Strategic Plan goals focus on investing funds in housing, businesses, and infrastructure in developed neighborhoods, commercial districts, and industrial areas, which reinforce the goals of Vibrant NEO 2040. http://vibrantneo.org

Table 9 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

Describe efforts to enhance coordination with private industry, businesses, developers, and social service agencies (91.215(l)).

Private sector entities such as lenders and developers are an integral part of the City of Cleveland's community development process. The following are several examples of existing coordination involving private industry, businesses, and developers with the City of Cleveland:

- The Cleveland Housing Advisory Board provides guidance to the City on the use of local resources for housing purposes and housing aspects of the Consolidated Plan process. The board includes representatives of for-profit and non-profit developers, rental housing developers, real estate brokers, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, a tenant advocacy organization, non-profit intermediaries, and neighborhood residents (PR-10-Consultation). The Affordable Housing priority discussed in this document states that the City of Cleveland will support developers for the use of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program and use funds to leverage LIHTC dollars for the creation of affordable rental housing (SP-25-Priority Needs).
- As a method to ameliorate barriers to affordable housing, the City of Cleveland works closely with the Cuyahoga County Fiscal Office to assure timely foreclosure of tax delinquent vacant land. Most properties are transferred to the City's Land Bank and held for redevelopment. Developers of affordable housing can obtain buildable sites at \$100 per unit (SP-55-Barriers to Affordable Housing).
- The City of Cleveland has a long-standing policy of monitoring Community Reinvestment Act performance of lenders and reaching agreements with lenders to substantially expand the availability and affordability of credit in its neighborhoods, emphasizing low income minority neighborhoods. The City's preference is to negotiate agreements with lenders detailing specific new loan products and lending goals for Cleveland neighborhoods. Today, investment agreements are in place with 9 local financial institutions, plus Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (SP-55-Barriers to Affordable Housing).
- The City of Cleveland's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area program creates jobs and economic opportunities by revitalizing business areas. One strategy in the program specifically states that the City will identify new business locations and attract new companies by working with for-profit entities to leverage new Market Tax Credits and assist with project financing (SP-10 Geographic Priorities and Appendix).

For examples of efforts to enhance coordination with social service agencies, please refer to other responses in this section, as well as the table in this section discussing organizations participating in the consultation process.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The Cleveland Department of Community announced two (2) public hearings and a 30-day public comment period on the City of Cleveland webpage, and in the Plain Dealer with the following ad:

- June 4, 2025 public hearing at Cleveland City Hall, 10am-11am
- June 16, 2025 virtual public hearing, 6pm-7pm

To a significant extent, the work required to shape Cleveland's neighborhood priorities and strategies occurs outside the specific procedural steps required for the development of the Consolidated Plan and Action Plan. Assessment of Cleveland's housing and development needs and planning for the best use of available resources is an ongoing process. Dept. of Community Development staff members attend community meetings and work closely with residents, neighborhood-based groups, lenders, developers and other interested parties throughout the year to provide information and discuss ways to improve City programs, attract additional resources, or undertake innovative approaches to meeting identified priority needs. Other ongoing citizen participation efforts include:

- The Director of Community Development and other senior staff meet monthly with the extensive network of neighborhood-based Community Development Corporations to exchange ideas about current and future programs and policies related to the use of available resources.
- The Mayor holds Community Dialogue meetings throughout the City to give citizens the opportunity to directly express their ideas, concerns, and priorities about their specific neighborhoods. The Director of Community Development is in attendance.
- The Housing Advisory Board (HAB) meets with the Director of Community Development and staff throughout the year to provide input into City decisions on new housing policy initiatives and development projects. HAB members represent non-profit and for-profit developers, lenders, real estate brokers, the public housing authority, and interested residents.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Published May 30, 2025 on City of Cleveland website. Public Comment period starting June 5, 2025 and ending July 5, 2025.	See appendix for all comments received.	Any and all comments were accepted and can be found in the appendix.	https://www.clevelandohio.gov/city-hall/departments/community-development
2	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Published June 4, 2025 in the Plain Dealer. Public Comment period starting June 5, 2025 and ending July 5, 2025	See appendix for all comments received.	Any and all comments were accepted and can be found in the appendix.	
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On-site meeting at Cleveland City Hall on June 4, 2025 at 10am	See appendix for all comments received.	Any and all comments were accepted and can be found in the appendix.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	Virtual Meeting on June 16, 2025 at 6PM	See appendix for all comments received.	Any and all comments were accepted and can be found in the appendix.	
5	PY2024 Grantee Organizations	Grantee organizations	Email announcement sent to Public Service, CDC, Citywide Assistance Program and ESG grantee organizations on May 30	See appendix for all comments received.	Any and all comments were accepted and can be found in the appendix.	

Table 10 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Cleveland will continue to pursue other available federal, state and private sources to leverage entitlement grant funding for the proposed community development initiatives in the Consolidated Plan. The City will also contribute a number of local tools and incentives,

including the Cleveland residential and commercial tax abatements, and the Health Homes Initiative. In addition, local funds will be allocated.

Anticipated Resources

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Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		

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CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	19,883,456.00	100,000.00	11,000,000.00	30,983,456.00	0.00	The fourth year figure is a conservative estimate based on actual HUD 2025 allocations. Program Income, which impacts only a few programs and can be more reliably forecast based on previous year Program Income amounts, is included as part of the Funding and Goal Outcome Indicator boxes in Section SP-45 Goals. This year, in addition to typical program income, the City will be receiving and 2 significant one time receipts. 1) Pay off of the \$4M loan that will be deposited into a revolving loan fund; and 2) Return of \$3M from the old CASH program to be deposited into a revolving loan fund. All program income will be used for grants or loans.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer	4,200,828.80	100,000.00	0.00	4,300,828.80	0.00	The fourth year figure is a conservative estimate

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
		assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA						based on actual HUD 2025 allocations. Program Income, which impacts only a few programs and can be more reliably forecast based on previous year Program Income amounts, is included as part of the Funding and Goal Outcome Indicator boxes in Section SP-45 Goals.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	2,374,534.00	0.00	0.00	2,374,534.00	0.00	The fourth year figure is a conservative estimate based on actual HUD 2025 allocations.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	1,826,276.00	0.00	0.00	1,826,276.00	0.00	The fourth year figure is a conservative estimate based on actual HUD 2025 allocations.

Table 11 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

CDBG funds are often part of larger funding pools to implement activities. For example, Section 108 loans leverage other private and public funds for economic development projects. In addition, public service funding through CDBG can be supplemented.

HOME match requirements are met by funds provided from various sources by project partners.

ESG match requirements are met with County funds, all of which contribute to the funding pool made available to implement the programs of the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care.

HOPWA funds address specific financial needs, such as ongoing rental assistance or short-term assistance with a mortgage, rent, or utility payments. These specific uses of funds represent only a portion of the financial and other support services being received by a person.

SECTION 108 funds leverage economic development opportunities within the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) to increase job creating investments by closing financing gaps and leveraging other funds.

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 Cleveland currently has about 18,000 parcels in its Land Bank. Many of these parcels are in locations suitable for aggregation into larger development sites.

The City leverages CDBG with other funding sources to support creation of greenspaces and community gardens on city-owned property for use by residents, schools, faith-based groups, and nonprofit agencies.

The City uses this resources whenever possible to encourage new housing, commercial, and industrial development. In addition, the Cuyahoga Land Reutilization Corporation partners with the City of Cleveland to acquire properties, which are either demolished or sold in an as-is condition or rehabilitated and resold.

Discussion

CDBG Float Loans

Per HUD regulations, CDBG grantees have a line of credit that covers the amount of CDBG funds available for the grantee to expend. The grantee can use the funds available in the line of credit to provide short-term financing for projects such as, but not limited to, economic development or housing.

The City of Cleveland has used Float Loans in the past. As of early 2021, the City has no outstanding CDBG Float Loans. During the FY 2021-2025 period, the City may consider using this program. If the program is used, the City will follow the regulations at 24 CFR 570.301. As stated in 24 CFR 570.301(b), each "float-funded activity" will be individually listed and described in the annual action plan. If the need for a float-funded activity occurs after a program year has started, the annual action plan will be amended to accommodate the specific activity.

Revolving Loan Fund

A revolving loan fund is established for carrying out specific activities, which, in turn, generate payments to the fund for use in carrying out the same activities.

During the FY 2022-2023 period, the City is establishing this type of program with CDBG funds. The revolving loan fund would be used for activities located in Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs). The purpose of the revolving loan fund would be to undertake activities such as providing

housing rehabilitation and home repair for low income households up to 80% AMI.

