



MOUNT VERNON URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

FISCAL YEAR 2018

DRAFT

City of Mount Vernon

Richard Thomas, Mayor

City of Mount Vernon Council Members 2018

City Council President

Lisa A. Copeland

City Council President Pro Tem

Andre Wallace

City Council Acting President Pro Tem

Janice Duarte

City Councilperson

Delia M. Farquharson

City Councilperson

Marcus A. Griffith

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Executive Summary

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

Introduction

This Annual Action Plan (AAP) is the fourth of five annual updates to the 2015-2019 City of Mount Vernon, New York Consolidated Plan (ConPlan). Previously, the City of Mount Vernon, New York completed a five (5) year Strategic Plan for the 2015-2019 program year that focuses on issues related to community facilities and improvements, housing preservation and rehabilitation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, and planning and administration. The City of Mount Vernon, New York completed a five (5) year Strategic Plan for the 2015-2019 program year that focuses on issues related to community facilities and improvements, housing preservation and rehabilitation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, and planning and administration.

The AAP outlines the City's current priorities and strategies to address housing and community development goals using 2018 federal community development funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and from other federal and state sources. This AAP describes projected HUD 2018 funding levels, state and other resources expected for the year, program operation schedules, goals, objectives, and planned operations for the following five programs:

The City of Mount Vernon, New York completed a five (5) year Strategic Plan for the 2015-2019 program year that focuses on issues related to community facilities and improvements, housing preservation and rehabilitation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, and planning and administration.

For Fiscal Year 2018, the City of Mount Vernon anticipates that it will receive \$1,633,848 in CDBG funds and \$467,855 in HOME funds. A maximum of 15% (245,077.20) of the total CDBG allocation will be made available for public service programs and projects to be administered by the City or by subrecipients. In addition, the City is making available \$52,580 from 2017 program income. The City will utilize CDBG funds to support the following priority areas:

- Employment and Job-Training
- Addressing Recidivism and Supporting Re-Entry
- Addressing the Needs of the Elderly, Including Through Services;
- Closing the Digital Divide

The City also has approximately \$1.562 million remaining in unspent HOME funds from prior program years. The City will utilize HOME funds to establish the following programs:

- A home buyers assistance program;
- Owner rental rehabilitation program. The program will prioritize assistance to the elderly, disabled, and veterans.
- Construction or renovation of one to two homes for low moderate income buyers who participate in the home buyer assistance program being established by the City of Mount Vernon. The City will work with a CHDO on this initiative.
- TBRA for Veterans – The city is exploring providing rental assistance funds to veterans.

In addition, the City anticipates receiving \$1,056,710 in FY 2017 Continuum of Care grant funds to continue to assist homeless residents by providing housing and supportive services and to prevent homelessness by providing those at-risk of homelessness with supportive services.

Community Development Block Grant funds have greatly impacted our community by providing funds for affordable housing development activities, improving neighborhood walkability, with sidewalk replacement, enhancing low to moderate area playgrounds and parks, utilizing the 15% annually of entitlement funds for the purpose of funding human service agencies, and providing funding opportunities to promote and enhance the local economy.

Funding priorities are based on the following criteria:

- Meeting statutory requirements of the CDBG and HOME Programs
- Meeting the needs of low and moderate income (LMI) residents
- Focusing on LMI areas or neighborhoods
- Impacted areas of concentrated minorities or LMI persons
- Coordination and leveraging of resources
- Links to ongoing planning activities
- Response to expressed need
- Ability to demonstrate measurable progress and success

The City has undergone significant electoral leadership and programmatic staffing changes since the approval of the Consolidated Plan. The challenges have been most significant with respect to the administration of the HOME program. Since 2015, the City has not yet been able to work with a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) -- over the last six months, there has been extensive work done in this area, and discussion and negotiations have involved Habitat for Humanity and Allied Community Enterprises.

The Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency released an RFP for program review, the development of written policies and procedures, and technical assistance related to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HOME Investment Partnerships Program. TDA Consulting will provide technical assistance to the City to create protocols, processes, and

templates. The City and TDA Consulting are working closely with Allied Community Enterprise to utilize the CHDO set-aside funds in the upcoming year.

The City of Mount Vernon is committed to using these funds to assist and improve the lives of the low to moderate income individuals/families living in the City of Mount Vernon. The City will utilize CDBG and HOME funds to improve and promote homeownership, home repair, public improvements, public services, neighborhood revitalization, and economic development.

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 goals and outcomes identified in the 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan are based on the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan, which describes how federal funds and other resources will be deployed and what actions will be taken to address community development over the next five years. This year, the following goals will be addressed. They are prioritized based on the community engagement process for the 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan.

- Youth Programs
- Employment and Training
- Economic Development
- Public Facilities
- Public Infrastructure
- Recidivism
- Special Code Enforcement
- Small Business Assistance
- Domestic Violence
- Hunger
- Digital Divide
- Foreclosure Counseling
- Fair Housing Counseling
- Senior Services
- Residential Rehabilitation
- Home Buyer Assistance Program
- Homeless Prevention
- Administration

Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects. The City of Mount Vernon has struggled with performance in the past due to turn over in administration and staff. The current administration is addressing performance by

instituting several measures to improve performance; seeking and acquiring staff training, working with staff to ensure program compliance and conducting an organizational assessment to ensure adequate staffing to operate the CDBG and HOME Programs. As noted earlier, the City has hired TDA Consulting to assist in this effort.

Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

1. The process for the draft Consolidated and/or Annual Action Plan, begins in January.
2. A public hearing was held on January 31, 2018 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm at City Hall. Over 200 residents attended the public hearing. The purpose of the hearing was to: (1) obtain the views and comments from individuals and organizations regarding the overall housing and community development needs of the City; and (2) receive input on the re-programming of Community Development Block Grant funds from Fiscal Year 2014, Fiscal Year 2015, and Fiscal Year 2016.
3. On January 23, 2018 an online survey is released seeking public input on the 2018 Annual Action Plan. The online survey closed on March 2, 2018. There were 243 individuals who participated in the online survey. Out of the 248 responses: 103 were from Mount Vernon residents, 81 were from Westchester County residents and 59 were from outside of Westchester County.
4. On April 27, 2018 the CDBG request for proposals is released. The CDBG application is posted on the City of Mount Vernon's website, distributed to agencies, organizations, individuals/agencies/organizations that have requested via email or postal mail. The City of Mount Vernon also reached out to citizens by posting notices in public places (libraries, post offices), social media, through a local newspaper, postings on community bulletin boards, and in businesses located in low/moderate areas and through postings in non-for-profit agency offices.
5. CDBG Application Deadline: May 29, 2018 at 4:00pm
6. A second public hearing was held on June 7, 2018 at 6:00pm in the City Council Chambers. This was an opportunity for residents to hear from applicants who presented a summary of their application. Applicants that received CDBG funding in the past were also required to report on past performance and outcomes. Over 60 participants attended the hearing.
7. On June 2018, CDBG public service applications were reviewed by a Citizen Review Committee. There were no city staff on the review committee.
8. On July 9, 2018, the draft 2018 Annual Action Plan is released. There will be a 30 day

public comment period. The public is invited to submit written comments during the comment period. Those comments will be summarized and addressed in the annual plan.

9. There will be a third public hearing on August 2, 2018 at 5:00pm. The City/Agency will hold a Public Hearing on the draft 2018 Annual Action Plan.

