

City of Avondale



DRAFT

2016-2017

Annual Action Plan

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

Each year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides the City of Avondale with an annual allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to undertake a variety of community development activities. These activities may include: rehabilitation of housing and commercial spaces, assistance to first-time homebuyers, construction of public infrastructure and facilities, demolition of unsafe structures, economic development and assistance to public service providers. During the 2016-2017 program year, HUD has allocated \$574,807 in CDBG funds to the City of Avondale for these activities.

Prior to commitment of funding to specific activities, the City must complete this Annual Action Plan, which will a Consolidated Plan and to assess the community development needs of low and moderate income residents and neighborhoods. Updated every five years, this needs assessment establishes general community development goals that the City will pursue during this period. Within this five-year cycle, the City also prepares Annual Action Plans that identify and fund specific activities in furtherance of the Consolidated Plan. Development of both Plans is a highly participatory process, involving substantial input from the public. This Plan

To this end, the Neighborhood and Family Services Department (NFS) held an extensive public participation process to receive input for the development of both Plans. The first public hearing was held on March 2, 2016 with the second public meeting held on March 23, 2016 in conjunction with the Neighborhood and Family Services Commission meeting. An additional public hearing was held during a City Council meeting on April 18, 2016, at which time the draft plan was discussed with City Council.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

Through careful evaluation of existing conditions, plans and public input, the City of Avondale developed the following goals to be pursued in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Planning cycle: 1) preserve and expand affordable housing to low and moderate income residents; 2) replace outdated infrastructure in low and moderate income areas; 3) acquire and demolish dilapidated structures; 4) support internal and external efforts to provide programming and other assistance to underserved populations, particularly youth and seniors; 5) promote business growth throughout the City with an emphasis

on the Western Avenue area and other commercial areas of Historic Avondale; 6) affirmatively further Fair Housing in Avondale; and 7) reduce residential Lead-Based Paint Hazards. A detailed discussion of these goals is included in Section AP-20 of this Plan.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Avondale became a CDBG entitlement and received approval of its first Consolidated Plan in May 2006. Since that time, the City continues to evaluate its programs and procedures for compliance with applicable regulations, and refines processes to enhance efficiency and comply with regulatory changes.

Since this time, the City undertook several CDBG-funded activities in furtherance of the goals in the Consolidated Plans in effect at the time. These activities and accomplishments include: 1) Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation – 52 homes received emergency home repair assistance and five homes received substantial home repair assistance (CDBG-R funding); 2) Public Improvements to Infrastructure – completed reconstruction of twelve streets in low-income neighborhoods in Historic Avondale; 4) Youth Job Training and Employment Programs – assisted 75 teens with job training, summer jobs and tuition assistance; 5) Façade Improvements -- assisted six Historic Avondale businesses with exterior renovation; 6) Loan Guarantees – partnered with Clearinghouse CDFI (formerly Arizona MultiBank) to guarantee loans to five Historic Avondale for business expansion; 7) Demolition – one dilapidated single-family home was demolished.

In addition to CDBG entitlement funding, the City also receives an annual allocation of HOME funds through the Maricopa HOME Consortium. Since 2006, the City also obtained two competitively-awarded HOME grants through the Arizona Department of Housing, and two Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funding awards. Combined, HOME funding from both sources was used to complete substantial home repairs at sixteen owner-occupied units. NSP funding provided Homebuyer Assistance – assisted 40 homebuyers.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The City of Avondale undertook extensive outreach to residents, business owners, non-profit service providers, and elected and appointed officials. A community needs assessment survey was created and disseminated via the City's website (avondale.org), as well as paper copies provided at various locations throughout the City, including the Care1st Avondale Resource Center and the Avondale Community Center. The City held several public meetings and hearings and discussed the citizen participation process, findings and proposed goals of the Consolidated Plan with the City's Neighborhood and Family Services Commission.

5. Summary of public comments

The City's public participation process indicated a need to: preserve existing housing stock; expand affordable housing opportunities for low and moderate income households; develop and support programming for youth and other underserved populations; improve public safety through the acquisition and demolition of unsafe structures; expand economic opportunities through infrastructure development and small business assistance.

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

The City of Avondale accepted all comments offered by the public.