Pre-Award Costs

Furthermore, as per 24 CFR 570.200(h), 24 CFR Part 92.212, and 2 CFR 200.458, the public is hereby notified that under certain conditions, the City of Cleveland and/or its subrecipients may incur costs associated with the CDBG, HOME, and ESG activities identified and described in the 2025-2026 Action Plan prior to the effective date of its grant agreement with HUD. The total amount of any pre-award costs incurred will not exceed 25% of the amount of the City's anticipated 2025-2026 CDBG allocation. Costs related to the HOME program may not exceed 25% of the County's current program amount. Costs related to the ESG program will comply with the regulatory requirements as outlined in 24 CFR 576. Citizens are advised that such pre-award costs will have no effect on future grants and will be in compliance with all the regulations that govern the CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs as stated in 24 Part 570, 24 CFR 92, and 24 CFR Part 576, respectively as well as the Environmental Review Procedures state in 24 Part 58. Activities that may incur pre-award costs include CDBG public service, program administration, economic development, infrastructure, and housing activity costs as well as HOME and ESG administration and project costs.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	10 Year Housing Plan	2021	2025	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless	City of Cleveland Central NRSA West NSRA South NRSA	10 Year Housing Plan	CDBG: \$13,620,131.00 HOME: \$4,200,829.00	Rental units constructed: 50 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 200 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 100 Household Housing Unit Buildings Demolished: 100 Buildings
2	Economic Opportunity	2021	2025	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City of Cleveland Central NRSA West NSRA South NRSA	Economic Opportunity	CDBG: \$257,902.00	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 35 Business Businesses assisted: 35 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities	2021	2025	Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City of Cleveland Central NRSA West NSRA South NRSA	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities	CDBG: \$2,864,525.00 HOPWA: \$2,374,534.00 ESG: \$1,826,276.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 160000 Persons Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 5000 Persons Assisted
4	Neighborhood Improvements	2021	2025	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City of Cleveland Central NRSA West NSRA South NRSA	Neighborhood Improvements	CDBG: \$278,368.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Persons Assisted

Table 12 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	10 Year Housing Plan
	Goal Description	

2	Goal Name	Economic Opportunity
	Goal Description	<p>Economic Opportunities</p> <p>Cleveland's objectives for expanding economic opportunities involve both the creation of more jobs for low income residents and helping those residents with the least skills to improve their employability. The Department of Community Development and Department of Economic Development are charged with working toward these objectives through a variety of program strategies. This priority will support the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storefront Renovation Program; • Use of Land Bank property for economic development initiatives; • Support initiatives for economic development identified in Cleveland's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan (NRSA Plan); and, <p>Support workforce development initiatives (public services).</p>

3	Goal Name	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities
	Goal Description	<p>Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities</p> <p>Ending systemic causes that allow poverty and racism to persist will continue the disparate outcomes that we see in Cleveland. Under this priority the City will invest in the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the City/County Continuum of Care; • Support the goal to End Chronic Homelessness; • Provide necessary public services program identifies in the City's HUD approved Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSA Plan); • Provide necessary public services that address systemic poverty; • Provide necessary public services that address youth violence; • Provide necessary public services that address poverty and accessibility among the elderly; • Support housing and public services for persons with HIV/AIDS; and, <p>Support the use of Land Bank property for the use of permanent supportive housing and other public facilities that address poverty.</p>

4	Goal Name	Neighborhood Improvements
	Goal Description	<p>Neighborhood Improvements</p> <p>Cleveland neighborhoods have seen a persistent cycle of disinvestment that has resulted in most of the City designated as being affected by slum and blight. In order to address slum and blight and the needs of the residents of Cleveland's neighborhoods investment in public facilities, public infrastructure, reutilization of vacant land for interim or permanent uses is key to reposition for the needs of residents. Under this priority neighborhood improvements include activities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improvements to existing public facilities, • construction of new public facilities, • creation and maintenance of community gardens, • the creation of parks and greenspace, • improvements to create walkable neighborhoods, • improvements to create bikeable neighborhoods, • improvements to access mass transit, • improvements to infrastructure, such as roads and sidewalks, or <p>other improvements that benefit residents on a neighborhood level.</p>

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Funds provided through HUD formula programs will be focused primarily on neighborhoods where most residents qualify as low/moderate income; or in areas designated as blighted, based on existing building conditions. Many Cleveland neighborhoods qualify under both criteria. Limited activities may be carried out in higher income, non-blighted areas if they are addressing needs of specific low/moderate income individuals or conditions of blight.

Four planning documents play a key role in targeting neighborhood development resources: the *Cleveland Housing Plan*, *Connecting Cleveland 2020 Citywide Plan*, the *Neighborhood Typology*, and *Reclaiming Cleveland – Target Area Plans*.

The *Cleveland Housing Plan* fosters a robust housing market that will ensure everyone has access to a decent home, provide a full range of housing choices for existing residents, and attract new residents to Cleveland's neighborhoods. It will create a blueprint for programs, policies, and investment tools to achieve this goal.

The *Citywide Plan* outlines policies and strategies of citywide and neighborhood significance (e.g. housing, economic development, education, arts and culture, and safety), and the assets, trends, challenges and opportunities in Cleveland neighborhoods.

The *Typology* identifies the relative market strength of neighborhoods, and provides information to assist in the development of urban revitalization strategies.

Reclaiming Cleveland serves as a guide for utilizing community development, as well as other resources, in a contextually-specific manner to bring about immediate, targeted and sustainable improvements in areas substantially affected by economic decline or disinvestment.

Assessing Cleveland's housing and development needs and planning for the best use of available limited resources is an ongoing process. Throughout the year, Department of Community Development staff attends community meetings and works closely with residents, Cleveland's extensive Community Development Corporation network (CDCs), and other stakeholders to determine how best to improve City programs, attract additional resources, and undertake innovative approaches to meeting identified priority needs.

NOTE: The City of Cleveland anticipates that each year, Prior Year Resources will be available. Due to the fact that the dollar amount can vary and it is not assigned to specific activities as of the start of a program year, this amount and the possible Goal Outcome Indicators are not included as part of the

Funding or Goal Outcome Indicator boxes in the Projects in this section.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	2025- Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Strategic Initiatives
2	2025- Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Safe Housing Initiatives
3	2025- Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Affordable Housing
4	2025- Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Housing Infill Development
5	2025- Economic Opportunity- Storefront Renovation
6	2025- Ending Poverty- Support City/County Continuum of Care
7	2025- Ending Poverty- Public Services
8	2025- Ending Poverty- Housing for Persons with HIV/AIDS
9	2025- Neighborhood Improvements- Community Gardens
10	2025- Neighborhood Improvements- Public Facilities
11	2025- Revolving Loan Fund
12	2025- Administration (Direct and Indirect)

Table 13 - Project Information

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

The current allocation priorities were developed from the 2021 Consolidated Plan development process.

The allocation priorities are:

- Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan
- Increase Economic Opportunities
- Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities
- Neighborhood Improvements

The primary obstacle to meeting the underserved needs of Cleveland's population has been the lack of sufficient resources. For several years, Cleveland has had one of the nation's highest poverty rates among large cities. The recent recession has resulted in declining employment and tax revenues. HUD assistance has been on a downward trend over the decades. Overall, the CDBG allocation is 50% lower than the peak of CDBG funding in 1980-1981, and 61% lower than peak funding for HOME funding in 2001.

While the ability to increase local public revenues has been limited, Cleveland has actively sought to

leverage additional resources. Cleveland voters narrowly approved an income tax increase in 2017 that will bring in \$80 million in new resources that will enhance City services, including programs for senior citizens, a comprehensive violence-prevention strategy, more housing inspections and a better response to the city's backlog of lead-poisoning cases among children, and help offset the loss of \$30 million in revenue as a result of the Great Recession of 2008.

The City pursues all funding opportunities made available. A recent notable success is the award of a second Lead Hazard Demonstration Grant from HUD in the amount of \$3.4 million. This new award, announced in July 2021, will continue the efforts and partnerships developed with the first Lead Hazard Demonstration Grant award in 2015.

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AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

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1	Project Name	2025- Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Strategic Initiatives
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	10 Year Housing Plan
	Needs Addressed	10 Year Housing Plan
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,900,000.00
	Description	<p>The vision of Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan is to: 1) Ensure that all Clevelanders renters, homeowners, and those who are unhoused have access to a safe, healthy, and affordable home in a vibrant neighborhood2) Tackle the racial and geographic divides that define the Cleveland housing market3) Promote growth that lifts up individuals and communities that have been excluded from housing opportunity, including the opportunity to participate in housing design and development4) Support Clevelanders who want to remain in their homes, and attract new residents to the city. Strategic Initiatives will address City of Cleveland efforts that are typically neighborhood or issue based and provide federal resources to address those efforts.In grant year 2025, the City of Cleveland will fund the following projects under this project (PY 2025 Funds):- - Project Clean- \$954,822- 18,000-vacant parcels (PY2025 Funds \$953,823)- - Lead Abatement, Demolition and Board-Up- \$500,000- 5 Demolitions and 800 Board Ups (PY2025 Funds \$500,000)- - CDC Activity Grants- \$8,826,184,-- 5,000 Households (PY2025 Funds \$8,000,000)- - Citywide Grants- \$0- 500 Housing Units (PY2025 Funds \$0)- - Bank Relations and Community Reinvestment- \$0- 1 CRA Agreement (PY2025 Funds \$0)- - CD Planners Program Delivery- \$180,000- 3 Staff (PY2025 Funds \$180,000) More information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025. Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.</p>
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Strategic Initiatives Project, it is estimated that 5,679 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	This is a city wide project.