10. On August 10, 2018, the City/Agency will submit the 2018 Annual Action Plan to HUD.

CDBG Annual Funding Application Timeline:

Task or Event	Date/Deadline	Where
Online Survey Released	January 23, 2018	www.cmvny.com/cdbg
Public Hearing: 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan; Reprogramming of 2014, 2015, 2016 CDBG funds	January 31, 2018, 6:00pm- 8:00pm	City Council Chambers 1 Roosevelt Square Mount Vernon, NY 10550
Online Survey Closed	March 2, 2018	www.cmvny.com/cdbg
CDBG Application Released	April 17, 2018	www.cmvny.com/cdbg
Pre-Application Workshops (Mandatory for applicants to attend one workshop)	Session I: April 24, 2018, 5:00pm Session II: April 25, 2018, 6:00pm Session III: May 2, 2018, 10:00am Session IV: May 10, 2018, 3:00pm	City Hall, Memorial Room 1 Roosevelt Square Mount Vernon, NY 10550
Applications Due: CDBG Application Deadline Extension due to Memorial Day Holiday, City Hall closed early	May 25, 2018, 4:00pm May 29, 2018, 4:00pm	Hand Delivery Recommended
Public Hearing: 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan; Past CDBG Performance and Mandatory Applicant Presentations	June 7, 2018 6:00pm	City Hall City Council Chambers 1 Roosevelt Square
Release of Draft FY 2018-19 Annual Action Plan for 30 day public review and comment period	July 9, 2018	www.cmvny.com/cdbg
Public Hearing: To hear public comment on the proposed goals and funds allocation of the FY2018-19 Annual Action Plan	August 1 2018 10:00am	City Hall City Council Chambers 1 Roosevelt Square
Conclusion of Public Review and comment period for 2018-19 Annual Action Plan	July 23, 2018	
Submission Deadline for 2018 Annual Action Plan	August 16, 2018	

Final Approval of the 2018-19 Annual Action Plan by HUD	TBD	
Subrecipient Grant Award Notification	TBD	

Summary of public comments

All comments can be found in Appendix A.

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

All comments relevant to the Community Development Block Grant were taken into consideration in preparing the FY 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan. Comments deemed not relevant were passed on to appropriate departments. All comments can be found in Appendix A.

Summary

As noted above all comments from the public meeting, public hearings and the online survey were taken into consideration. Public participation provides the framework for the goals and projects and ultimately shape the funding decisions provided within this Annual Action Plan. The following list of priorities are CDBG eligible project/program areas that are ranked according to community input. 1 being the most important to 14 being the least important. The list of priorities correlates to the Annual Goals and Objectives chart in AP 20 and the Projects Summary in AP 38.

Priority Projects:

- Employment and Training
- Improving Sidewalks and Curbs
- Enhancing Parks and Playgrounds
- Youth Programs
- Senior Services
- Reentry Population
- Small Business Assistance
- Eviction Prevention
- Foreclosure Counseling
- Fair Housing Counseling
- Hunger
- Domestic Violence
- Special Code Enforcement

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

Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

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

Agency Role		Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	MOUNT VERNON	Department of Planning and Community Development	
HOME Administrator	MOUNT VERNON	Department of Planning and Community Development	

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Mount Vernon’s Department of Planning & Community Development (City), in conjunction with the Urban Renewal Agency (Agency), is responsible for the administration and implementation of projects funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The City is also responsible for providing guidance and policy direction for implementing eligible programs that support the City’s overall strategy for community revitalization.

The City through the Planning Department and Urban Renewal Agency established priorities, goals and selected projects that were in alignment with the Consolidated Plan to meet the needs of the community.

Within City government, the Planning Department is able to draw on the expertise of other departments to deliver programs and see delivery of identified outcomes. The Department of Public Works assists with public infrastructure and park improvements. The Department of Recreation assists with improving playgrounds and providing scholarships to low-and moderate-income families to increase recreational opportunities. The Youth Bureaus assists with providing summer camp, after-school programs and employment and training to low income youth. Further the City works with a variety of community based organizations to assist with the delivery of programs and services.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information:

Chantelle Okarter
 Commissioner of Planning and Community Development
 Executive Director Mount Vernon Urban Agency

Mount Vernon Department of Planning and Community Development
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AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

Introduction

The City of Mount Vernon’s Department of Planning & Community Development/Urban Renewal Agency has made extensive efforts to consult with other public and private entities that provide assisted housing, health services, and social services in the development of this Plan. On April 16, 2015 and April 20, 2015 public, private and non-profit organizations, whose missions is to focus on providing affordable housing and human services to low-and moderate-income persons, were invited to participate in a series of stakeholder meetings that assisted in identifying and refining the priorities and strategies of the 2015- 2019 Consolidated Plan.

The City, in coordination with its Consultant, facilitated the meetings with small groups of stakeholders, including the City’s housing, community development, and Continuum of Care providers. The first session of the meetings references the Housing and Homeless Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan. Activities were identified which the City could undertake to enhance coordination among public and assisted housing providers, including private, governmental health, mental health and service agencies. The second session of the meetings focused on the barriers to obtaining and the creating of affordable rental and ownership housing in the City. Methods and strategies were identified to mitigate or eliminate these barriers. The second session also references the *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI)* which is attached to this Plan.

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

The City of Mount Vernon’s Urban Renewal Agency partnered with Westchester Residential Opportunities (WRO), Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV), Neighborhood Health Center, the Guidance Center, and the Mount Vernon United Tenants Association (MVUTA) to assist low-income families at risk of becoming displaced, and potentially homeless, due to foreclosure and/or eviction proceedings.

Highlights:

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV)

LSHV entered into agreement with the Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency on August 21, 2017 and quickly organized to provide Mount Vernon residents HUD ESG \$11,273.99 of services and financial assistance until the expiration of the contract, ending September 30, 2017.

During this period, LSHV prevented an incident of homelessness for six (6) of Mount Vernon's neediest households with annual incomes under 30% of the Average Median Income as published by HUD for Westchester County. Homelessness was spared for a total of 9 household members.

Four of the six households were headed by females. One household, headed by a senior 69-year old female, was comprised of 3 members and another household affected two family members. One of the four households assisting individuals living alone included a 60 year old head of household physically disabled female. All 6 clients identified as African-American.

Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center

As of result of the ESG Grant, the Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center was able to provide medical, dental, and specialty care to 42 homeless Mount Vernon residents within a five-week period. The Neighborhood Health Center provided access to care to over 98 residents as well as created closer partnerships and collaborative efforts with the following Homeless locations:

Westchester Youth Shelter
220 East 3rd Street
Mount Vernon, NY
Which houses approximately 20 at risk adolescents

Vann Glenton Family Shelter
17 East 3rd Street
Mount Vernon, NY
Which houses approximately 30 families

Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center
745 South 3rd Avenue
Mount Vernon, NY
Which houses approximately 70 single men

Through the use of the 2010 ESG funds, the Neighborhood Health Center was able to expand their efforts to provide medical, dental, and specialty care to some of the most vulnerable residents within the City of Mount Vernon.

The Guidance Center of Westchester

With the ESG funds, The Guidance Center of Westchester rehoused four (4) formerly homeless individuals within the City of Mount Vernon. The Guidance Center located four (4) one bedroom apartments in an elevator-equipped building. Each participant received a security deposit to secure the unit in addition to the first and last month's rent. Five (5) participants also received utility assistance to help them pay for overdue bills that were on the verge of termination of services or who needed restoration of services.