7. Summary

Using the Needs Assessment within the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, The City of Avondale completed extensive research and public participation to develop the 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan. The City received nearly INSERT responses from its Community Needs Survey, as well as through several public meetings and hearings. This development yielded an important community needs assessment that forms the basis of this Plan, as well as the funding priorities for the City's HUD-funded activities for the next five years.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	City of Avondale	Neighborhood & Family Services Department
CDBG Administrator	City of Avondale	Neighborhood & Family Services Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Matthew Hess, CDBG Program Manager
City of Avondale Community Center
1007 S. 3rd Street, Avondale, AZ 85323
623-333-2726
mhess@avondale.org

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

1. Introduction

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

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.

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

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

The City of Avondale maintains partnerships with a variety of external agencies and groups to implement Consolidated Plan goals. Most notably, the Care1st Resource Center (the Center) is a centralized hub for a variety of human services agencies to provide assistance to low and moderate income residents in several Southwest Valley cities. The Center provides a range of services through several providers and funders, including: Helping Families in Need (assistance with renewal and applications for AHCCCS health care, nutrition assistance (food stamps) and cash assistance; Community Action Partnership Program (rental and utility assistance); Southwest Valley Literacy (GED, ESL, and literacy classes); Adelante Healthcare (Women, Infant and Children the USDA food program); Eve's Place (domestic violence support groups); New Life Center (domestic violence awareness, safety planning and shelter referrals); New Leaf-Siemer-Homelessness prevention program with partnering schools; Teen Outreach Pregnancy (support for pregnant teens, prenatal and parenting support); Maricopa Workforce Connection (employment services and resources); Area Agency on Aging (support for the senior community through direct service and referrals); Father Matters (support for parents going through divorce and custody issues); Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department (youth life skills and parenting classes); Trellis, Inc. (first-time homebuyer education); Salvation Army (community support and emergency financial assistance); International Rescue Committee (citizenship test prep classes); New Directions Institute

(baby brain box classes and playgroups for parents and children birth to 5 years); Maricopa County Department of Health (SNACK Program – car seat safety class/car seat distribution); First Things First (developmental, hearing and vision screenings for children birth to five years of age); Kith and Kin (classes to educate in home child providers on best practices, CPR/ first aid certification); First Teeth First (free dental screenings, fluoride varnishing and dental education children birth to five); Avondale Fire Department (CPR classes & certification); Nurturing Parents Raise Great Kids (12-week parenting classes); Valley of the Sun United Way (workshops on school readiness); University of Arizona (Expanded Food and Nutrition Program); Arizona Priority Education and Counseling (court-mandated parenting classes); Southwest Families Advocacy Center (parent & child sexual abuse prevention workshops); Arizona Science Center (classes for Science, Technology , Engineering and Math for children aged birth to five); Maricopa County Human Services Department (Weatherization Program intake and coordination); Housing Authority of Maricopa County (Housing Choice Voucher Program intake and coordination).

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

The City of Avondale strives to include all types of agencies in the development of its human service plans. Types of agencies are comprehensive, and include those that provide services related to health care, employment and job training, housing and homelessness prevention, food and nutrition, mental health, early childhood development, education and literacy, and veterans affairs. The City believes that this is a comprehensive list of services, but is always looking for new partnerships/means to assist City residents with their needs.

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

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
<p>Name of Plan</p> <p>City of Avondale 2030 General Plan</p>	City of Avondale	<p>There are a number of goals and strategies within the City's current General Plan that support the goals this Consolidated Plan, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of affordable housing and neighborhood stabilization programs. <p>Policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Participate in the activities and efforts of non-government and governmental housing providers and neighborhood organizations. B. Continue to implement neighborhood housing assistance programs. C. Promote the occupancy of existing, vacant homes. D. Identify new prototypes for quality high-density residential housing. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Encourage safe and well-maintained housing, neighborhoods, and buildings that are free from blight. <p>Policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Encourage the preservation of locally and culturally significant buildings and sites, including adaptive reuse. B. Encourage owner-occupied housing. C. Actively enforce the City's Property Maintenance Codes. D. Play a lead role by maintaining and continuously improving public spaces within Avondale. E. Emphasize the demolition of unoccupied substandard and or blighted buildings. F. Provide development incentives that encourage retrofitting existing, obsolete retail centers.