	Planned Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Project Clean- \$954,822- 18,000- vacant parcels (PY2025 Funds \$953,823) - - Lead Abatement, Demolition and Board-Up- \$500,000- 5 Demolitions and 800 Board Ups (PY2025 Funds \$500,000) - - CDC Activity Grants- \$8,826,184,-- 5,000 Households (PY2025 Funds \$8,000,000) - - Citywide Grants- \$0- 500 Housing Units (PY2025 Funds \$0) - - Bank Relations and Community Reinvestment- \$0- 1 CRA Agreement (PY2025 Funds \$0) - - CD Planners Program Delivery- \$180,000- 3 Staff (PY2025 Funds \$180,000)
2	Project Name	2025- Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Safe Housing Initiatives
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	10 Year Housing Plan
	Needs Addressed	10 Year Housing Plan
	Funding	CDBG: \$4,400,000.00
	Description	<p>The vision of Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan is to:1) Ensure that all Clevelanders renters, homeowners, and those who are unhoused have access to a safe, healthy, and affordable home in a vibrant neighborhood2) Tackle the racial and geographic divides that define the Cleveland housing market3) Promote growth that lifts up individuals and communities that have been excluded from housing opportunity, including the opportunity to participate in housing design and development4) Support Clevelanders who want to remain in their homes, and attract new residents to the city.Safe Housing Initiatives will address City of Cleveland efforts that are typically neighborhood or issuebased and provide federal resources to address those efforts. In grantyear 2024, the City of Cleveland will fund the following projects underthis project (new funding):- - Housing Rehab Programs- SHAP/RAH/etc- \$3,100,000- 102 Housing Rehabs (PY2025 Funds \$2,100,000)- - Citywide Grants- \$0 1,100 Persons Served (PY2025 Funds \$0)- - Housing Rehab Administration- \$2,300,000- 31 staff (PY2025 Funds \$2,300,000)More information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025. Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.</p>
	Target Date	5/31/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Strategic Initiatives Project, it is estimated that 5,679 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	This is a city wide project.
	Planned Activities	- - Housing Rehab Programs- SHAP/RAH/etc- \$3,100,000- 102 Housing Rehabs (PY2025 Funds \$2,100,000) - - Citywide Grants- \$0 1,100 Persons Served (PY2025 Funds \$0) - - Housing Rehab Administration- \$2,300,000- 31 staff (PY2025 Funds \$2,300,000)
3	Project Name	2025- Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Affordable Housing
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	10 Year Housing Plan
	Needs Addressed	10 Year Housing Plan
	Funding	CDBG: \$7,335,000.00 HOME: \$4,200,829.00

	Description	<p>The vision of Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan is to:1) Ensure that all Clevelanders renters, homeowners, and those who are unhoused have access to a safe, healthy, and affordable home in a vibrant neighborhood2) Tackle the racial and geographic divides that define the Cleveland housing market3) Promote growth that lifts up individuals and communities that have been excluded from housing opportunity, including the opportunity to participate in housing design and development4) Support Clevelanders who want to remain in their homes, and attract new residents to the city.Affordable Housing will address City of Cleveland efforts that are typically neighborhood or issue based and provide federal resources to address those efforts. In grant year 2025, the City of Cleveland will fund the following projects under this project:- - Housing Trust Fund- \$4,150,622- 134 Housing Units (PY2025 Funds \$4,150,622)- - Other Affordable Housing Projects, including, but not limited to Warner & Swasey or Empire former school building- \$7,000,000 (PY2025 Funds \$0)- - CHDO Set-Aside- \$630,124- 16 Units (PY2025 Funds \$630,124)- - Citywide Grants- \$0- 256 Households (PY2025 Funds \$0)- - Housing Development Office Administration- \$670,000- 6 Staff (PY2025 Funds \$670,000)- - Fair Housing Administration- \$85,000- 12 Persons Served (PY2025 Funds \$85,000)More information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025.Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.</p>
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Affordable Housing Project, it is estimated that 406 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	Cleveland- Citywide

	Planned Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Housing Trust Fund- \$4,150,622- 134 Housing Units (PY2025 Funds \$4,150,622) - - CHDO Set-Aside- \$630,124- 16 Units (PY2025 Funds \$630,124) - - Citywide Grants- \$0- 256 Households (PY2025 Funds \$0) - - Housing Development Office Administration- \$670,000- 6 Staff (PY2025 Funds \$670,000) - - Fair Housing Administration- \$85,000- 12 Persons Served (PY2025 Funds \$85,000)
4	Project Name	2025- Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Housing Infill Development
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	10 Year Housing Plan
	Needs Addressed	10 Year Housing Plan
	Funding	CDBG: \$1.00
	Description	<p>The vision of Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan is to:1) Ensure that all Clevelanders renters, homeowners, and those who are unhoused have access to a safe, healthy, and affordable home in a vibrant neighborhood2) Tackle the racial and geographic divides that define the Cleveland housing market3) Promote growth that lifts up individuals and communities that have been excluded from housing opportunity, including the opportunity to participate in housing design and development4) Support Clevelanders who want to remain in their homes, and attract new residents to the city.Housing Infill Development will address City of Cleveland efforts that are typically neighborhood or issue based and provide federal resources to address those efforts. In grant year 2025, the City of Cleveland will fund the following projects under this project:- - Citywide Grants- \$0- 6 Housing Units (PY2025 Funds \$0)More information on each of these can be found in the 2023 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025. Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2)2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.</p>
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Cleveland 2030: Housing Equity Plan- Housing Infill Development Project, it is estimated that 12 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.

	Location Description	Cleveland- Citywide
	Planned Activities	- - Citywide Grants- \$0- 6 Housing Units (PY2025 Funds \$0)
5	Project Name	2025- Economic Opportunity- Storefront Renovation
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	Economic Opportunity
	Needs Addressed	Economic Opportunity
	Funding	CDBG: \$1.00
	Description	Cleveland's objectives for expanding economic opportunities involve both the creation of more jobs for low income residents and helping those residents with the least skills to improve their employability. The Department of Community Development and Department of Economic Development are charged with working toward these objectives through a variety of program strategies. This priority will support the following initiatives: - - Storefront Renovation- \$0- 0 Businesses (PY2024 Funding \$0)More information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025. Other initiatives would also be eligible under this projectif authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021- 2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The storefront renovation program will assist 35 business in low and moderate income areas of Cleveland. 0 families will directly benefit.
	Location Description	This is a citywide project.
	Planned Activities	- - Storefront Renovation- \$0- 0 Businesses (PY2024 Funding \$0)
6	Project Name	2025- Ending Poverty- Support City/County Continuum of Care
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities
	Needs Addressed	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities
	Funding	ESG: \$1,826,276.00

	Description	Ending systemic causes that allow poverty and racism to persist will continue the disparate outcomes that we see in Cleveland. This is a high priority for Cleveland, since many of Cleveland's challenges are rooted in the systemic nature of poverty and racism. Opportunities to education, housing, healthcare and employment are determined by one's income status or race. Under this priority the City will invest in the following initiatives: - - Continuum of Care- \$1,726,276- 3,000 persons served (PY2024 Funds \$1,726,276) - - ESG Admin- \$100,000 -1 Staff (PY2024 Funds \$100,000)More information on each of these can be found in the 2023 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025.Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Ending Poverty- Support City/County Continuum of Care Project, it is estimated that 3,000 low and moderate income homeless families and individuals will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	This is a citywide project.
	Planned Activities	- - Continuum of Care- \$1,726,276- 3,000 persons served (PY2024 Funds \$1,726,276) - - ESG Admin- \$100,000 -1 Staff (PY2024 Funds \$100,000)
7	Project Name	2025- Ending Poverty- Public Services
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities
	Needs Addressed	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,895,765.00

	Description	Ending systemic causes that allow poverty and racism to persist will continue the disparate outcomes that we see in Cleveland. This is a highpriority for Cleveland, since many of Cleveland's challenges are rooted in the systemic nature of poverty and racism. Opportunities to education,housing, healthcare and employment are determined by one's income status or race. Under this priority the City will invest in the followinginitiatives: - - Systemic Poverty Grants- \$1,095,765- 14,600 persons served (PY2025 Funding \$1,095,765) - - Community Engagement- \$800,000- 2,000 persons served (PY2024 Funding \$800,000)More information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025. Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Ending Poverty- Public Services Project, it is estimated that 22,600 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	This is a citywide project.
	Planned Activities	- - Systemic Poverty Grants- \$1,095,765- 14,600 persons served (PY2025 Funding \$1,095,765) - - Community Engagement- \$800,000- 2,000 persons served (PY2024 Funding \$800,000)
8	Project Name	2025- Ending Poverty- Housing for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities
	Needs Addressed	Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities
	Funding	HOPWA: \$2,375,534.00

	Description	Ending systemic causes that allow poverty and racism to persist will continue the disparate outcomes that we see in Cleveland. This is a high priority for Cleveland, since many of Cleveland's challenges are rooted in the systemic nature of poverty and racism. Opportunities to education, housing, healthcare and employment are determined by one's income status or race. Under this priority the City will invest in the following initiatives: - - Housing for Persons with HIV/AIDS and associated Programming- \$2,375,534- 3,000 persons served (PY2024 Funding \$2,375,534)More information on each of these can be found in the 2025Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025.Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Ending Poverty- Housing for Persons with HIV/AIDS Project, it is estimated that 3,000 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	- - Housing for Persons with HIV/AIDS and associated Programming- \$2,375,534- 3,000 persons served (PY2024 Funding \$2,375,534)
9	Project Name	2025- Neighborhood Improvements- Community Gardens
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$130,000.00