Mount Vernon United Tenants (MVUTA)

MVUTA maintained tenants in their permanent homes, successfully re-housed tenants, improved and maintained essential services in tenants' apartments, limited rent increases and maintained affordability for clientele, and provided a safer, code-compliance, and more dignified housing experience. MVUTA also held monthly tenant meetings.

Sent out bi-monthly mailing to their local Mount Vernon member families of more than 230 members and delivered flyers to buildings in Mount Vernon outlining United Tenants' services.

Client intake was performed in MVUTA offices, helped clients prepare documents, and conducted case-management services for at-risk tenants. In addition, MVUTA worked closely with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley and Westchester Residential Opportunities, including regularly co-sponsoring public forums with both organizations.

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.

Continuum of Care (CoC) Program

Homeless services in the Westchester CoC are delivered by a network of local and Federal government, non-profit agencies, mental-health service organizations, affordable housing developers, public housing authorities, youth homeless providers, school administrators, victim service providers, and veterans service organizations.

The City of Mount Vernon sits on the Westchester CoC Board. The City participates in monthly CoC Board meetings. Members of the URA staff meet with officials of the Westchester County Continuum of Care consortia on a monthly basis to discuss mutual needs, resources and services that maximize and coordinate programs and services to the homeless.

Westchester County Department of Social Services (DSS) operates four district offices that act as access points for households in housing crisis. Homeless households are placed by DSS into 24-hour emergency shelters for single adults, homeless families, victims of domestic violence, and youth. Overnight drop-in shelters house 180-200 homeless men and women who are unable or unwilling to comply with DSS requirements to access the 24-hour shelters. Westchester also has seven (7) outreach teams that cover the entire CoC and target different

populations. These outreach teams refer homeless persons contacted to housing without shelter entry.

The General Membership of the Westchester CoC is open and includes all interested parties in the community concerned with the development and coordination of homeless assistance programs. The CoC Board includes 18 recipients and subrecipients of HUD COC grant funds, plus six (6) representatives from a number of community sectors including formerly homeless, ESG recipient, employment services, education, health care, veteran services, and three (3) at-large members.

The Westchester Continuum of Care assists in the coordination of these various stakeholders and the development and planning of services and housing for homeless and low-income persons with housing needs. Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health is the lead applicant and coordinates CoC planning.

The Westchester CoC implemented a Coordinated Entry system beginning December 2017. Homeless households can access Coordinated Entry at DSS District Offices, DSS emergency and overnight shelters, and through street outreach workers. Homeless persons in Coordinated Entry are assessed for severity of need, length of time homeless, and specific disabilities and barriers.

The Coordinated Entry Administrator then identifies the type of housing assistance appropriate to each household and refers homeless to available beds in priority order so that those with highest needs and length of time homeless are housed first.

In addition, the County provides homeless outreach teams that work with local police departments to identify and shelter homeless persons on the streets. The Veterans Administration, an active member of the CoC, also has mobile workers who conduct outreach in shelters and on the streets. Temporary and transitional housing and supportive services for single men and families are provided by several local not-for-profit organizations.

Westchester County as the lead agency for the Continuum of Care, administers the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to track multiple shelter entries over time and accurately identify people who potentially meet HUD's definition of chronically homeless.

The City of Mount Vernon administers CoC Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects, including beds targeted to Veterans and families with children. Participants in these PSH project receive housing plus supportive services including case management and linkages to community services and benefits.

Mount Vernon also provides funding to several community-based organizations which provide outreach and referral services to the homeless or those at-risk of homelessness including recently released female inmates, pregnant teens, families with housing problems and immigration needs and the elderly.

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

Westchester County, as lead agency for the Continuum of Care, administers the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to track multiple shelter entries over time that accurately identify people who potentially meet HUD's definition of chronically homeless. The Westchester County CoC is responsible for managing HMIS software licenses, training all users, developing, implementing and enforcing security policies and data quality standards, and providing data reports. All CoC funded agencies are users of the HMIS system.

The City of Mount Vernon does not receive Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds.

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

Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY HOUSING INNOVATIONS, INC.
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
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?	Deborah Post - met in April 2016
Agency/Group/Organization	Community Services Associates
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs 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	Roberta attended the CDBG/needs assessment forum

are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
Agency/Group/Organization	Lifting Up Westchester
Agency/Group/Organization Type Housing	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Regional organization

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Barbara Bento-Fleming consulted in two individual meetings in March 2016
Agency/Group/Organization	GREATER CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP.
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Rev. Julius Walls Jr. attended the CDBG/needs assessment workshop
Agency/Group/Organization	Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Jacel Kouns, Executive Director, attended the Not-for-profit summit at the Wartburg, Mount Vernon.
Agency/Group/Organization	MOUNT VERNON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Services-Health

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans
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	Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Opal Dunstan attended the Not-for-profit summit at the Wartburg, Mount Vernon.
Agency/Group/Organization	MOUNT VERNON UNITED TENANT
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Dennis Hanratty attended the CDBG/needs assessment workshop.
Agency/Group/Organization	The Guidance Center of Westchester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health Services-Education Regional organization

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?	Camille Webb, Director of Housing attended monthly Continuum of Care meetings.

Agency/Group/Organization	URBAN LEAGUE OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY, INC.
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Sharon Thomas attended the CDBG/needs assessment workshop.
Agency/Group/Organization	WESTCHESTER COALITION FOR THE HUNGRY & HOMELESS, INC.
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless

	Regional organization
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?	S. Davis attended the not-for-profit summit at the Wartburg, Mount Vernon
Agency/Group/Organization	WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Victims Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy 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?	Kiron Dawkins attended the not-for-profit summit at the Wartburg, Mount Vernon.
Agency/Group/Organization	WESTCHESTER DISABLED ON THE MOVE
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

		Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?		Achille Lolacson attended the not-for-profit summit at the Wartburg, Mount Vernon.
Agency/Group/Organization		WESTCHESTER RESIDENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Agency/Group/Organization Type		Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?		Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?		Geoffrey Anderson, Executive Director attended the CDBG/needs assessment workshop.
Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Westchester County	Mount Vernon is a participant in the Westchester Continuum of Care in its efforts to address homelessness and priority needs of homeless individual and families, including sub-populations. The CoC addresses the housing and supportive service needs in each stage of the process to help homeless persons make the transition to

		permanent housing and independent living. Mount Vernon will continue to support the CoC strategy to meet the needs of the homeless persons and those at risk of becoming homeless by providing entitlement funding for programs that emphasize support services to the homeless, in an effort to move the homeless toward self-sufficiency.
Mount Vernon Comprehensive Plan	City of Mount Vernon	Development of this Consolidated Plan will coordinate with the City's Comprehensive Plan Update. Recent and proposed changes to the City's zoning code, which will be examined as part of the Comprehensive Plan Update, permit higher density mixed-use development which will impact the development of affordable housing in the City.
Communities that Care	Mount Vernon Youth Bureau/Westchester County	Department of Probation Mount Vernon participated in the Communities that Care Network to employ a community based change process to reduce homelessness, tobacco/alcohol use and delinquency among youth.
The Mount Vernon Mental Health Network	County Department of Community Mental Health	Participated in the Mental Health Network to ensure the coordination of mental health services to engage mentally ill individuals in efforts to prevent them from entering the homeless system.

Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

The City previously reached out to a wide range of agencies and not-for-profits as part of its Consultation for the Needs Assessment, Housing Market Analysis and Strategic Plan development process. Please refer to the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan at:

www.cmvny.com/cdbg

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	Westchester County	

Narrative (optional)

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The process for the draft Consolidated and/or Annual Action Plan, begins in January. A public hearing was held on January 31, 2018 from 6:00pm- 8:00pm at City Hall. Over 200 residents attended the public hearing. The purpose of the hearing was to: (1) obtain the views and comments from individuals and organizations regarding the overall housing and community development needs of the City; and (2) receive input on the re-programming of Community Development Block Grant funds from Fiscal Year 2014, Fiscal Year 2015, and Fiscal Year 2016. The majority of the Mount Vernon residents in attendance requested funding for youth programs. There is a need for after-school programs and employment and training.

On January 23, 2018 an online survey is released seeking public input on the 2018 Annual Action Plan. The online survey closed on March 2, 2018. There were 243 individuals who participated in the online survey. Out of the 248 responses: 103 were from Mount Vernon residents, 81 were from Westchester County residents and 59 were from outside of Westchester County. See Appendix A for survey attachment with all responses.

On April 27, 2018 the CDBG request for proposals is released. The CDBG application is posted on the City of Mount Vernon’s website. The City of Mount Vernon also reached out to citizens by posting notices in public places (libraries, post offices), social media, through a local newspaper, postings on community bulletin boards, and in businesses located in low/moderate areas and through postings in non-profit agency offices. CDBG applications were due on May 29, 2018 at 4:00pm.

A second public hearing was held on June 7, 2018 at 6:00pm in the City Council Chambers. This was an opportunity for residents to hear from applicants who presented a summary of their application. Applicants that received CDBG funding in the past were also required to report on past performance and outcomes. Over 60 participants attended the hearing.

On June 2018, CDBG public service applications were reviewed by a Citizen Review Committee. There were no city staff on the review committee.

On July 9, 2018, the draft 2018 Annual Action Plan is released. There will be a 30 day public comment period. The public is invited to submit written comments during the comment period. Those comments will be summarized and addressed in the annual plan.

A third public hearing will be held on August 1, 2018 at 10:00am on the 2018 Annual Action Plan. The City/ Agency will reach out to citizens by posting notices in public places (libraries, post offices), social media, through local newspapers, postings on community bulletin boards and in businesses located in low-and moderate-income areas and through postings in non for profit agency offices.

The draft Annual Action Plan is available for public review at the following public locations:

City of Mount Vernon Department of Planning and Community Development

City Hall – Room 211
One Roosevelt Square,
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

City of Mount Vernon City Clerk's Office

City Hall, Room #104
One Roosevelt Square,
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

City of Mount Vernon Public Library

28 South First Avenue,
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

For Fiscal Year 2018, the City of Mount Vernon anticipates that it will receive \$1,633,848 in CDBG funds and \$467,855 in HOME funds. A maximum of 15% (245,077.20) of the total CDBG allocation will be made available for public service programs and projects to be administered by the City or by subrecipients. In addition, the City is making available \$52,580 from 2017 program income. The City also has \$950,000 remaining in unspent HOME funds from prior years.

In addition, the City anticipates receiving \$1,056,710 in FY 2017 Continuum of Care grant funds to continue to assist homeless residents by providing housing and supportive services and to prevent homelessness by providing those at-risk of homelessness with supportive services.

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

In addition to the Federal funding sources for the City's home-ownership and rental housing programs, sources of financial support are often granted to developers including but not limited to the New York State Development Corporation, Westchester County New Homes Land Acquisition Fund, Westchester County Housing Implementation Fund and New York State Affordable Housing Corporation.

To achieve the City's economic development goals and objectives the City coordinates with local merchants and developers to assist with facilitating funding opportunities and tax incentives which are available from a number of city agencies, including the Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency (URA) and the Mount Vernon Industrial Development Agency (IDA) among others.

In addition, the City of Mount Vernon combines HUD homeless funding with services provided by many community agencies that include: Montefiore Mount Vernon hospital, Family Service Society of Yonkers, The Guidance Center of Westchester, Lexington Center for Recovery, Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center, St. Johns Riverside Hospital, and Westchester County Department of Social Services.

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

Discussion

The City of Mount Vernon owns a number of parcels throughout the City which it has acquired through numerous avenues including condemnation and acquisition for back taxes owed. A significant portion of these properties are located in the distressed south side of the City. In the recently designated South Fourth Avenue-East Third Street Urban Renewal Area alone, the City owns 17 properties. The Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency (URA) and City Council designated a developer for these parcels which are anticipated to be utilized for a public/private parking garage, mixed use and affordable housing for families and ground floor retail. Construction is expected to begin in late 2018 early 2019.

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	Affordable Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Residential Rehabilitation Housing & Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS Services for the Homeless	CDBG: \$20,000 HOME: \$421,070	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Households Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Households Assisted Rental units rehabilitated: 100 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 100 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 100 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 100 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Economic Development	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West	Employment, Job Training Small Business Assistance, Construction Trades, Mayor's Scholarship, Crime Prevention	CDBG: \$325,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 20 Households Assisted
3	Neighborhood Revitalization	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West	Public Infrastructure/Public Improvements	CDBG: \$700,001	Public Facility/ Public Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 100 Household Housing Units
4	Program Administration	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Residential Rehabilitation Employment/Job Training Streetscape/Commercial Facade Improvements Services for the Homeless	CDBG: \$326,770 HOME: \$46,786	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Households Assisted

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	
2	Goal Name	Economic Development
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Goal Description	
4	Goal Name	Program Administration
	Goal Description	

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

In accordance with the federal regulations 24 CFR, Part 91, the City of Mount Vernon, New York has prepared a draft 2018 Annual Action Plan for submission for its Community Development Programs. This document is a requirement for direct financial assistance under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding programs including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). This plan includes the proposed draft budget for 2018.

For Fiscal Year 2018, the City of Mount Vernon anticipates that it will receive \$1,633,848 in CDBG funds and \$467,855 in HOME funds. A maximum of 15% (\$245,077) of the total CDBG allocation will be made available for public service programs and projects to be administered by the City or by subrecipients. In addition, the City of Mount Vernon is making available \$52,580 from 2017 program income.

The City of Mount Vernon will host a public meeting on Thursday, August 2, 2018, 5:00pm at the City Council Chambers Room.

Public Comments: The comment period is from July 6 to August 6, 2018. All stakeholders are encouraged to express their views on the proposed draft budget by emailing Dom McCoy at: DMcCoy@cmvny.com. Non-English speaking individuals and those who require the information in an alternative format may contact the Planning Department at 914-699-7320 to request assistance. All comments received by 12:00 NOON on August 6, 2018 will be considered.