<p>Historic Avondale Revitalization Plan</p>	<p>City of Avondale</p>	<p>A. Encourage homeownership opportunities B. Increase employment and diversify job base C. Strengthen and enhance existing buildings and neighborhoods D. Target public investment in infrastructure E. Refine and attract niche or specialty retail businesses</p>
---	--------------------------------	--

Table 2 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

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

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

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Online survey	All interested parties	TBD	TBD	NA – all comments accepted	Avondale.org
2	Public Hearings	All interested parties	TBD	TBD	NA – all comments accepted	
3	Direct mailings	Service providers	TBD	TBD	NA – all comments accepted	

Table 3 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

HUD has notified the City that there will be \$574,039 in CDBG funds available. The City of Avondale anticipates level funding from CDBG and HOME annual allocations, as represented in the table. While this Plan assumes level funding from year to year, the City is aware of declining allocations, and is taking steps to increase funding, leverage internal and external resources, form mutually beneficial partnerships to maximize the benefits of CDBG and HOME funding, as well as address the substantial need in the City. The following outlines the City’s anticipated HUD resources throughout the 2015-2019 Consolidated Planning cycle.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 2				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$574,039	\$0	\$430,355	\$1,004,394	\$1,722,117	CDBG funds will be used for emergency home repairs, streets/infrastructure improvements, acquisition and demolition activities, public services and economic development activities.

Anticipated Resources

Table 4 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The City matches HOME funds received through the Maricopa HOME Consortium with General

Funds dedicated to that purpose. Approximately \$32,000 in HOME matching funds from the City's General Fund for FY 2016 will be available to support the City's HOME-funded projects. The City also has allocated approximately \$2.8 million to provide development fee reductions to any party that completes residential and/or commercial improvements within the city's designated Infill Development District. This area largely coincides with the City's designated Revitalization Areas that contain significant number of low and moderate income residents. Finally, the City is in the process of creating a Redevelopment Program that will allow the City to acquire and demolish vacant and dilapidated housing and rehabilitate substandard housing. The program is currently unfunded, and the City is exploring options to capitalize the program.

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

During the development of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City undertook a housing study to determine the condition of all single-family units in the City's Revitalization Areas. During this survey, the City also completed an inventory of all vacant lots in these areas, and determined that there are 127 such lots that may be developed in the future. The City is currently examining these lots in greater detail to determine ownership, zoning, size and potential for assemblage.

Discussion

The City will combine annual CDBG and HOME allocations with program income and HOME match from local funds to undertake housing, infrastructure, public services and business development throughout the City. The City will continue to explore new opportunities for grant funding from other sources to supplement these funds in order to realize the goals of this Consolidated Plan.

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Preserve and Expand Affordable Housing Inventory	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Historic Avondale Revitalization Area Avondale Infill Incentive District	Preserve & Expand Quality Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$184,232	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 16 Household Housing Unit
2	Replace Outdated Infrastructure in LMI Areas	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Historic Avondale Revitalization Area	Replace outdated infrastructure Create Business Growth & Expansion Opportunities	CDBG: \$225,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Households Assisted
3	Promote Business Development and Growth	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Historic Avondale Revitalization Area Avondale Infill Incentive District	Create Business Growth & Expansion Opportunities	CDBG: \$40,000	Businesses assisted: 5
4	Youth Services	2015	2019	Public Services	Within the corporate limits of the City of Avondale	Provide employment training to an economically vulnerable population	CDBG: \$10,000	20 youth (aged 16-21)

Table 5 - Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Preserve and Expand Affordable Housing Inventory
	Goal Description	The City will continue to operate its Emergency and Substantial Home Repair Programs during the 2016-2017 Plan Year. CDBG funds will be used to provide income-qualified homeowners with grants to address health and safety living conditions. HOME funds will be used to expand upon these activities to include more comprehensive repairs at income-qualified, owner-occupied units. The City will provide forgivable loans within the Substantial Home Repair Program with HOME Consortium funds.
2	Goal Name	Replace Outdated Infrastructure in LMI Areas
	Goal Description	The City will continue to fund streets reconstruction and infrastructure improvements in its Historic Avondale Revitalization Area. CDBG funds will be expended for design costs and at grade improvements, including repaving, curbing and installation of ADA-compliant corner ramps.
3	Goal Name	Promote Business Development and Growth
	Goal Description	The City will undertake a broad approach to assisting businesses in the City's Historic Avondale Revitalization Area. This approach may include providing technical assistance to local businesses, sponsoring local events that support businesses in the target areas, completing training events and providing financing for commercial rehabilitation (i.e. facade improvements).
4	Goal Name	Youth Services
	Goal Description	The City will continue to operate its Next Step Youth Services Program and Tuition Assistance Program in the 2016-2017 program year. Next Step will assist approximately 20 youth under the age of 21 with paid internships located in various City of Avondale Departments. In most cases, participation in the program is the first real world employment experienced by participants. Funds are allocated to be able to provide two Next Step participants with tuition assistance to pursue higher education during the upcoming school year. Funds are also allocated to provide ongoing paid internship experience to

Table 6 – Goal Descriptions

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City will undertake the following programs in FY 2016-2017: emergency home repair; streets reconstruction; Next Step/Tuition Assistance to area youth and Revitalization/Small Business Assistance.