	Description	Cleveland neighborhoods have seen a persistent cycle of disinvestment that has resulted in most of the City designated as being affected by slum and blight. In order to address slum and blight and the needs of the residents of Cleveland's neighborhoods investment in public facilities, public infrastructure, reutilization of vacant land for interim or permanent uses is key to reposition for the needs of residents. Under this priority neighborhood improvements include activities such as: - - Community Gardens- \$130,000- 130 Garden Facilities (PY2025 \$130,000)More information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025.Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Neighborhood Improvements- Community Gardens Project, it is estimated that 6,000 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	This is a citywide project.
	Planned Activities	- - Community Gardens- \$130,000- 130 Garden Facilities (PY2025 \$130,000)
10	Project Name	2025- Neighborhood Improvements- Public Facilities
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000.00

	Description	Cleveland neighborhoods have seen a persistent cycle of disinvestment that has resulted in most of the City designated as being affected by slum and blight. In order to address slum and blight and the needs of the residents of Cleveland's neighborhoods investment in public facilities, public infrastructure, reutilization of vacant land for interim or permanent uses is key to reposition for the needs of residents. Under this priority neighborhood improvements include activities such as:- - Public Facilities- \$150,000- 1 public facility (PY2025 Funds \$150,000)More information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025.Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Neighborhood Improvements- Public Facilities Project, it is estimated that 30 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	This is a city wide project.
	Planned Activities	- - Public Facilities- \$150,000- 1 public facility (PY2025 Funds \$150,000)
11	Project Name	2025- Revolving Loan Fund
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	10 Year Housing Plan
	Needs Addressed	10 Year Housing Plan
	Funding	CDBG: \$4,000,000.00

	Description	<p>The vision of Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan is to:1) Ensure that all Clevelanders renters, homeowners, and those who are unhoused have access to a safe, healthy, and affordable home in a vibrant neighborhood2) Tackle the racial and geographic divides that define the Cleveland housing market3) Promote growth that lifts up individuals and communities that have been excluded from housing opportunity, including the opportunity to participate in housing design and development4) Support Clevelanders who want to remain in their homes, and attract new residents to the city Strategic Initiatives will address City of Cleveland efforts that are typically neighborhood or issue based and provide federal resources to address those efforts. In grant year 2025, the City of Cleveland will fund the following projects under this project:- Residential Repair and Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund Program- \$4,000,000- 30 RehabsMore information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025. Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under:1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files;2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or,3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan.Under Ordinance 120-2022 the Council Authorized the use of a Revolving Loan Fund Section 8. Loans.(a) That the Director of Community Development is authorized to accept monies in repayment of loans and fees authorized in this ordinance and to deposit those monies in Fund Nos. 13, 14, and 15, as appropriate, and to utilize the repayments and other program income in a revolving fund for making additional expenditures under the Programs, and such funds are hereby appropriated for that purpose.(b) That the City is authorized to accept promissory notes, naming the City of Cleveland as payee, and mortgages, naming the City of Cleveland as mortgagee, and any other security instrument executed to evidence and secure repayment of loans made under the Programs described in the file.(c) That the Director of Community Development is authorized to enter into forbearance agreements with any recipient of a validly existing loan administered by the City, and to charge and accept fees to cover costs incurred in the preparation of loan documents, closing, and servicing costs. Such fees shall be deposited into Fund Nos. 13, 14 or 15, as appropriate. Therevenues generated as a result of charging fees are appropriated for additional program and operating expenses for eligible activities.Furthermore under Ordinance 289-2022 Council Authorized: Section 1. That the Director of Community Development is authorized to establish the Residential Repair and Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund Program to provide loans to owner-occupied</p>
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		and/or rental housing in the City of Cleveland occupied by households at or less than 80% Area Median Income. The Director is authorized to enter into contracts with potential borrowers under this program and in conjunction with other City Programs. Section 2. That the Director of Community Development is authorized to enter into one or more contracts with various entities to implement the Residential Repair and Rehabilitation Revolving Loan
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Revolving Loan Fund Project, it is estimated that 30 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	City of Cleveland
	Planned Activities	- - Residential Repair and Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund Program- \$4,000,000- 30 Rehabs
12	Project Name	2025- Administration (Direct and Indirect)
	Target Area	City of Cleveland
	Goals Supported	10 Year Housing Plan Economic Opportunity Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities Neighborhood Improvements
	Needs Addressed	10 Year Housing Plan Economic Opportunity Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities Neighborhood Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$2,743,229.00

	Description	2024 Entitlement Funds Direct program administration costs for approximately 68+ staff salaries and benefits expenses, as well as direct operating expenses for CDBG paid employees. Also included are Equipment and program administration office space improvements and Indirect Costs. More information on each of these can be found in the 2025 Entitlement budget presented and passed by Council in 2025. Other initiatives would also be eligible under this project if authorized under: 1) 2025 City Ordinance and associated files; 2) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan; or, 3) Cleveland 2030: A Housing Equity Plan. Available general admin cap is \$3,976,691 (PY2025 Funds \$2,743,229)
	Target Date	5/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under the Administration (Direct and Indirect) Project, it is estimated that 0 low and moderate income families will benefit from proposed activities.
	Location Description	Not Applicable
	Planned Activities	<p>Available general admin cap is \$3,976,691 (PY2025 Funds \$2,743,229)</p> <p>This line--item covers management, staffing and other administrative costs incurred by the Department of Community Development. This Funding is generally disbursed as Operating Expenses, and Salaries and Benefits for employees in the Divisions of Administrative Services, Neighborhood Development and the Office of the Director.</p> <p>General Administration \$3,626,691- 91 Staff</p> <p>Indirect Cost Allocation Plan- \$350,000</p>

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The jurisdiction consists of the boundaries of the City of Cleveland, an area of 77.6 square miles. Based on the 2010 Census, the city has a population of 396,890, with 207,536 housing units. In the 2010 Census, only 27 of Cleveland's 175 residential Census tracts did not have a majority of residents qualifying as low/ moderate income.

The median income for a household in the city was \$25,928, and the median income for a family was \$30,286. Males had a median income of \$30,610 versus \$24,214 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$14,291. 26.3% of the population and 22.9% of families were below the poverty line. Out of the total population, 37.6% of those under the age of 18 and 16.8% of those 65 and older were living below the poverty line.

Over the years an increasing percentage of the city's population has been non-white. The segregation of African Americans from whites and of African-Americans from Hispanics exceeds the averages for many large cities. Cleveland's African-American population is concentrated on the east side of the city and in the near eastern suburbs. Hispanics are concentrated in the city's west side neighborhoods.

Whites are about 33 percent of Cleveland's population. Most live in areas in the West side of Cleveland, with areas further away from downtown and close to Lakewood and Parma being near exclusively white. Downtown Cleveland and Little Italy on the East side also have large white populations.

Blacks are about 52 percent of Cleveland. Most live in areas in the Eastside of Cleveland. Areas immediately south and west of downtown also have notable black populations. There is also a small West Indian population.

Hispanics are about 10 percent of Cleveland. The Clark-Fulton neighborhood has the highest concentration of Hispanics in the city. Though, other neighborhoods immediately west and south of downtown, such as Tremont, Ohio City, and Broadway, also have significant Hispanic populations. The vast majority of Hispanics in Cleveland are of Puerto Rican descent.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City of Cleveland	15
Central NRSA	60
West NSRA	15
South NRSA	10

Table 14 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Funds provided through the HUD entitlement programs will primarily be focused on the neighborhoods where the majority of residents qualify as low/moderate income or the area has been designated as blighted, based on the condition of the structures. Many neighborhoods qualify under both criteria. Limited activities may be carried out in higher income, non-blighted areas if they are addressing needs of specific low/moderate individuals or conditions of spot blight.

Four planning documents play a key role in targeting neighborhood development resources: the Cleveland Housing Plan, Connecting Cleveland 2020 Citywide Plan, the Neighborhood Typology, and Reclaiming Cleveland – Target Area Plans.

The Cleveland Housing Plan fosters a robust housing market that will ensure everyone has access to a decent home, provide a full range of housing choices for existing residents, and attract new residents to Cleveland's neighborhoods. It will create a blueprint for programs, policies, and investment tools to achieve this goal.

The Citywide Plan outlines policies and strategies of citywide and neighborhood significance (e.g. housing, economic development, education, arts and culture, and safety), and the assets, trends, challenges and opportunities in Cleveland neighborhoods.

The Typology identifies the relative market strength of neighborhoods, and provides information to assist in the development of urban revitalization strategies.

Reclaiming Cleveland serves as a guide for utilizing community development, as well as other resources, in a contextually-specific manner to bring about immediate, targeted and sustainable improvements in areas substantially affected by economic decline or disinvestment. The planning process to create the document was a collaborative effort involving not only City staff, but also representatives from non-profit development groups, local universities and Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (CNP), a city-wide non-profit established in 1988 to support innovative and successful community organizations and initiatives in Cleveland. CNP coordinated a far-reaching field survey and more than 100 meetings to assist the City in producing the detailed target area plans.

Assessing Cleveland's housing and development needs and planning for the best use of available limited resources is an ongoing process. Throughout the year, Department of Community Development staff attends community meetings and works closely with residents, Cleveland's extensive Community Development Corporation network (CDCs), and other stakeholders to determine how best to improve City programs, attract additional resources, and undertake innovative approaches to meeting identified

priority needs.

