



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
(CDBG)

2016 ACTION PLAN

Greg Hines, Mayor

CITY COUNCIL

Ward I, Position 1, Buddy Wright

Ward III, Position 1, Clay Kendall

Ward I, Position 2, Mark Kruger

Ward III, Position 2, Andrew Hatfield

Ward II, Position 1, Gary Townzen

Ward IV, Position 1, Sam Jeffery

Ward II, Position 2, Marge Wolf

Ward IV, Position 2, Betsy Reithemeyer

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

Steve Glass, P.E.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

Donna Johnston

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Action Plan is designed to be a collaborative process whereby a community establishes a unified vision for community development actions. It offers local jurisdictions the opportunity to shape the various housing and community development programs into effective, coordinated neighborhood and community development strategies. It also creates the opportunity for strategic planning and citizen participation to take place in a comprehensive contest and reduce duplication of effort at the local level. The strategic plan is a specific course of action for revitalization. It is the means to analyze the full local context and the linkages to the larger region. It builds on local assets and coordinates a response to the needs of the community. It integrates economic, physical, environmental, community and human development in a comprehensive and coordinated fashion so that families and communities can work together and thrive. A strategic plan also sets forth program goals, specific objectives, annual goals, and benchmarks for measuring progress. It helps local government and citizens keep track of results and learn what works. The Action Plan is a requirement of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that cities must prepare in order to receive Federal monetary assistance from HUD Programs. Ultimately, the Plan will be used to implement the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. This document is the Action Plan for Program Year 2016, year four of the five year Consolidated Plan submitted for years 2013-2017.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The Community Development Block Grant Program will continue to partner with the City of Rogers and other agencies to meet the objectives set by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These objectives are: **Decent** Housing - Assisting homeless persons obtain affordable housing; assisting persons at risk of becoming homeless; retention of affordable housing stock; increasing the availability of affordable permanent housing in standard condition to low-income and low-moderate income families, particularly to members of disadvantaged minorities without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability; increasing the supply of supportive housing which includes structural features and services to enable persons with special needs (including persons with HIV/AIDS to live in dignity and independence); and providing affordable housing that is accessible to job opportunities. The City will provide housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs for

low to low-moderate income persons. The City's goals are to provide rehabilitation and repair to at least six owner-occupied homes each program year. The City will continue to look for suitable land to purchase and provide infrastructure to lots within the City limits for the construction of affordable housing. **A Suitable Living Environment** - Improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods; increasing access to quality public and private facilities and services; reducing the isolation of income groups within areas through spatial de-concentration of housing opportunities for low income persons and the revitalization of deteriorating neighborhoods; restoring and preserving properties of special historic, architectural, or aesthetic value, and conserving of energy resources. The City will continue to improve the infrastructure in the CDBG target neighborhoods. The City's goal is to complete one infrastructure project each program year which will benefit low income households. The project will include drainage, improvements to include curb and gutter, sidewalks, handicap ramps as well as getting streets built to City street standards. The City will also assist public service agencies who serve all categories of very low to low-moderate income persons. These services include transportation assistance program, medical and dental services for children, as well as other services requested that meet a very specific need of the low-income. The City will also look to improve public facilities that will address the needs of the homeless, disabled, elderly, children, or low income citizens. **Economic Opportunities** - Job creation and retention; establishment, stabilization and expansion of small businesses (including micro-businesses); provision of public services concerned with employment; provision of jobs to low-income persons living in areas affected by those programs and activities, or jobs resulting from carrying out activities under programs covered by the plan; availability of mortgage financing for low-income persons at reasonable rates using non-discriminatory lending practices; access to capital and credit for development activities that promote the long-term economic and social viability of the community, generational poverty in Federally assisted housing and public housing. The three outcomes for these objectives are availability/accessibility, affordability, and sustainability.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Previous activities implemented have met the goals established by the Consolidated Plan. These activities have been very successful. Funds were spent in a timely manner. Activities completed are as follows: **Housing Rehabilitation** - The City of Rogers rehabilitated 34 homes covering Consolidated Plan (2008-2012) with eight homes undergoing rehab in 2013, five houses in 2014 and five houses in 2015. **Transportation Assistance** - The City has provided free rides each month for 100 low income individuals who are either elderly and/or disabled. **Parks** - The City completed one park project located at the Adult Wellness Center. This park is located in a low income target area and was built using CDBG and City funds. **English as Second Language** - ESL classes were provided to 350 students and parents meeting many of our City's immigrant needs, fostering trust, and providing a bridge between cultures while maintaining the present quality of life. **Public Facility Infrastructure Project** - The City has completed two street and drainage projects, one street design project and one infrastructure project for Open