Agency	Program	Category	Amount
Program Administration			
Urban Renewal Agency	CD Administration	Program Administration	\$326,770
			Total: \$326,770
Neighborhood Revitalization			
Urban Renewal Agency	Special Code Enforcement	Neighborhood Revitalization	\$170,000

Mount Vernon Public Library	Americans with Disabilities Act Improvements	Neighborhood Revitalization	\$15,900
Department of Public Works	Teen Center	Neighborhood Revitalization	\$50,000
Department of Public Works	Sidewalk replacement and curbs to address ADA Improvements in low to moderate area neighborhoods	Neighborhood Revitalization	\$464,101
			Total: \$700,001
Housing Services			
Urban Renewal Agency	Homebuyer Counseling Program	Housing Services	\$20,000
			Total: \$20,000
Economic Development			
The Guidance Center	Culinary Arts Program	Economic Development	\$10,000
The Guidance Center	Construction Trades Program	Economic Development	\$112,000
Women's Economic Development Corporation	Small Business Assistance	Economic Development	\$20,000
Urban Renewal Agency	Mayor's College Scholarship Program	Economic Development	\$50,000
Youth Bureau	Employment and Training	Economic Development	\$70,000
Youth Bureau	Crime Prevention – Address the needs of at risk populations and reduce recidivism	Economic Development	\$80,000
			Total: \$342,000
Public Services			
My Sister's Place	Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking	Public Service	\$30,000

Feeding Westchester – (includes funding for Soup kitchen, Backpack Program, Summer Feeding Program, Senior Grocery Program, Green Thumb Program, Mobile Food Pantry)	Hunger	Public Service	\$50,000
Community Service Associates	Hunger	Public Service	\$20,000
Westchester Residential Organization/Mount Vernon United Tenants	Eviction Prevention	Public Service	\$10,000
Westchester Residential Operations	Foreclosure Counseling	Public Service	\$10,000
Westchester Residential Operations	Fair Housing Counseling	Public Service	\$10,000
Mount Vernon Public Library	Laptops/Computers for Teen Center	Public Service	\$10,000
Department of Recreation (includes funding for Razorbacks, Westchester Jets, Halls Track, YCOP)	Increase Recreational Opportunities for Low-and Moderate-Income Youth	Public Service	\$70,000
Mount Vernon Youth Bureau (includes funding for St. Paul and Clement Summer Camp, Ujamaa Afterschool Program)	World of Work	Public Service	\$34,257
Family Services of Westchester	Elder Abuse Prevention Program	Public Service	\$25,000
Upon This Rock Ministries	Reentry Population	Public Service	\$28,400
			Total: \$297,657
CDBG total includes \$52,580 from 2017 program income		CDBG Total	\$1,686,428
Urban Renewal Agency	HOME Admin	Program Administration	\$46,786
TBD	HOME CHDO	Housing	\$170,000

TBD	Residential Rehabilitation	Housing	\$200,000
TBD	Down Payment/Closing Costs	Housing	\$51,070
		HOME Total	\$467,856

The draft 2018 Annual Action Plan is available on the City website: <http://cmvny.com/cdbg/>. Hard copies of the draft Annual Action Plan will also be made available for public review at the following public locations:

**City of Mount Vernon
Department of Planning and
Community Development**
City Hall
One Roosevelt Square, Room #211
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

**City of Mount Vernon
City Clerk's Office**
City Hall
One Roosevelt Square, Room #104
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

**City of Mount Vernon Public
Library**
28 South First Avenue
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

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

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Urban Renewal Agency CD Administration
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Residential Rehabilitation Employment/Job Training Streetscape/Commercial Facade Improvements Housing & Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS Services for the Homeless
	Funding	CDBG: \$326,770

	Description	Urban Renewal Agency and Planning and Community Development staff to carry out CDBG administration.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
2	Project Name	Urban Renewal Agency Special Code Enforcement
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Residential Rehabilitation Employment/Job Training Services for the Homeless Commercial Areas
	Funding	CDBG: \$170,000
	Description	Conduct code enforcement activities In CDBG target areas to ensure safe, decent and code compliant housing for LMI residents
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 100 LMI households will benefit.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Mount Vernon continues to struggle to recover from the economic and housing crisis that caused substantial blight in the community. The funds will be used to support the City's ongoing code enforcement efforts, that will be covered by two staff.

3	Project Name	Homebuyer Counseling Program
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000.00
	Description	Provide counseling services to participants in the homebuyer assistance program
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 low income individuals/families
	Location Description	Mount Vernon plans to establish a homebuyer assistance program.
Planned Activities	The City will work with Westchester Residential Opportunities to establish a homebuyer assistance program. CDBG funds will be used to provide homebuyer counseling.	
4	Project Name	The Guidance Center of Westchester (TCGW)
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Economic Development Recidivism, Reentry Population Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	TGCW has a new culinary arts program that will provide training to LMI individuals on food preparation techniques, food sanitation, quantity food production, catering, and plating. At least 75% CDBG funded program graduates will obtain employment in the food service industry.
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	

	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 Mount Vernon residents will receive \$500.00 scholarships.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Community outreach, participant recruitment, culinary skills training, identification of work experience and job placement sites, placement at work sites data collection, and final report.
5	Project Name	Construction Trades Program
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Employment/Job Training Recidivism, Reentry Population Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$112,000
	Description	TCGW has a construction trades program that will target LMI individuals and provide them with training and job placement with local developers.
	Target Date	January 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The CDBG funds will assist 40 LMI individuals.
	Location Description	256 Washington Street, Mount Vernon, NY
	Planned Activities	Community outreach, participant recruitment, construction skills training, placement at construction work sites, data collection, and final report.
	Project Name	Mayor's College Scholarship Program

6	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Employment/Job Training
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	LMI individuals will receive scholarships to attend college, universities, vocational schools.
	Target Date	August 2019 and January 2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 LMI individuals
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Community Outreach, participant recruitment, 25 LMI recipients identified, data collection and final report.
7	Project Name	Women's Enterprise Development Center, Inc. (WEDC)
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Small Business Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	WEDC will provide a 60 hour Entrepreneurial Training Program to prepare participants to successfully lead their own enterprises by providing a thorough introduction to planning, establishing, and operating a business.
	Target Date	60 hour Entrepreneurship Training will begin in February 2019.

Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 LMI individuals will be selected to participate in the program. The target population include women who are transitioning off public assistance, survivors of domestic violence, seniors, dislocated workers, those re-entering the workforce due to loss of employment, and all women interested in improving their financial well-being through entrepreneurship.
Location Description	TBD
Planned Activities	Participants will develop a comprehensive business plan which they will present to a panel of business leaders and bankers from the community.
Project Name	Youth Bureau – Employment and Training Program
Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
Goals Supported	Economic Development
Needs Addressed	Job Training
Funding	CDBG: \$70,000
Description	LMI individuals will be provided with employment and training opportunities at City Hall, non-profit organizations, and in the private sector. The target are individuals between the ages of 18-24.
Target Date	February 2019
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 LMI individuals will be selected to participate in the program. There is a high number of unemployed Mount Vernon residents between the ages of 18-24.
Location Description	City-wide
Planned Activities	Mentorship, leadership development, career exploration
Project Name	Youth Bureau – Crime Prevention
Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West

Goals Supported	Economic Development, Neighborhood Revitalization
Needs Addressed	CDBG funds will be used to address the needs of at risk populations and reduce recidivism
Funding	CDBG: \$80,000
Description	Youth Bureau will develop and implement strategies that are aligned with the federal My Brother's Keeper Initiatives that seeks to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by youth in the areas of education, juvenile justice, social and emotional health, and workforce development.
Target Date	February 2019
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	CDBG funds will be used to address the needs of 200 at-risk individuals.
Location Description	City-wide
Planned Activities	Youth development programs, job training, employment, GED pathways to post-secondary education.
Project Name	Mount Vernon Public Library – ADA Improvements
Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
Goals Supported	Neighborhood Revitalization
Needs Addressed	CDBG funds will be used to place a ramp for the disabled and to address other ADA improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$15,900
Description	The library will address ADA improvements which include the purchase of Kurzweill readers along with placing a ramp for the disabled.
Target Date	February 2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Mount Vernon residents who use the public library.
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Public Infrastructure improvements
	Project Name	Department of Public Works – Teen Center
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	CDBG funds will be used to renovate a city property for the purpose of creating a teen center.
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	The City will create a teen center that will be operated by the Youth Bureau.
	Target Date	February 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	100 LMI teenagers
	Location Description	Downtown
	Planned Activities	The teen center will serve as a community hub where teens can get tutoring and participate in after-school activities.
	Project Name	Department of Public Works
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West