Discussion

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	132
Non-Homeless	667
Special-Needs	0
Total	799

Table 15 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	606
Rehab of Existing Units	193
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	799

Table 16 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

Homeless: The One Year Goal reflects new permanent supportive housing units that will be completed.

Rehab of Existing Units/Acquisition of Existing Units: The goals in this line item reflect a combination of single and multi-family new construction, and rehabilitated single- and multi-family units. The one year goal for new construction includes 50 single family units, and 424 multi-family units (474 total).

Rehabilitated units consist of 70 single-family and 123 multi-family (193 total). The unit counts are based on project funding awards and proposed projects that have reached a stage making the project likely to occur. Per HUD instructions, the total unit count represents the production of 606 new units and 193 rehabilitated units that, by excluding acquisition units, are not counted twice.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) expects to receive \$60,000,000 operating grant, \$18,400,056 capital fund grant, \$94,900,000 housing choice voucher grant (Section 8) and another \$4,839,944 in other resources during the 2024-2025 grant year. CMHA manages 9,284 public housing units and 15,269 housing choice vouchers. The most recent waiting list for public housing units is 20,226 families and the waiting list for housing choice vouchers is 5,632.

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

During the next year, the City of Cleveland will assist CMHA in its efforts to maintain the availability of public housing units by retaining the existing inventory to the fullest possible extent or providing replacement units for housing deemed obsolete. One example of coordination activities with CMHA includes submitting appropriate funding applications that may occur. In addition, the City will continue to work with CMHA, when or where appropriate, as a financial partner in the rehabilitation or new construction of housing units.

All capital fund grant resources will go to boiler and elevator repair/replacement projects during the 2024-2025 grant year.

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

In terms of management, both the Cuyahoga MHA and Parma PHA have systems in place for residents and administrators to meet on an ongoing basis to discuss management/building issues, which the City believes is appropriate for that purpose. Public housing facilities are also subject to the City building codes, when repair issues arise.

In terms of homeownership and self-sufficiency, a strategic goal of CMHA is to promote the self sufficiency and asset development of its assisted households. CMHA partners with various community agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide programs and activities to help residents, both youth and adult, achieve self-sufficiency goals. Residents can participate in programs that include job training, health and financial literacy, youth and adult education, and home ownership. These programs are designed to help residents develop skills that will reduce or eliminate the need for government assistance.

Primary resident initiatives objectives include: Increasing the level of employment opportunities for assisted families; Making available supportive services to improve the employment skills of residents; Making available supportive services to increase independence for the elderly and families with

disabilities; and Increasing homeownership opportunities

A major tenant homeownership initiative is the Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program, which allows eligible assisted families that have completed pre-purchase counseling and homeownership training to apply to a mortgage lender and search for a home. The Housing Choice Voucher pays a portion of the homebuyer's mortgage for 15 years.

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

Not applicable. Neither the Cuyahoga MHA nor the Parma PHA are designated as "troubled" by HUD.

Discussion

This question intentionally left blank.

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

Introduction

The City of Cleveland intends to coordinate its 2025 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds with those received by Cuyahoga County, along with any Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) funds allocated to Cuyahoga County by the Department of Development for the State of Ohio, for programs designed to rapidly exit families, Youth, and single adults from homelessness.

These funds will be administered by the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS), which is the designated CoC Lead Agency for the Continuum of Care (CoC). The OHS manages the Continuum of Care (CoC), a network of homeless service providers that implements homeless services and housing assistance through a Coordinated Community response to homelessness.

The goals of the CoC's strategic plan are:

- a. To assure that homelessness is Rare, Brief, and non-recurring
- b. Reduce the number of individuals and families who experience homelessness;
- c. To comply with HEARTH Act requirements that remove barriers to individuals and families accessing housing and service
- d. To adhere to CPD Notices related to Prioritization of Chronic Homeless persons and families
- e. To implement a Coordinated Entry System that is accessible, resolves homelessness, and allocates limited resources to the highest need households.
- f. To end Chronic Homelessness by 2019;
- g. To end Family and Youth Homelessness by 2020;
- h. To end Veteran Homelessness by 2018;
- i. To end all homelessness as quickly as possible;

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

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

The CoC utilizes several outreach efforts that operate 365/days a year:

- 1) PATH workers, supported by mental health funding, work early morning and in the evening visiting camps and places known to be used by unsheltered persons. PATH refers many persons to the permanent supportive housing/chronically homeless units;
- 2) Care Alliance, the Federally Qualified Health Center serving homeless persons, also conducts street outreach on a daily basis;
- 3) The Louis Stokes Veterans Medical Center supports a Homeless Outreach Team specifically reaching out to unsheltered veterans who are identified by the coordinated community efforts;
- 4) in addition, two organizations are funded by the VA for the Supportive Services to Veteran Families

(SSFV) Program which includes street outreach to veterans;

5) one agency receives “Runaway and Homeless Youth Act” (RHY) funding to conduct street outreach to youth, ages 14 – 21;

6) Shelter Outreach – many street homeless spend some nights at the publicly funded shelters. Shelter staff attempts to engage them in permanent supportive housing/chronically homeless housing and services;

7) The CoC funds a cold weather, weekend shelter for people who refuse ‘traditional’ shelter. Outreach teams visit this site to engage this shelter resistant group. The CoC implemented a single site, Coordinated Entry system (CES) in 2012. All newly homeless individuals and families are assessed prior to entering shelter. If possible, safe, alternative permanent housing is identified. CE utilizes mediation to reunify families to avoid a shelter stay. Domestic Violence victims, veterans, youth, and other sub populations are able to be identified at CES and linked with community resources specifically targeted to their needs.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Since FY 2009, the CoC has been implementing policies and practices intended to shift the shelter and transitional housing paradigm focused on facility based programming and services intended to “prepare” someone for housing, to instead, a “Housing Crisis Response System” that sees the role of shelter as a safety net for the most vulnerable and at risk, with the goal of having the shelter stay be as brief as possible. The traditional “Transitional Housing” model that permitted a residential stay of up to 24 months has been replaced with a “housing first” approach informed by client needs. All the CoC funded programs (including ESG funded activities) are low barrier in their entrance policies. There are no requirements that individuals or families undergo ‘drug testing’, comply with behavioral health medications as an entry requirement, or, for the single adult shelters, be sober at the time of entrance. Single site, longer term residential programs are referred to as “temporary housing” and target the highest barrier families and single adults, matching households that require more interventions to programs that have more resources. Lack of income is not a barrier for referral to shelter or to access Rapid Re-Housing assistance. Implementation of CE has enabled the CoC to coordinate resources to match client needs much more effectively and efficiently.

A significant number of homeless individuals and families also have involvement with one or more systems. While the CoC is engaged with these systems to encourage more effective discharge planning, the CoC is also identifying ways to relink persons once they become homeless. Specifically, through CE and Diversion Assessment at the shelter front door, families and individuals that currently have case managers in other systems, can be contacted for interventions to prevent the client from entering shelter: a) Veterans and their families are identified and referred to the VA’s Supportive Services to Veterans Families (SSVF) Project, which provides homeless prevention assistance and links clients with other VA resources; b) persons over 65 are linked with the aging system; and c) 18-24-year-old youth who have aged out of foster care, may be relinked with that the Child Welfare system for system

resources and supports.

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

For the past 5 years, the CoC has focused on a “housing first” approach. The community has endorsed the US Interagency Council on Homelessness goal that: “Homelessness is BRIEF, RARE, and NONRECURRING”. The CoC is utilizing ESG RRH funding, State funded Homeless crisis response Program funding, and CoC Homeless Assistance PH RRH funding to provide short term rental assistance (security deposit + 4 months rent) to all populations to reduce the shelter length of stay. Shelter services are focused on assisting clients to apply for RRH and working with RRH funded Housing Locators to identify safe decent housing as quickly as possible, have the unit inspected, and move on. Cleveland has implemented a “Progressive Engagement” model for families receiving RRH which does not require that families have income in order to begin receiving RRH assistance. Two agencies are funded by the Veterans Administration to provide Supportive Services to Veterans Families (SSVF) which provides both prevention assistance to currently housed veterans or short term rental assistance to expedite veterans leaving homelessness. Both the SSVF and the RRH programs are required to provide case management to the HH during the subsidy period to assure that the household will remain stably housed after the subsidy is finished. Cleveland/Cuyahoga County are co-sponsors with the YWCA, “A Place 4 Me” of the Strategy to Reduce and End Homelessness for Youth”. Homeless youth are identified at Coordinated Entry and immediately linked with a “Navigator” to assist them to access housing and the resources required to maintain their housing.

Cleveland has been a primary partner in the HOUSING FIRST INITIATIVE, which has developed over 600 PSH units targeted to chronically homeless individuals. Cleveland expects to announce an end to chronic homelessness within the next 18 months. The HFI provides stable housing with supportive services on site. Since its inception in FY 2006, less than 2% of the participants have returned to homelessness.

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

Foster Care Discharge Planning

In FY 2015, an initiative to address youth homelessness was launched by “A Place 4 Me”. A strategic plan that includes 4 major goals with detailed strategies and objectives aligned with each goal, calls out the importance of engaging the Child Welfare system to improve emancipation practices. In 2016, the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services, announced a goal to never again exit a youth into homelessness. Specific practice changes include reorganizing the Independent Living unit; creating an Emancipation Unit; including youth and youth identified community support people in the exit planning process; forging a referral process for public housing with the local PHA; having a second review of the plan prior to ending DCFS involvement; following up on the youth frequently to determine ongoing stability in the community.