Avenues, a facility helping adults with emotional, mental, and physical limitation, and one infrastructure project for Habitat Trails, a Habitat for Humanity Subdivision. Over 3,000 people live in the areas of the street projects. Open Avenues provides a sheltered workshop where clients actively learn new skills, build close relationships and provide business and industry with a reliable off-line production workforce. Habitat Trails is an environmentally friendly eco-subdivision providing 15 lots for extremely low to low-income families. To date, eight homes have been built in the subdivision. **Public Facility Project** - The City completed three facility projects. Funds were used to provide renovation in the Non-Profit Center for the location of the Community Clinic's new Rogers facility which provides free medical and dental care for children of low-income parents or parents who could not afford the total costs of the care. Another facility project enabled the new Non-Profit Center to be more efficient, environmentally friendly and cost effective with a focus on sustainability and green building practices. Funds were also used at Ozark Guidance, a transitional housing facility for eight low-income adults with severe and persistent mental illnesses to halt erosion and help this facility with drainage problems. **After School and Summer Program** - The City funded after school and summer care for over 1,125 low income children and their parents providing a developmentally appropriate place and enabling the parents to maintain their employment and eliminate child care costs. **Dental and Medical Care** - CDBG funds were used to purchase consumable supplies to provide free dental and medical care for low-income children and help break a family cycle of neglect. Nearly 10,750 visits have been recorded. **Early Childhood Education** - The City provided funding for five low-income children with developmental disabilities to receive early childhood education to help them ease into public schools. **One Child, One Advocate** - CDBG funds were used to enable CASA of Northwest Arkansas to recruit and train volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates who in turn provide volunteer child advocacy to 74 children and their families who live in Rogers. **Utility Reimbursement** - The City assisted 78 low income families, especially those who are elderly and with children. As a result of past performances, the City will continue to provide assistance for rehabilitation work, emergency repairs, utility assistance, infrastructure projects and service projects as part of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City uses many individuals and agencies in the development of the Consolidated Plan as well as the Annual Action Plan. We take all input we receive to help us analyze, measure and determine housing, facility, and service needs with an emphasis on low-mod income, elderly, disabled, and homelessness. We look at resources in the City to meet these needs as well as gaps that might not be met by other resources. A Public Hearing is held in the planning process, and the public is notified of this Public Hearing by a display ad placed in the local paper. This display ad meets the requirements of CDBG Regulation 24 CFR 91.105(e)(2). The City encourages the citizens of Rogers to provide input into both the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans by attending the Public Hearing or sending in their comments. Once the plans are completed, a Public Hearing display ad will be published advising these plans are ready for review. The final plans will consider and/or implement concerns and suggestions from citizens,

public agencies, and other interested parties. Final review and stamp of approval to these plans will be made by the Mayor of Rogers and the Rogers City Council. The public is also given an opportunity to review the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CAPER contains a summary of accomplishments and evaluation of progress made during the year. All Public Hearings and meetings will be held in buildings that have access for persons with disabilities. The Hearings will be scheduled during the evening and/or weekends to provide working individuals and families a greater opportunity to attend. Because Rogers has a large Spanish speaking population, a bilingual (English/Spanish) person will be made available to non-English speaking persons. Technical assistance will also be provided to those requesting assistance in developing a proposal under the plan submissions. The Citizen Participation process is also involved on impacts to the environment, releasing of funds, as well as any amendment to an approved plan.

5. Summary of public comments

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

No comments were received during the pre-planning citizen participation section of the Annual Action Plan or the citizen participation section of the final plan review held prior to submission to HUD.

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

There were no comments not accepted for the 2016 Annual Action Plan; therefore, no comments for reasons for not accepting will be required.

7. Summary

The goal of the City of Rogers in using their CDBG funding is to improve the quality of life for low to moderate-income families, seniors and persons with special needs by providing affordable homeownership opportunities, repairing and conserving existing housing, financing public facilities and infrastructure improvements, creating and retaining jobs, and funding public services that stabilize and enhance living conditions.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	ROGERS	