	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Sidewalk replacement, curb cuts, and visibility signs to address ADA improvements in LMI neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$464,101
	Description	The Office of Planning and Community Development in coordination with the Department of Public Works will work together to install new sidewalks, curbing, drainage, visibility signs, and ADA improvements to meet the needs and priorities of the community. The use of CDBG funds for this purpose is an investment in the future vitality of our City.
	Target Date	February 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	City-wide
	Location Description	CDBG census-eligible census tracts
	Planned Activities	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Project Name	My Sister's Place
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	My Sister's Place will provide case-management to domestic violence and human trafficking victims.
	Target Date	February 2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 LMI individuals
	Location Description	Downtown Mount Vernon
	Planned Activities	Case management to LMI individuals who will need supportive services and housing.
	Project Name	Mount Vernon Public Library
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	The City is working closely with the library to address the digital divide. CDBG funds will enable teenagers to have access to computers and broadband.
	Target Date	February 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	LMI teens who use the library
	Location Description	Downtown Mount Vernon
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be used to purchase ten laptops for the library teen center.
	Project Name	Feeding Westchester

	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	Feeding Westchester serves individuals and families in Mount Vernon who do not know where they will find their next meal. 33% of these individuals are children under the age of 18, while 22% are seniors over the age of 60 living on a fixed income. Feeding Westchester is working to provide assurance for our clients, security that food will be available when it is needed. CDBG funds will be utilized to enable Feeding Westchester to target the areas of the city of Mt. Vernon where hunger and food insecurity are most concentrated.
	Target Date	January 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The expected number of food-insecure persons served through this grant in Mount Vernon is projected to be 13,194. This number focused on high-need service tracts within the city based on food-insecurity rates as found in a national study conducted by Feeding America.
	Location Description	A.B. Davis Middle School, Columbus Elementary School, Graham Elementary and Middle School. Grimes Elementary School, Holmes Elementary School, Macedonia Baptist Church, YCOP, Ridgeway Alliance Church, St. John, Paul, and Clement, Mount Vernon School District, Benjamin Turner

	Planned Activities	The following activities will take place: Expand Back Pack Program at four schools in Mount Vernon to reach 200 additional children with food to take home on weekends and during school breaks. Expand Senior Grocery Program to reach 285 additional individuals. Summer Feeding Program - Develop new distribution partners and sites in order to reach 500 additional children. Increase Green Thumb distribution capacity by 200 additional bags per month. Mobile Food Pantry – Onboard four new sites in high-target tract areas distributing an average of 4,500 pounds per distribution. Fresh Market Program – Develop one (1) new distribution site which will distribute 60,000 pounds of fresh food by year end. Demonstration Garden –Develop one new community/demonstration garden plan and build garden site (fencing, soil, amendments, cover crops, etc.) Work with the Soup kitchen to address increase need.
	Project Name	Community Service Associates
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	The soup kitchen provides dinner and a brown bag lunch tuesdays through Fridays.
	Target Date	January 2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 60 LMI individuals a day
	Location Description	Downtown Mount Vernon
	Planned Activities	Address hunger and food insecurity by providing dinner and a brown bag lunch for the following day.
	Project Name	Family Services of Westchester – Elder Abuse Prevention Program

	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Provide case management services to seniors and/or the elderly frail. Provide safe and stable housing through shelter stays and orders of protection to remove individuals doing harm from the home. Client's will be connected to other community resources such as Pace Women's Justice Center to meet their legal needs.
	Target Date	January 2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 LMI seniors/elderly frail
	Location Description	Downtown Mount Vernon
	Planned Activities	Provide counseling and case management services to seniors/elderly frail
	Project Name	Upon This Rock Ministries – Reentry Population
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$28,400
	Description	Provide case management services to reentry populations.
	Target Date	January 2018

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 LMI individuals
	Location Description	Downtown Mount Vernon
	Planned Activities	Address the needs of at-risk populations. Provide case management to reentry individuals.
	Project Name	Westchester Residential Opportunities/Mount Vernon United Tenants
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Assistance for elderly tenants facing eviction; homeless prevention; tenant advocacy
	Target Date	January 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Provide case management services to 75 individuals to address eviction prevention
	Location Description	Downtown
	Planned Activities	Maintain tenants in their housing through limiting rent increases, maintaining affordability, advocating for code compliance and emergency financial assistance.
	Target Date	January 2019
	Project Name	Westchester Residential Opportunities- Foreclosure Counseling

10	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Housing & Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS Services for the Homeless
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Fair Housing Counseling & Testing for Low Income Residents
	Target Date	January 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	50-75 LMI households including non-English speaking residents and residents with disabilities will be served 10-15 housing providers and co-op boards.
	Location Description	City-wide
Planned Activities	Fair housing education and outreach to LMI residents, community leaders, clergy and govt. officials to make them aware of fair housing rights and obligations.	
11	Project Name	Westchester Residential Opportunities- Foreclosure Prevention
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Housing & Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS Services for the Homeless
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Mortgage and Tax Default Counseling and Foreclosure Prevention.
	Target Date	January 2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30-50 eligible LMI households
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Counseling and advocacy for homeowners faced with foreclosure due to mortgage default and tax liens.
12	Project Name	Department of Recreation
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Youth Programs
	Funding	CDBG: \$70,000
	Description	Increase recreational opportunities for LMI Youth. The Department of Recreation will partner with YCOP, Halls Track, Razorbacks, Westchester Jets to provide scholarships for youth to participate in basketball, track, and football.
	Target Date	January 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 200 LMI Youth will have increased recreational opportunities.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	There will be sports activities year round for LMI youth.
13	Project Name	Mount Vernon Youth Bureau - World of Work
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Employment/Job Training

	Funding	CDBG: \$34,527
	Description	Provide after-school and job-training activities for LMI youth ranging in age from 14 years old -18 years old. The Youth Bureau will also partner with St. John Paul and Clement Church and Ujamaa Afterschool Program.
	Target Date	January 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<p>The Mount Vernon Youth Bureau has a goal to prepare 100 youth for eventual self-sufficiency by providing youth with skills, attitudes and competencies to enter college, the work force, or other meaningful activities.</p> <p>The program will target youth within families that receive public assistance services or parents whose income meets the 200% federal income poverty guidelines. The Youth Bureau will recruit youth that have barrier to employment, including: ex-offender status, court supervision, basis skill deficiency, disability, teen parenting, homelessness, foster care placement, minimal or no working experience, and English Language Learner.</p>
	Location Description	St. John, Paul and Clement Church, Ujamaa After School Program, City Hall, non-profit organizations, and the private sector
	Planned Activities	The Mount Vernon Youth Bureau (MVYB) serves 6,000 youth annually and operates after-school and summer programs in 12 schools, the public library, and local churches. The MVYB has the largest youth employment operation in the city, utilizing more than 50 businesses as training worksites. The MVYB also offers internship and volunteer opportunities for its youth.
15	Project Name	Home Administration
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Residential Rehabilitation Housing & Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Funding	HOME: \$46,786

	Description	Urban Renewal Agency staff to carry out program operations, activities and compliance.
	Target Date	January 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	HOME funds will be utilized for staff to carry out program operations, activities and compliance.
16	Project Name	HOME CHDO
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Residential Rehabilitation Housing & Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS Services for the Homeless
	Funding	HOME: \$170,000
	Description	The CHDO will construct or renovate one to two homes for low-and moderate-income buyers who participate in the home buyer assistance program being established by the City of Mount Vernon.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2 LMI households
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Construction and or renovation of 2 homeowner occupied homes