Health Care Discharge Planning

Although the Ohio Department of Health policy prohibits discharging people requiring ongoing medical care to shelter, the practice continues. A CoC Hospital Discharge Planning Group, established in FY 2011, focuses on the discharge policies and protocols of area nursing homes and hospitals. The group developed written “Health Status” guidelines which clearly state the minimum health status threshold to enter a shelter. This information has been distributed to all area nursing homes and hospitals. Further, the protocol states that prior to sending someone to a shelter by cab or by ambulance, the facility must call CE, who will discuss the referral in order to prevent someone who is medically inappropriate from being discharged to the shelter. Hospital and nursing home staff attend the Discharge Planning Group meetings. CE staff track medical discharges that are inappropriate. Facilities are contacted and held accountable to stop the practice.

Mental Health Discharge Planning

The Cuyahoga County Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board monitors state requirements prohibiting discharge to shelters. In addition, it provides a 10 bed mental health crisis shelter. The respite beds provide additional time for case workers to develop safe, permanent housing options for persons who may have been homeless prior to hospitalization. Chronically homeless individuals leaving the state hospital may access a permanent supportive housing/chronically homeless unit. Safe Haven placement is another option provided the client was homeless prior to the state hospital stay. Mentally ill persons living on the streets and in the shelter are prioritized for permanent supportive housing/chronically homeless units.

Corrections Discharge Planning

In 2009, Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland established an Office of Re-entry to link returning offenders with resources in order to reduce recidivism. A strategy to prevent homelessness that has been promoted by the Office on Re-entry is outreach to inmates to assess housing, employment, and behavioral health needs, and begin the process of linking clients with resources prior to release. Two current programs are noteworthy: a) the VA goes into the institutions and identifies veterans, provides ID's, benefit determination, medical services and housing upon release; and b) The Corporation for Supportive Housing has sponsored a program that focuses on identifying persons who have serious mental health issues, engaging with them and providing housing upon release. Both programs have

documented success with reducing homelessness for these high risk populations as a result of the program interventions.

Discussion

Helping Low Income Individuals.... Narrative
(continued)

Assistance from Other Public or Private Agencies

In 2017, 65% of participants accessed non-employment income sources. Over the next two years, improving on the percentage of participants increasing income from entry to exit will be accomplished through focused efforts to assess and link clients more quickly. Through CE, the CoC is better able to assess clients at shelter entrance to identify current income sources and potential benefit sources. The standardized data is entered into HMIS. The open HMIS system enables the agency accepting the client referral from CE to begin addressing client income issues more quickly. In addition, the State of Ohio has established an online “Benefit Bank.” Using client data, case workers can identify additional income sources for which the client may qualify. Through CE, veterans are identified and referred immediately to the VA Homeless Outreach Coordinator to link the client with VA resources. Performance on income attainment is discussed at bi-monthly provider meetings.

In 2017, 93% of participants in CoC funded projects obtained mainstream benefits. The CoC will attempt to increase this percentage over the next two years by continuing the following strategies. The CoC requires all providers to participate in CE, which identifies client eligibility for income supports and mainstream benefits. It identifies veterans and links them immediately with the VA Homeless Outreach Coordinator for the CoC. Chronically homeless individuals are prioritized for permanent supportive housing. Enrolling chronically homeless clients in mainstream resources is a primary activity during the engagement and housing process. Mainstream benefit enrollment achievement is tracked through monthly HMIS reports generated by the HMIS Systems Administrator. Performance is discussed at bimonthly provider meetings.

AP-70 HOPWA Goals– 91.220 (I)(3)

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	475
Tenant-based rental assistance	50
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Total	525

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

Introduction:

This question intentionally left blank.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

The City of Cleveland makes every possible effort to establish public policies that will remove barriers to, and facilitate the development of, decent and safe affordable housing.

Adopting a Equity Plan for Fair Housing

The City of Cleveland is in the process of developing an Equity Plan. A draft is included in the appendix. This plan will be finalized during the 2025 grant year. The draft identifies five housing issues in Cleveland:

1. Affordability Challenges: Lack of affordable rental housing options results in a cost burden for low-income households.
2. Quality of Housing Concerns: Aging housing stock presents issues such as lead paint, mold, and structural deficiencies. .
3. Limited Access to Homeownership: Barriers to homeownership, including credit constraints, lack of down payment assistance, and inequitable lending practices, impede wealth-building opportunities for marginalized communities.
4. Discriminatory Practices: Discrimination in housing transactions, such as rental, sales, and lending, perpetuates segregation and limits housing choices for marginalized individuals and families.
5. Lack of Resources: Additional details or specific challenges related to the lack of resources were not provided in the survey responses.

The draft plan also established the following Fair Housing Goals:

Improve Housing Accessibility

- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of existing housing stock.
- Strategy: Collaborate with housing developers and policymakers to prioritize the construction of

accessible housing units.

- Provide grants to homeowners for retrofitting homes to meet accessibility standards

Enhance Affordability of Housing

- Implement measures to ensure affordability for low-income individuals and families
- Encourage mixed-income housing developments to promote socioeconomic diversity and affordability
- Advocate for policies that prevent gentrification and displacement of vulnerable communities due to rising housing costs

Eliminate Discrimination in Housing

- Enforce existing fair housing laws and regulations through increased monitoring and penalties for discriminatory practices
- Provide training programs for landlords and real estate agents on fair housing laws and implicit bias
- Establish a centralized reporting system for housing discrimination complaints and ensure swift investigation and resolution

Increase Housing Availability

- Incentivize the development of affordable housing units
- Streamline permitting processes to expedite the construction of new housing developments

Improve Housing Quality

- Enforce housing codes and regulations to ensure maintenance of safe and habitable conditions
- Provide financial assistance or low-interest loans for home repairs and renovations
- Establish a landlord accreditation program to promote responsible property management practices and uphold housing quality standards

Increase Access to Housing Resources and Information

- Expand outreach efforts to inform residents about available housing resources, assistance programs, and fair housing rights.
- Enhance digital platforms and community centers as hubs for accessing housing-related information and services

Raise Awareness and Understanding of Fair Housing Rights

- Conduct educational campaigns targeting both residents and housing providers to raise

awareness of fair housing

- Strategy: Organize events to facilitate dialogue and promote understanding of fair housing principles and their impact on community well-being

Discussion:

1. Describes how input was sought into how the goals identified in the AFH inform the priorities and objectives in the consolidated plan.

In 2013, the City of Cleveland participated through the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC) to create and adopt a Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and Fair Housing and Equity Assessment. This document prescribed 10 private sector and 6 public sector strategies to be pursued to affirm fair housing in the City of Cleveland and its surrounding communities.

Specifically, there are 3 priorities in that are informed by goals identified in the 2013 Regional Analysis of Impediments and Fair Housing Choice:

- **Priority 1- 10 Year Housing Plan**
- Providing access, increasing access and expanding the stock of affordable housing, including Rental Assistance.- \$11,300,000
- Funding for Fair Housing activities is used to directly resolve issues with housing discrimination of available affordable housing units, or where available units are failing to make reasonable accommodations.
- **Priority 2- Economic Opportunities**
- This priority addresses the Cost Burden problem for renters.
- **Priority 3- Ending Poverty and Racial Disparities**
- Continued support of public housing provides decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, elderly and persons with disabilities. These informed priorities have resulted in the allocation of at least \$7,110,723 for the following projects/activities to be undertaken in the 2020-2021 grant year:
- Project # 3 Housing Trust Fund and Community Housing Development Organizations- \$4,893,451
- Through a competitive proposal process administered by the Department of Community Development, the Housing Trust Fund will provide a source of public capital for investment in housing development projects that will increase the supply of affordable housing units and/or assist in addressing housing related neighborhood revitalization strategies. This funding also is utilized to support public housing improvements and development.
- Project #5 Emergency Solutions and Homeless Prevention- \$4,540,625.00
- As a result of continued high demand for shelter services, CDBG funds are used to supplement Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. The combined ESG and CDBG homeless services funds for shelter services are allocated through a proposal process carried out in cooperation with the

Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services.

- Project #12 Citywide Development Organizations Activities - \$305,000.00
- This program provides operating support to nonprofit CDCs for CDBG eligible services and real estate development activities in strategic geographic areas and neighborhoods. Services include assisting tenants of rental properties and real estate development activities support the creation of affordable housing.
- Project #13 Fair Housing and Consumer Protection- \$90,000.00
- Equal opportunity (EO) and fair housing enforcement and education activities to reduce incidences of housing discrimination. Administered through the Office of Fair Housing & Consumer Affairs.
- Project #6 NDA, CDCs and Third-Party Public Service

The entire budget for this project is not solely directed at AFFH efforts, many of the public services funded do support AFH efforts, therefore the \$ 1,683,016 is not included in the above total, but it should be recognized as an important part of Cleveland's efforts. The Department of Community Development will contract with various non-profit organizations to administer CDBG eligible public service activities for families, youth and senior adults.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

This question intentionally left blank.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The major obstacle to meeting underserved needs in the community is the lack of resources. Between 2006 and 2016, Cleveland's CDBG allocation declined by 21.1% and the HOME allocation by 45.7%. The peak of funding occurred in 1995 when these programs combine totaled almost \$41 million.