#	Project Name
1	Emergency Home Repair Program
2	Historic Avondale Streets Reconstruction
3	Next Step and Tuition Assistance Programs
4	Revitalization & Small Business Assistance
5	2016-2017 Administration

Table 7 – Project Information

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

Survey analysis and public comments indicate a high need for all projects proposed in the 2016-2017 program year. Low incomes persist in the City's revitalization target areas, which necessitates the City's intervention to assist low and moderate income homeowners, improve area infrastructure, provide area youth a means to support themselves, and redevelop the Historic Avondale Revitalization area.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Emergency Home Repair Program
	Target Area	Historic Avondale Revitalization Area Avondale Infill Incentive District
	Goals Supported	Preserve and Expand Affordable Housing Inventory
	Needs Addressed	Preserve & Expand Quality Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$184,232
	Description	Provide grant assistance to income-eligible owner-occupied single family unit homeowners to eliminate health and safety conditions.
	Target Date	June 30, 2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately fifteen (15) families within incomes below 80% of AMI will receive direct assistance
	Location Description	Any income-qualified household throughout the City may receive emergency home repair assistance. However, program funds will be targeted to the City's Revitalization Areas [Historic Avondale – census tracts 612; 614.01; and 614.02; Cashion – census tract 822.08 and 822.09; and Rio Vista/Las Ligas – census tract 820.22)
Planned Activities	Eligible work items may include, but are not limited to repair/replacement of: roofs, HVAC/mechanical/electrical/plumbing systems, code violations, ADA/accessibility modifications, lead-based paint mitigation, and other actions that will remove health and safety conditions that adversely affect the quality of life of residents.	
2	Project Name	Historic Avondale Streets Reconstruction
	Target Area	Historic Avondale Revitalization Area
	Goals Supported	Replace Outdated Infrastructure in LMI Areas
	Needs Addressed	Replace outdated infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$225,000

	Description	The City will leverage Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds with CDBG funds to replace underground utilities and at-grade street features in the Historic Avondale Revitalization Area. CIP funds typically pay for engineering services and underground water and sewer line replacement, while CDBG funds pay for resurfacing, ADA corner ramps and curbing.
	Target Date	June 30, 2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2,500 households will benefit on an area basis.
	Location Description	The Historic Avondale Revitalization Area includes census tracts 612; 614.01; and 614.02
	Planned Activities	The City will leverage Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds with CDBG funds to replace underground utilities and at-grade street features in the Historic Avondale Revitalization Area. CIP funds typically pay for engineering services and underground water and sewer line replacement, while CDBG funds pay for resurfacing, ADA corner ramps and curbing.
3	Project Name	Next Step and Tuition Assistance Programs
	Target Area	Historic Avondale Revitalization Area Avondale Infill Incentive District
	Goals Supported	Support Programming for Underserved Populations
	Needs Addressed	Provide Opportunities to Vulnerable Populations
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	The City will assist approximately 20 youth, aged 16-21 with paid internships and tuition assistance for higher education. Youth will be placed in various City Departments to gain real world experience.
	Target Date	June 30, 2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 20 youth, aged 16-21 will benefit from paid summer internship experience with the possibility of additional interns staying on throughout the school year depending on the needs of the City and the quality of interns' work.
	Location Description	Interns will be placed in various City Departments to gain the requisite work experience.