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The CDBG Program is administered through the Office of Planning and Transportation and the Community Development Block Grant Administrator. The CDBG Administrator is responsible for administering the programs covered in the Consolidated Plan as well as the Annual Action Plan. This includes the development, implementation, monitoring and activities reporting. The CDBG Administrator uses City Staff, citizens, community and neighborhood organizations, and non-profits for their insight and expertise on housing and service projects. The Director of Planning and Transportation and his staff evaluates all CDBG infrastructure projects. The CDBG Administrator also conducts meetings and public hearings to encourage public comments and to receive citizens' views to establish priorities. The City consulted with the following agencies in preparing the 2016 Action Plan: Boys and Girls Club, Ozark Regional Transit, NWA Taxi, LLC, Seven Hills Homeless Shelter, CASA of Northwest Arkansas, Community Clinic, Sunshine School for Development, and the University of Arkansas. The CDBG Administrator also participated in the Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care comprised of numerous agencies in Northwest Arkansas who provide a wide range of continuum care in this area. Through Continuum of Care the City participated in a Services Fair to enable the Non-Profits in Northwest Arkansas to know about our CDBG Program and services we might be able to provide their agencies in meeting the needs of our low income citizens. This helped the CDBG Administrator stay informed of the needs in this area. The CDBG Administrator also attended the NCDCA conference in Washington, D.C. in January of 2015 to gain a better understanding of the agencies who fund the CDBG Program and stay abreast of pending changes within HUD and IDIS. While in Washington, the CDBG Administrator was able to visit with Senators Cotton and Boozman and Congressman Womack and express concerns with funding cuts and how that would affect the CDBG Program in Rogers, Arkansas.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Donna Johnston, CDBG Administrator, 479-621-1186; djohnston@rogersar.gov; Steve Glass, Director of Planning and Transportation, 469-621-1186; sglass@rogersar.gov; Greg Hines, 479-621-1117, ghines@rogersar.gov; Casey Wilhelm, Finance Director, 479-621-1117, cwilhelm@rogersar.gov.

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

1. Introduction

The City of Rogers is the lead agency that oversees the City's Annual Action 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(l))

The City encourages all citizens, especially minorities, persons with disabilities, residents of public and assisted housing developments, residents living in slum and blighted areas, residents in predominately low-to-moderate income neighborhoods to participate in the development of this plan. Public Hearings were held July 6, 2015 and December 17, 2015. The City is also a member of the Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care which is made up of housing providers and service agencies.

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.

As a member of the Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care, the City coordinates and works with other agencies to address the needs of the homeless. Northwest Arkansas has made some significant investments in shelter expansions and support programs designed to reduce the number and plight of homeless people. We are continuing to coordinate gaps by addressing capacity, occupancy, future housing needs, support services received, chronic homelessness, numbers turned away from shelters/services, and the number of homeless on waiting lists for housing/services.

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

City receives no ESG funds.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	University of Arkansas
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Educational Institute
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City consulted with the University of Arkansas to provide a study on the homelessness situation in Rogers. The CDBG Administrator assisted in the point in time count used to prepare this study. We will continue to consult with U of A by phone, meetings, and emails to make sure we stay abreast of these needs.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF BENTON COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Child Care for Low Income
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Boys and Girls Club is contacted by phone, emails, and meetings and is one of the best sources of information on child care needs within the City to enable parents to continue their employment. Boys and Girls Club has been funded in the past.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Ozark Regional Transit
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Transportation
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	ORT is a good source of information concerning the needs for transportation assistance for the low income individuals and families in the City. Through consulting with this agency by phone, email, and meetings we are able to address a lot of the needs of the riders, especially those who qualify as low-income.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	NWA Taxi, LLC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Transportation Assistance
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	NWA Taxi, like ORT, provides the City valuable information on the needs of our citizens to get to their medical appointments and help with their quality of life. Information such as this is gained from calls, emails, and trip logs to the City each month by the agency.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Seven Hills Homeless Shelter
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	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

	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Seven Hills is part of the Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care which the City is a member. Meetings are held quarterly and through these meetings the City is able to learn of needs in this area and work with Seven Hills to assist the homeless. The Continuum of Care organization has greatly improved the coordination of needs not only in Rogers, but throughout Northwest Arkansas.</p>
6	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>CASA of Northwest Arkansas</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>CASA keeps the City informed of children who have been taken out of their homes because their parents are in need of rehabilitation of some kind to be able to be a parent. By working with CASA we are able to meet needs of children who are going through a very difficult situation and meet their educational and health needs as well as provide a need of being wanted and loved until that adult can step back into being a parent.</p>

7	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY CLINIC @ ST FRANCIS HOUSE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Health Care
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Clinic keeps the City aware of the health needs of children who are from low income families and do not have health care. By knowing these needs, the City is able to assist in making it possible for these children to be treated.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Open Avenues
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Services for Mentally and Physically Disabled Adults
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Open Avenues is consulted because of their help with special needs people in Rogers. As a result of our visit, the director was able to provide me with two specific needs of this agency--transportation and some minor construction to their existing building which would enable them to increase their productivity and income.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Benton County Sunshine School
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Services for Children