Since then current entitlement amounts less than 43% peak amounts. The decline in CDBG and HOME funds was offset by the receipt of federal assistance through the Housing and Recovery Act of 2008 and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; these funds were also needed because of the collapse of the housing market and the economy as a whole. Most of these funds have now been expended. With the continued impact of the foreclosure crisis on housing vacancy and abandonment in Cleveland neighborhoods, along with slow growth in local employment opportunities, obstacles to meeting underserved needs remain high.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Cleveland will continue to foster and maintain affordable housing through a variety of programs directed toward renters, homebuyers, and homeowners. For additional information, refer to section AP-35 Project Summaries.

In addition, the City considers fair housing efforts to be an important tool to foster and maintain affordable housing. The Department of Community Development works with the City's Community Relations Board to affirmatively further fair housing and neighborhood stabilization objectives:

- Promote cultural diversity as a positive value in the development and maintenance of stable, integrated neighborhoods.
- Assure that all protected classes of persons, as outlined in the City's Fair Housing Ordinance, have equal access to all segments of the City's housing market. The Fair Housing Ordinance covers discrimination in housing rental and sales transactions, lending, homeowners insurance, and appraisals. It also provides protection against discrimination in retail and commercial activities.

The primary enforcement vehicle is the Fair Housing Review Board and its staff, which receives individual complaints of discrimination in the housing market; monitors real estate professionals for patterns and practices which illegally restrict housing opportunities for minorities, women, and others protected under the City's ordinance; and facilitates community education programs to promote

understanding of fair housing laws, appreciation of cultural diversity, and affirmative marketing of Cleveland neighborhoods.

The Community Relations Board also contracts with local non-profit fair housing organizations to monitor real estate sales and rental activities to identify discriminatory practices.

In August 2014, the City of Cleveland completed a new Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice plan, including a Fair Housing Plan of Action.

In addition, the City's monitoring of lending institutions has important fair housing implications. A key factor of lender evaluation is equal access of minority borrowers to all forms of housing credit. Past CRA challenges filed by the City have been based significantly on statistical evidence of apparent discriminatory lending practices. This will continue to be a focus of all future evaluations of lending institution performance.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Cleveland recognizes that a large proportion of elevated blood level cases occur in Cleveland.

The City will continue to utilize HUD funds to reduce childhood lead exposure in the Cleveland housing stock and will comply with federal regulations to remediate lead hazards. The City will also leverage funds across its available programs to address lead hazards and will work in collaboration with other public and private entities to extend lead poisoning prevention services to Cleveland residents.

In November 2015, the City of Cleveland Department of Community Development was awarded a three-year \$3.7 million HUD Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration and Healthy Homes Grant. The grant includes a goal to perform lead hazard remediation work in a total of 220 housing units and address health and safety hazards in 80 income-eligible owner-occupied and rental housing units located throughout the City where a child under the age of six resides or frequents.

In Spring of 2018, the City of Cleveland applied and was awarded a second HUD Lead Hazard Reduction Grant. The \$9.1 million in funding will address 400+ housing units over three years in four census tracts in the Glenville neighborhood.

In Fall of 2021, the City of Cleveland applied and was awarded a third HUD Lead Hazard Reduction Grant. The \$3.5 million in funding will address 300+ housing units over three years across the City of Cleveland.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Taken at the most basic level, the key to escaping poverty is finding and holding full-time employment with health care and other job benefits. The City of Cleveland's extensive economic development efforts

are focused on retaining and creating employment generating activity in Cleveland, thereby reducing the overall poverty level. The following initiatives are specifically directed at expanding economic opportunities for low-income Cleveland residents.

Workforce Development

The City of Cleveland will continue to work jointly with Cuyahoga County in a collaborative workforce system, Employment Connection, to help local employers meet their human capital needs and assist residents with the tools necessary for a successful job search, including maintaining strong partnerships with business, the public sector and local educational institutions to ensure that training programs supply the skills employers seek.

Fannie M. Lewis Cleveland Resident Employment Law

The City of Cleveland will continue to enforce this local ordinance, which requires many construction activities receiving assistance through a City of Cleveland contract to hire City of Cleveland residents and low-income persons as a share of their workforce.

Community Benefits Agreement

The City and its partners will continue to emphasize this 2013 public-private agreement focusing investment to create direct benefits for Cleveland residents by increasing pre-apprentice and apprenticeship training opportunities, connecting qualified local residents with job opportunities, increasing utilization of minority, female and locally owned business enterprises as both prime and subcontractors, and convening a committee to monitor progress.

Use of HUD Resources for Job Creation Activities

Cleveland will continue to identify specific job creating economic development projects that can be supported through the use of HUD's Section 108 financing (both in the Pooled Bond Fund and the Supplemental Empowerment Zone funding) and Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds. The City of Cleveland will also utilize its Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NSRAs) to create jobs and eliminate slum and blight in these areas by providing enhanced economic development and job training activities.

For additional information, refer to section SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy, in the FY 2016-2020 Five-Year Plan.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Department of Community Development recognizes that in this era of devolution of funds, effective solutions to the challenges Cleveland neighborhoods face must cross disciplinary lines. Coordination is embraced in our program operations. The Department's institutional structure for the delivery of

housing and community development activities consists of a broad array of public, private and nonprofit organizations described in more detail in section SP-40. The City always seeks to strengthen this institutional structure.

Through the end of the grant year, 2025-2026, the City of Cleveland Department of Community Development will be undertaking the following to help develop the institutional structure of the Entitlement program in the Department and with its partners.

- Finalizing the implementation of Department Reorganization
- Increase public participation

In 2024, the Department of Community Development implement a new Grants Management System based on Microsoft Power Platform. Contract and Payments modules were completed and implemented in Fall of 2024. Other modules to support various programs are being developed, implemented and improved, including but not limited to:

- Compliance
- Universal Resident Application
- Universal Developer Application
- Universal Partner Application.

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

The City of Cleveland's Department of Community Development is the lead agency for planning and administering programs funded through the four HUD entitlement programs included in the Consolidated Plan. In carrying out this responsibility, the City will continue to work in cooperation with other public entities, and by extension their networks of health, mental health, and service agencies, to provide programs and services to Cleveland residents:

- The Cleveland Department of Building and Housing, which is responsible as a subgrantee for code enforcement, building demolition and other key aspects of the City's neighborhood revitalization strategies.
- The Cleveland Department of Public Health, which is responsible as a subgrantee for developing plans for HOPWA funds and other resources for addressing the needs of persons with HIV/AIDS.
- The Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services, which is a joint effort of the city and county governments. It has primary responsibility for the development of the Continuum of Care for the
- homeless and the annual application to HUD for competitive supportive housing program

funding. It also assists the City with the allocation of Emergency Solutions Grant funds.

The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA), which is the local public housing agency, managing more than 10,000 public housing units and administering more than 14,000 rental housing

Discussion:

This question intentionally left blank.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

This section is intentionally left blank.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	90.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

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

as follows:

Not applicable.

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

The City uses recapture when HOME funds are used for homebuyer activities. If HOME Program funds are utilized to assist low-income homebuyers, the following loan terms and recapture provisions will be implemented to assure compliance with program regulations:

- HOME Program funds will be used as 0% deferred loans. Each loan will be secured by a subordinate mortgage and promissory note.
- The term of the loan will be equal to the required HOME affordability period.
- The loan will be reduced monthly on a pro-rata basis throughout the loan term for each month that borrower occupies the property as the borrower's primary residence. If the borrower has not disposed of, sold, refinanced, transferred, ceased to occupy the property as borrower's primary residence, or otherwise defaulted on any provision of the loan until the maturity date, then the principal amount of the loan will be forgiven.
- A property foreclosure or a transfer in lieu of foreclosure to the first mortgage holder may prematurely end the affordability period, as long as either action is not for the purpose of avoiding low-income affordability restrictions.

The following are the recapture provisions in the event of foreclosure or if the borrower decides to sell the property during the affordability period (the sale of the property must be at fair market value): the amount due to City is the outstanding loan balance payable from net proceeds. Net proceeds of a sale are the sales price minus the amount due under the first mortgage, taxes due, and any closing costs. If there are insufficient net proceeds remaining after the sale to pay the full outstanding loan balance, net proceeds will be shared under the following formula. The amount due to City will be the outstanding Loan balance at the time of the sale divided by the sum of the outstanding loan balance due to City at the time of the sale and the borrower's Investment multiplied by the net proceeds. Borrower's Investment is defined as the portion of the initial down payment paid by the borrower combined with the value of any capital improvements made with the borrower's funds (borrower will have to document the capital investments made up to the time of sale of the property). If there are no net proceeds, the City will not recover the HOME investment.

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

In the event of foreclosure, or if the borrower decides to sell the property during the affordability

period (the sale of the property must be at fair market value): the amount due to City is the outstanding loan balance payable from net proceeds. Net proceeds of a sale are the sales price minus the amount due under the first mortgage, taxes due, and any closing costs. If there are insufficient net proceeds remaining after the sale to pay the full outstanding loan balance, net proceeds will be shared under the following formula. The amount due to City will be the outstanding loan balance at the time of the sale divided by the sum of the outstanding loan balance due to City at the time of the sale and the borrower's Investment multiplied by the net proceeds. Borrower's Investment is defined as the portion of the initial down payment paid by the borrower combined with the value of any capital improvements made with the borrower's funds (borrower will have to document the capital investments made up to the time of sale of the property).