17	Project Name	HOME Entitlement Program
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Neighborhood Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Residential Rehabilitation Housing & Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS Services for the Homeless
	Funding	HOME: \$200,000
	Description	The City will partner with a non-profit organization to provide owner occupied residential rehabilitation to LMI households. This program will prioritize assistance to the elderly, disabled, and veterans.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4 LMI households
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Provide homeowner residential rehabilitation
	Project Name	HOME Entitlement Program
	Target Area	CD target Area Downtown Southside Mount Vernon West
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Neighborhood Revitalization

Needs Addressed	Accessible Housing for Seniors/Disabled New Affordable Housing for LMI Households Residential Rehabilitation Housing & Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS Services for the Homeless
Funding	HOME: \$51,070
Description	The City will partner with a non-profit organization to provide homebuyer assistance program to LMI households.
Target Date	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4 LMI households
Location Description	
Planned Activities	Provide homebuyers assistance

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

CDBG and HOME activities are proposed for Census Block Groups which are located on the City's south and west sides where there is a majority concentration of LMI households and the minority concentrations of Black/African American and Hispanic households are highest (>74 percent for Black/African American and 23.0 – 46.5 percent for Hispanic households). Therefore, in FY 2018 the City will continue to fund activities in the Census Tracts, which will result in a direct area or low/moderate clientele benefit.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
CD target Area	25
Downtown	25
Southside	25
Mount Vernon West	25

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

These areas were identified during the public survey and by stakeholders as most in need of investment. The CD Target Area includes all Census Tracts which have a majority of low-income households. The three local target areas identified as part of this Consolidated Plan: Downtown, Mount Vernon West and Southside are specific neighborhoods which were most often identified as “in need”.

In addition, the annual planning process gathered input from community members regarding housing, neighborhood improvements, including public safety and infrastructure improvements needed in specific neighborhoods. All comments were considered when prioritizing activities and improvements.

Discussion

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Mount Vernon administers CoC Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects for homeless individuals, including beds targeted to Veterans and families with children. Participants in these PSH projects receive housing plus supportive services including case management and linkages to community services and benefits.

Mount Vernon also provides funding to The Guidance Center of Westchester which provides outreach and referral services to the homeless or those at-risk of homelessness including recently released female inmates, pregnant teens, families with housing problems and immigration needs and the elderly.

The City of Mount Vernon is planning to utilize HOME funds to establish a homebuyer assistance program, residential rehabilitation program, and work with a CHDO organization to acquire and rehab homes for low-income individuals.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	57
Non-Homeless	200
Special-Needs	45
Total	302

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	57
The Production of New Units	2
Rehab of Existing Units	80
Acquisition of Existing Units	1
Total	140

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

Not applicable. The City does not have any public housing or a Public Housing Authority.

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

Not applicable. The City does not have any public housing or a Public Housing Authority.

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

Not applicable. The City does not have any public housing or a Public Housing Authority.

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

Not applicable. The City does not have any public housing or a Public Housing Authority.

Discussion

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

Introduction

The Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency strives to find innovative ways to reduce and end homelessness in the City of Mount Vernon. The following section describes how this need will be addressed.

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

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

The City of Mount Vernon participates in a coordinated effort to house homeless individuals, including veterans who are living on the street or in homeless shelters, through the Westchester Continuum of Care (CoC). The City of Mount Vernon is the recipient of a CoC grant, which includes funding for homeless outreach in Mount Vernon. Homeless individuals identified through this outreach can be housed by the linked Mount Vernon CoC Permanent Supportive Housing. Westchester also has five outreach teams that target different populations and cover 100% of the CoC geographic area including 3 countywide mobile mental health outreach teams, and countywide outreach for substance abusers. Outreach workers work to link all homeless encountered to housing and services. All persons engaged are entered into HMIS for identification, tracking, and referral. Specialized outreach engages Spanish speakers, LGBT, youth, and veterans.

Individuals who decline assistance or are otherwise hard to engage are brought to the CoC case conference workgroup which enacts housing plans for all cases reviewed. The group is attended by street outreach, shelter staff, housing providers, and agencies offering supportive services. The group coordinates action among all attendees to assist these hard to engage clients.

Mount Vernon has formally requested that the Westchester CoC and Westchester County (using ESG funds) add additional street outreach resources specifically targeted to the City of Mount Vernon.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

In August and September 2017, the URA was alerted by HUD's field office that \$67,440.00 in 2010 Emergency Shelter Grant funds were at risk of being recaptured if not committed and expended by the end of Fiscal Year 2017. The URA engaged three non-profit organizations that provide services to the homeless to expend the remaining funds. Those three organizations – Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, The Guidance Center of Westchester, and the Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health

Center, provided a range of services to the homeless, including legal, medical, and housing-related services.

Through the Westchester Continuum of Care, Mount Vernon coordinates with the County on emergency shelter and transitional housing located with out City. There are currently two emergency shelters for families in Mount Vernon with 240 total beds, plus another 240 beds of Transitional Housing for homeless housing in Mount Vernon.

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

Homeless services in the Westchester CoC are delivered by a network of local and Federal government, non-profit agencies, mental-health service organizations, affordable housing developers, public housing authorities, youth homeless providers, school administrators, victim service providers, and veterans service organizations.

The City of Mount Vernon sits on the Westchester CoC Board. The City participates in monthly CoC Board meetings. Members of the URA staff meet with officials of the Westchester County Continuum of Care consortia on a monthly basis to discuss mutual needs, resources and services that maximize and coordinate programs and services to the homeless.

Westchester County Department of Social Services (DSS) operates four district offices that act as access points for households in housing crisis. Homeless households are placed by DSS into 24-hour emergency shelters for single adults, homeless families, victims of domestic violence, and youth.

The Westchester CoC implemented a Coordinated Entry system beginning December 2017. Homeless households can access Coordinated Entry at DSS District Offices, DSS emergency and overnight shelters, and through street outreach workers. Homeless persons in Coordinated Entry are assessed for severity of need, length of time homeless, and specific disabilities and barriers. Westchester CoC is working to improve the Coordinated Entry system to reduce the time households experienced homelessness.

In addition, the County provides homeless outreach teams that work with local police departments to identify and shelter homeless persons on the streets. The Veterans Administration, an active member of the CoC, also has mobile workers who conduct outreach in shelters and on the streets.

Westchester created the Patriot Housing Initiative in 2013, meeting weekly in order to coordinate outreach and rehousing for homeless veterans. Veteran homelessness in Westchester continued to

decrease due to focused local effort. By the middle of 2018, Patriot Housing Initiative has rehoused over 600 veterans, including many who had been homeless for years or decades.

The City of Mount Vernon administers CoC Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects, including beds targeted to Veterans and families with children. Participants in these PSH project receive housing plus supportive services including case management and linkages to community services and benefits.

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

The City of Mount Vernon's Urban Renewal Agency partnered with Westchester Residential Opportunities (WRO), Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV), and the Mount Vernon United Tenants Association (MVUTA) to assist low-income families at risk of becoming displaced, and potentially homeless, due to foreclosure and/or eviction proceedings. Details for WRO and LSHV are listed above. The MVUTA provided the following:

Maintained tenants in their permanent homes, successfully re-housed tenants, improved and maintained essential services in tenants' apartments, limited rent increases and maintained affordability for clientele, and provided a safer, code-compliance, and more dignified housing experience. MVUTA also held monthly tenant meetings.