	Planned Activities	The City will assist approximately 20 youth, aged 16-21 with paid internships and tuition assistance for higher education. Youth will be placed in various City Departments to gain real world experience.
4	Project Name	Revitalization & Small Business Assistance
	Target Area	Historic Avondale Revitalization Area Avondale Infill Incentive District
	Goals Supported	Promote Business Development and Growth
	Needs Addressed	Create Business Growth & Expansion Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	The City will provide technical assistance, training opportunities, sponsor public events, provide micro loans and/or loan guarantees, undertake facade improvements to benefit businesses in the City's Infill Incentive District, with a particular emphasis on the Historic Avondale Revitalization Area.
	Target Date	June 30, 2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2,500 households will benefit on an area basis as a result of revitalization activities.
	Location Description	The Historic Avondale Revitalization Area includes census tracts 612; 614.01; and 614.02
	Planned Activities	The City will provide technical assistance, training opportunities, sponsor public events and undertake facade improvements to benefit businesses in the City's Infill Incentive District, with a particular emphasis on the Historic Avondale Revitalization Area.
5	Project Name	2016-2017 Administration
	Target Area	Historic Avondale Revitalization Area Avondale Infill Incentive District
	Goals Supported	Preserve and Expand Affordable Housing Inventory Replace Outdated Infrastructure in LMI Areas Support Programming for Underserved Populations Promote Business Development and Growth

Needs Addressed	Preserve & Expand Quality Affordable Housing Replace outdated infrastructure Provide Opportunities to Vulnerable Populations Create Business Growth & Expansion Opportunities Remove Dangerous & Obsolete Structures
Funding	CDBG: \$114,807
Description	General administration for 16/17 program year.
Target Date	June 30, 2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	NA – no beneficiaries required for administration activities
Location Description	NA
Planned Activities	General administrative activities consistent with 24 CFR 570.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

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

Housing activities with a direct benefit to individual households may be undertaken anywhere in the City provided that the household qualifies as low and moderate income. However, the City will target its programs to the following areas:

Avondale will direct assistance to low- to moderate-income Block Groups (i.e., where 51 percent or more of households earn less than 80 percent of the HUD-defined area median income). The City has 11 Block Groups that meet these criteria:

- Census Tract 612, Block Group 1 (90.4% LMI)
- Census Tract 612, Block Group 2 (65.7% LMI)
- Census Tract 612, Block Group 3 (62.2% LMI)
- Census Tract 614.01, Block Group 1 (80.9% LMI)
- Census Tract 614.01, Block Group 2 (94.8% LMI)
- Census Tract 614.02, Block Group 1 (53.9% LMI)
- Census Tract 614.02, Block Group 2 (60.3% LMI)
- Census Tract 614.02, Block Group 3 (74.7% LMI)
- Census Tract 820.22, Block Group 2 (73.7% LMI)
- Census Tract 822.08 , Block Group 1 (52.8% LMI)
- Census Tract 822.09, Block Group 2 (73.2% LMI)

Target neighborhoods that are located in these Block Groups include, but are not limited to, Las Ligas, Historic Avondale, Rio Vista and Cashion.

Activities that will provide area benefits to low and moderate income households will be restricted to the above Census Tracts.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Historic Avondale Revitalization Area	95

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City's analysis of housing, infrastructure and economic conditions reveals ongoing need in

the oldest sections of the City (census tracts above). Substandard housing, outdated infrastructure, low incomes and higher unemployment, though improved since the completion of the last Consolidated Plan, persist in these areas. The City will continue to target CDBG and HOME funded activities in these areas, though direct benefit activities (i.e. housing rehabilitation) will be available to any income-qualified homeowners in the City.

Discussion

The City's analysis of housing, infrastructure and economic conditions reveals ongoing need in the oldest sections of the City (census tracts above). Substandard housing, outdated infrastructure, low incomes and higher unemployment, though improved since the completion of the last Consolidated Plan, persist in these areas. The City will continue to target CDBG and HOME funded activities in these areas, though direct benefit activities (i.e. housing rehabilitation) will be available to any income-qualified homeowners in the City.

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

Introduction

The City of Avondale takes a multipronged approach to improve the quality of life of residents, particularly to low and moderate income households, those with special needs and the homeless. The City continues to expand programs related to housing assistance, social services and economic opportunity.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City will continue to operate its successful programs, such as CAP, Helping Families in Need, Contributions Assistance and the myriad others operated through Neighborhood and Family Services. The City continually seeks to improve the efficiency in program operations, as well as increase partnerships that expand existing programs and develop new programs. The City will continue to partner with Americorps through the VISTA and NCC programs to build capacity and implement projects. Finally, the City is reviewing the possibility of developing a non-profit that will provide additional capacity, as well as open new funding sources to benefit area residents in need.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City will maintain its CDBG and HOME-funded rehabilitation program, and is in the process of developing a renewed First-Time Homebuyer Program. In addition, the City may also use program income from its NSP1 and NSP3 grants to supplement these programs. Finally, as the City explores the potential for creating a non-profit to increase human services capacity, the