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

Not Applicable. Cleveland does not intend to use HOME funds to refinance existing multifamily debt.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).
6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).
7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

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

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

Continuum of Care is managed by the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS) which receives partial operating support from the City of Cleveland. Policies and procedures for use of ESG funds are made through the OHS and the OHS Advisory Board. Combined City and County ESG funds are allocated through a request for proposals issued by the OHS. The OHS also manages the Homeless Management Information System which generates HUD required

information for the CAPER.

Because ESG is an essential component of funding for basic emergency shelter services in Cleveland, up to 60% of ESG allocations will be used for this purpose; the balance will be focused on Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) services. Policies and procedures for use of ESG funds for RRH and prevention are as follows:

Rapid Re-Housing assistance is available to homeless households under the following circumstances: sleeping in an emergency shelter; sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g. cars, abandoned buildings, sidewalks); or fleeing domestic violence.

The purpose of RRH is to help eligible program participants quickly obtain and maintain permanent housing. A household's ability to sustain housing will not be a threshold requirement for program assistance.

Homeless prevention assistance is available under the following circumstances:

- Coordinated Entry staff have determined a Household can be diverted from shelter only if ESG assistance is made available;
- Cleveland's Department of Aging has determined an elderly person is facing imminent homelessness through loss of their current housing unless ESG assistance is provided.

Homeless prevention assistance is available to households with incomes below 30% of the area median.

Financial Assistance

In no case may financial assistance be made directly to program participants. Payments must be made to third parties, such as landlords and utility companies. Financial assistance is limited to payment of rent, rental arrears, security deposits, utility payments and deposits when the assistance is necessary for a move from homelessness to stable housing.

Tenant - based rental assistance may be provided to help households obtain and remain in suitable rental units. Rental assistance may be provided for a specific timeframe as determined through operating policies and procedures of the RRH program implementation plan. The overall objective is to assure the household does not return to homelessness.

Service providers must verify and retain documentation showing client need for assistance and calculation of ESG assistance provided.

Rental assistance may not exceed the actual rental cost, which must be in compliance with HUD's standard of "reasonableness." Rent reasonableness means the total rent charged for a unit must be reasonable in relation to rents charged during the same time period for comparable units in the private unassisted market; and must not be in excess of rents being charged by the owner during

the same time period for comparable non-luxury unassisted units. ESG funds may be used to pay security and/or utility deposits, if these are required for program participants to obtain housing.

Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services

Program participants may receive assistance with housing placement and stabilization. Relocation services may include housing location, inspection and negotiation of lease terms. Stabilization services may include case management designed to link program participants to community resources and mainstream benefits and working with participants to develop a plan to prevent future housing instability.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

The City of Cleveland, through support for the Office of Homeless Services (OHS), is utilizing available ESG funds to the fullest extent possible to support services aimed at reducing the number of people entering homeless shelters, and helping those experiencing homelessness to move into permanent housing as quickly as possible. This includes the development of a single site, Coordinated Entry System for single adults, families, and youth.

Coordinated Entry (CE) enables limited available resources to be used most effectively by matching client need with the appropriate level of services. The Coordinated Entry system provides three key activities:

- a) Diversion
- b) Immediate shelter
- c) A housing plan to leave shelter

Diversion: ESG funds for homelessness prevention will be focused very specifically at the door of the shelter by diverting newly homeless persons and households. Persons seeking entry into an emergency shelter are assessed to determine if they have a safe alternative to shelter. If there is a safe, stable alternative, the household may be diverted from entering the shelter system. This diversion effort is not intended to discourage persons and families who have critical shelter needs. Diversion is intended to identify specific issues leading to homelessness that can be immediately addressed so a stay in a shelter may be avoided.

Immediate Shelter: Individuals and families who cannot be diverted and who are literally homeless will be provided a more complete assessment to determine other immediate critical needs, emergency shelter placement and barriers to accessing permanent housing. Households needing emergency shelter are provided space that night.

Housing Exit Plan: Individuals and families entering shelter have a "Housing Exit Plan" to accompany them to the shelter site. Shelter Staff are responsible for beginning to work with the individual/family, immediately to help the household leave shelter as quickly as possible.

HEARTH ACT regulations prohibit homeless data for persons who identify as victims of domestic violence from being entered into the HMIS data collection system. Victims of DV who seek emergency shelter through Coordinated Entry are assisted to access shelter in a DV shelter. If space is not available in a DV specific shelter, DV victims are referred to safe and secure shelter in a confidential shelter location and linked with a victim services provider immediately to develop a safety plan and legal protections if needed. The DV shelter participates in an HMIS comparable data system unique to domestic violence shelter providers. The aggregated data related to numbers served, demographics of the population, and program services and outcomes are provided to the HMIS Administrator to add to the CoC aggregated numbers.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

A small portion of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds will be retained by the City of Cleveland for the provision of services through Cleveland's Department of Aging for elderly persons at risk of losing their home. The balance of program funds will be allocated through the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS). The OHS has been designated by the Office of Homeless Services Advisory Board as the Collaborative Applicant and lead agency for the Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care. The City of Cleveland's ESG funds, together with Cuyahoga County's ESG funds, ESG allocations to Cuyahoga County from the State of Ohio, and local levy dollars will be awarded to experienced and qualified non-profit service providers through a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The RFP is made available to any interested non-profit provider and units of local government. The RFP process must comply with the County's Office of Procurement & Diversity requirements as described in the County's Charter.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The City of Cleveland, in collaboration with the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS) consults with homeless and formerly homeless persons on a regular basis, in considering and making policies and decisions regarding facilities, services, or other assistance that will receive ESG funding, assuring City of Cleveland compliance with 24CFR 576.405(a). There are four primary ways that this communication is facilitated:

a) Continuum of Care (CoC) and ESG goals, strategies, and implementation plans are developed through the Office of Homeless Services Advisory Board, which meets every other month. The OHS Advisory Board is comprised of representatives of the City, the County, the VA, the Public Housing Authority, the Coalition for the Homeless, providers, stakeholders, and homeless and formerly homeless persons. The Advisory Board establishes subcommittees that address specific policy issues. Participation on these committees is open to anyone in the community - including

homeless/formerly homeless persons. One of the Sub-committees which was established in FY2012 is the Emergency Solutions Grant Steering Committee. The HEARTH act requires communities to provide oversight to the ESG program. This Committee meets every other month and includes provider reports on implementation, clients served, performance outcomes, and emerging issues.

The Board and every committee the Board has established has benefitted from the inclusion and participation of homeless/formerly homeless individuals.

b) The City of Cleveland enacted an Ordinance in 1999 that requires ESG sub- recipients to include one or more homeless, or formerly homeless, clients on the Board of the provider organization. The OHS reviews sub-recipient compliance with this requirement annually as part of the contract award process.

c) The local Homeless Coalition has created a group called the Homeless Congress. Homeless and formerly homeless persons attend the monthly meetings. Staff from the OHS as well as provider staff attends these meetings to be aware of client concerns, to share CoC information, and to receive feedback on CoC policies/initiatives.

d) As part of the annual Review & Ranking process for the HUD Homeless Assistance Grant NOFA, clients are solicited for input via a Consumer Satisfaction Survey. The responses have a scoring metric which is factored into the project's overall rating and ranking. If the Consumer Survey score is below a certain value, or if there is less than a 30% return rate for survey responses, the Committee automatically follows up with the provider agency and the clients to assure that client concerns are clearly articulated and responded to in a positive way.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The City of Cleveland helps to develop, and supports, the ESG Performance Standards administered by the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) and approved by the Office of Homeless Services Advisory Board. The OHS has been designated by the OHS Advisory Board as the lead Homeless Management Information System agency. The CoC has selected "ServicePoint," a software solution, to support the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The OHS provides ServicePoint licenses, training, and support to all homeless service providers in the CoC. ESG/HUD sub-recipients are required by the HEARTH Act to participate in HMIS. Non-publicly funded providers are encouraged by the OHS to participate in HMIS. Participants are required to enter the 16 prescribed data element points into HMIS consistently, accurately, and in a timely manner. The Domestic Violence shelter participates in an HMIS comparable data system unique to domestic violence shelter providers. The aggregated data related to numbers served, demographics of the population, and program services and outcomes are provided to the HMIS Administrator to add to the CoC aggregated numbers.

The following standards are aligned with the HEARTH Act's objectives to reduce and end homelessness. The OHS Systems Administrator will provide reports monitoring outcome data on the following outcome measures:

1. Diversion: A minimum of 20% of newly homeless households seeking shelter will be successfully diverted to a safe alternative to shelter placement;
2. Length of Stay: Implementing rapid exit strategies will shorten the Average Length of Stay (ALOS) by 10%. The ALOS benchmark will be the actual ALOS of the previous year.
3. Returns to shelter: Using the percentage return rate from two years previous as the benchmark, the CoC will target reducing returns to shelter by 5% per year.

An ESG Steering Committee established by the OHS Advisory Board tracks performance outcome information on a quarterly basis and presents a report to the OHS Advisory Board annually.

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