Sent out bi-monthly mailing to their local Mount Vernon member families of more than 230 members and delivered flyers to buildings in Mount Vernon outlining United Tenants' services.

Client intake was performed in MVUTA offices, helped clients prepare documents, and conducted case-management services for at-risk tenants. In addition, MVUTA worked closely with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley and Westchester Residential Opportunities, including regularly co-sponsoring public forums with both organizations.

Discussion

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

Introduction

The City of Mount Vernon will continue to work towards removing barriers to affordable housing. The City/Agency will work to implement listed strategies in the upcoming year.

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 I will and, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

Affordable Housing to Serve Protected Classes

- Mount Vernon is working with developers and CHDOs to expand the number of affordable accessible units available.
- Mount Vernon is working with developers and CHDOS to provide quality affordable housing to LMI individuals and families.

Discriminatory Lending Policies and Practices

- Mount Vernon is working with Westchester Residential Opportunities (WRO) to address discrimination against people in protected classes by real estate and other housing professionals that may go undetected and unaddressed if not adequately monitored and enforced. WRO provides workshops to educate the public, lenders, and real estate agents on fair housing and enforcement opportunities.
- Westchester Residential Opportunities provides housing counseling services and financial education sessions in Mount Vernon on a regular basis.
- Create a Mount Vernon Affordable Housing Fair by encouraging financial institutions to partner with realtors and public and private housing professionals to educate, prepare and equip renters for home-ownership. This will increase minority and low income household ownership.
- Establish Bi-Annual fair Housing Work Group. The workgroup can review progress to plan action steps that remove impediments to fair housing choice as well as identify new or potential impediments.

Discussion:

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The City will continue supporting and coordinating assistance among advocacy groups providing services to the underserved non-homeless special needs population.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

One of the greatest obstacles to meeting the underserved needs is the amount of funding available. To combat this issue, the Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency (URA) partners with many agencies to create larger and more sustainable impacts in the community.

Examples include but are not limited to the following:

Youth Programs - including after-school, summer and recreational programs, are needed. Particularly those that focus on STEM and help students identify and prepare for higher education or the workforce.

Housing Related Activities - Fair housing activities to educate residents and their housing rights as well as assist those who are being treated unfairly in the rental assistance market. In addition, the URA also provides funding to address mortgage foreclosure prevention activities.

Elder Abuse - The City has partnered with Family Services of Westchester (FSW) to provide resources to improve the safety and well-being of older adults living in Mount Vernon who are at risk of abuse from family members. FSW reaches out to seniors isolated in the community who have been identified, assesses them for safety, engages them and offers support and case management, counseling and other services.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City will continue to collaborate with local housing and community development organizations to foster and maintain affordable housing. The City will take a comprehensive approach to revitalize neighborhoods utilizing HOME funds. HOME funds will be used to establish a homebuyer assistance program and a homeowner residential rehabilitation program. The City is partnering with Habitat of Humanity, Allied Community Enterprise, and Westchester Residential Opportunities.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Lead-based paint hazards continues to be an issue in the City of Mount Vernon as almost all of the housing in the City was constructed prior to 1978. The City relies on the County to address abatement of lead-based paint in Mount Vernon's aged housing stock. Buildings and properties identified as potential hazards are referred to the County of Westchester Department of Health or to the Westchester County Department of Planning-administered Lead Safe Westchester program

for appropriate action.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Mount Vernon, through its Urban Renewal Agency, has utilized some of its CDBG funding allocation to provide scholarships to low income individuals pursuing post-secondary education at colleges, trade schools, or vocational schools.

The City also provides educational and training programs for youth and reentry individuals.

The City has funded organizations that are devoted to tenant protection, which helps prevent homelessness. Such organizations include the Mount Vernon Tenants Association, Westchester Residential Opportunities, and Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. Homelessness continues, however, to be a challenge, as it is in many parts of the county, state and country.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Mount Vernon Office of Planning and Economic Development/Urban Renewal Agency is responsible for the administration of the CDBG program. Effective delivery of the program requires constant communication and coordination with numerous City Departments, non-profit agencies, potential residential and commercial consumers, and other funding agencies.

Gaps in the institutional structure are the result of staff turnover, change in agency leadership, lack of training, and lack of full time employees to support the work. Within the Office of Planning and Community Development, CDBG duties is conducted by one staff person with consultants providing support as available or needed.

The lack of staff makes it challenging to adequately deliver CDBG programs, monitoring requirements, write program manuals and strengthen CDBG structure.

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

The Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency (URA) in conjunction with Mount Vernon Department of Planning and Community Development facilitates regular meetings of service providers to oversee strategy implementation and to ensure coordination of efforts at the local level.

WestHELP operates a County Department of Social Services (DSS) funded emergency shelter for households with children within the City of Mount Vernon, with capacity for 46 families. Through the DSS District Office at 100 East First Street in Mount Vernon, families and individuals also have access to other DSS funded shelters, transitional housing, homeless prevention funds, and mainstream benefits such as Medicaid, SNAP, NYS CHIP, WIC, and TANF.

There are ongoing discussions with the Westchester Continuum of Care program concerning strategies for implementing improved systems of communication between service providers, the

identification of barriers to the provision of services, and the assessment of community needs.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	\$227,847.51
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:	\$227,847.51

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.	80.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(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 2015-2018 consolidated plan includes recapture policies. The City of Mount Vernon will work to update them with the assistance of TDA Consulting.

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:

The 2015-2018 consolidated plan includes recapture policies. The City of Mount Vernon will work to update them with the assistance of TDA Consulting.

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.

Attachments

GRANTEE UNIQUE APPENDICES

Appendix A: Public Comments

Public Infrastructure:

- 1) We need to clean up Claremont Terrace. Need to keep our Mount Vernon beautiful.
- 2) None of the pedestrian crosswalk signs in Fleetwood work making street crossing hazardous.
- 3) Bring back Memorial Field
- 4) The mismanagement that has led to Memorial Field being a county embarrassment and needs to be fixed. No more figure pointing just fix it.
- 5) Mount Vernon needs to fix its infrastructure and help those who want to buy into our city.
- 6) Bring back the Y.
- 7) Mount Vernon is a beautiful city to live in. We just need to take better care of the environment.
- 8) Clean up the City.

Youth Programs:

- 1) We need to protect and provide for our Dreamers.
- 2) Boys and Girls Club is an important community that changes children's lives for the better. Appropriate funding toward an environment like this is essential.
- 3) In addition to youth programs especially afterschool, greater attention needs to be paid to comprehensive mental health services.
- 4) Please fund the Boys and Girls Club of Mount Vernon. Our kids need a safe and secure environment to learn and grow after school and in the summer.

Arts and Culture:

- 1) We need a state of the arts theatre where adults and children can learn to be serious actors and actresses. We must keep in the tradition of raising up the "Denzel Washington's" of our community.

Hunger:

- 1) Would really like the Mayor to reinstate the funding to CSA Inc which operates the local soup kitchen
- 2) Would like the Mayor to reinstate funding for the soup kitchen at the Armory.

General Comments:

- 1) Stop tearing down the past and build a future for the people of Mount Vernon. Train the young on how to maintain a house and home. Strive to keep the working people in their homes with education and incentive to maintain their property.
- 2) There is a small percent of Mount Vernon residents that benefit from purchasing their homes. The trend of home purchases that I see is that investors are purchasing homes then renting them out to anyone with enough money. Without regard of the character of their tenants as those investors don't live in the rental home.
- 3) There is no central place to inform residents of their rights and opportunities. Market that place and go forward from there.