City may pursue CHDO designation in order to capture additional HOME funds to supplement its affordable housing initiatives.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City will undertake the following are the actions in 2015-2019 to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards and to integrate lead-based paint hazard reduction into Avondale's housing policies. All activities will be completed in accordance with Title X of the 1992 Housing and Community Development Act: 1. adhere to HUD Lead Safe Housing Rule 24 CFR Part 35 in the conduct of rehabilitation activities, and 2. provide information to housing recipients as well as the general public about the hazards of lead-based paint.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City's Care1st Avondale Resource Center will continue to operate the following programs to reduce the number of poverty-level families in the City and the Southwest Valley:

- Contributions Assistance Program – grants to area non-profits that provide human services to Avondale residents
- Helping Families in Need – assistance with renewal and applications for AHCCCS health care, nutrition assistance (food stamps) and cash assistance
- Community Action Partnership Program – rental and utility assistance
- Southwest Valley Literacy – GED, ESL, and literacy classes
- Adelante Healthcare – Women, Infant and Children the USDA food program
- Eve's Place – domestic violence support groups
- New Life Center – domestic violence awareness, safety planning and shelter referrals
- New Leaf-Siemer – homelessness prevention program with partnering schools
- Teen Outreach Pregnancy – support for pregnant teens, prenatal and parenting support
- Maricopa Workforce Connection – employment services and resources
- Area Agency on Aging – support for the senior community through resources and referrals
- Father Matters – support for parents going through divorce and custody issues
- Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department (youth life skills and parenting classes)
- Salvation Army – community support and emergency financial assistance
- International Rescue Committee – citizenship test prep classes
- New Directions Institute – baby brain box classes and playgroups for parents and children birth to 5 years
- Maricopa County Department of Health – SNACK Program, car seat safety class/car seat distribution

- First Things First – developmental, hearing and vision screenings for children birth to five years of age
- Kith and Kin – classes to educate in home child providers on best practices
- First Teeth First – free dental screenings, fluoride varnishing and dental education children birth to five
- University of Arizona – Expanded Food and Nutrition Program
- Arizona Priority Education and Counseling – court-mandated parenting classes
- Southwest Families Advocacy Center – parent & child sexual abuse prevention workshops
- Arizona Science Center – classes for Science, Technology , Engineering and Math for children aged birth to five
- Maricopa County Human Services Department – Weatherization Program intake and coordination

Housing Authority of Maricopa County – Housing Choice Voucher Program and Public Housing intake and coordination

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City is currently exploring the possibility of developing a nonprofit to increase human service capacity for area residents. Development of such an organization will not only increase capacity, but increase available funding to the City’s programs. Neighborhood and Family Services will also continue to work directly with other City Departments to coordinate development and implementation of programs that encompass diverse resident needs. Finally, the City will continue to maintain its relationship with Americorps through participation in the VISTA and NCCC programs, which will increase the City’s operational and programmatic capacity and ability to complete projects throughout the City.

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

As the City’s human services needs continue to grow, the City will continue to pursue and form partnerships with other organizations. Several service providers maintain space in the Care1st Avondale Resource Center, which acts a human services hub for the City and the Southwest Valley. Services provided at the Center are diverse and comprehensive, including those related to housing and Weatherization, illiteracy, domestic abuse, early childhood development, nutrition, elder care, health care and AHCCCS, citizenship and English as a Second Language, financial literacy, education, youth education and employment, homelessness prevention, employment training, crisis intervention, tax assistance, and parenting skills.

Discussion

The City will continue to form and develop internal and external partnerships to meet the needs of underserved populations, enhance capacity to deliver services and reduce the number of households living in poverty. The City will continue operate its home repair programs to mitigate lead-based paint hazards and allow low and moderate income households to remain in their homes. The City's First-Time Homebuyer Program (still in development) will provide gap financing for low and moderate income families to afford their first home. The City will also continue to provide the Contributions Assistance Program to area service providers and will operate the Care1st Avondale Resource Center where 60,000 persons per year are served.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

The City of Avondale does not undertake any program income generating activities with CDBG funds, activities funded under the Urgent Community Need National Objective, nor any of the activities listed in this section.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	70.00%

Discussion

The City of Avondale does not undertake any program income generating activities, activities funded under the Urgent Community Need National Objective, nor any of the activities listed in this section.