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Sunshine School was contacted as they are the lead agency for disabled children in Rogers. They provide a place where children can learn to mainstream into public schools. They provided valuable information as to the needs of developmentally challenged children.</p>
---	---

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

Although Rogers/Lowell Chamber of Commerce, Rogers Board of Realtors, and Rogers School District were not consulted by visits or phone calls, information was gathered from pamphlets, magazines, brochures put out by these agencies. Additional information was also gathered by using their websites.

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	Havenwood	The goals of the Continuum of Care relates to homelessness and the prevention of homelessness which is also a goal of the City of Rogers.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

City Staff and Rogers elected officials are all involved in the planning of the City's Annual Action Plan. They provide a key role in the formulation of the projects and integrating the City's goals and objectives into the program development. The City has attended All Grantee Meetings in Little Rock which has enabled the City to build relationships with State agencies that support the CDBG Program. Rogers is a member of the Arkansas Community Development Association (ACDA) comprised of entitlement cities and state agencies which gives the City another opportunity to coordinate with other local and state governments in the implementation of their Annual Action Plan. The City Administrator for the City of Rogers serves as President of ACDA for 2015 and 2016.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The City of Rogers followed the established Citizen Participation process to formulate the 2016 Action Plan. The City encouraged participation by low and moderate-income persons, particularly those living in slum and blighted areas of the City, as defined by HUD, and in areas where CDBG funds are proposed to be used. The City took steps to encourage participation of all its citizens, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities. The City is able to provide translation for our Spanish speaking population. All meetings were conducted in buildings that were accessible to persons with disabilities. The City, on an annual basis, will make available to citizens, public agencies and other interested parties, information that includes the amount of assistance the City expects to receive, including specific grant funds and available unspent prior year funds. The City will also disclose the range of activities undertaken and the amount of funding for each activity. The City has posted the Citizen Participation Plan as well as the current Consolidated and Action Plans on the City's website in hopes of generating more participation. All information received in this process is used to help develop all City plans.

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)
------------	------------------	--------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	--	---------------------

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	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Low Income Individuals and Families	No one attended the meeting held July 2015 or December 2015.	No comments were received at Public Hearings or at the four locations the completed Plan was on display for public comments	Since no comments were received, there were no comments not accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Low Income Individuals and Families	Ads were placed in the newspaper in July 2015 and December 2015.	No comments.	No comments not accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
3	Internet Outreach	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Low Income Individuals and Families	Plan was posted on City website in December 2015.	No comments.	No comments not accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City has seen its anticipated resources change each year. At one time the City was consistently receiving \$487,000 per year. In this Five Year Consolidated Plan the City received \$419,761 in 2013, \$387,735 in 2014, and \$408,033 in 2015.

Priority Table

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

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	417,445	0	0	417,445	420,000	All funds will be used to rehab single family housing, build infrastructure in low income census tracts, and provide service to low income individuals and families. All expected funds in the Action Plan will come from CDBG funding. City will provide funding to help with the infrastructure projects.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

Many of the non-profits applying for CDBG funding receive funding from other areas to make their programs work. The City of Rogers will use local funds with the CDBG funding to help defray the cost of the infrastructure projects within the City of Rogers. The City will use the \$417,445.00 from the United States Department of Housing & Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program to address the needs listed in the Action Plan. The City will continue to partner, when it can, with faith-based organizations, non-profits, businesses and individuals on the City's housing projects. The City will also partner with local organizations and non-profits on its service projects.

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

The only publically owned land property to be used will be the streets, sidewalks, and street right-of-ways within the City limits. There is no

known land available for acquisition at this time.

Discussion

The street, sidewalk, drainage project is an ongoing project. The design was completed, and advertisement for bids, bidding, and actual start of construction began in fall of 2014. The City will pay for the remainder of the project once all CDBG funds are depleted. The City is only using CDBG funds in the census tracts/block groups that have a population of low-income that exceed 51%.

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	Housing	2013	2017	Affordable Housing	Low Income Individuals or Families	Housing Rehabilitation	CDBG: \$150,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 8 Household Housing Unit
2	Public Service - Transportation Assistance	2013	2017	Transportation Assistance	Low Income Individuals or Families	Public Services	CDBG: \$30,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted
3	Public Service - Utility Assistance	2013	2017	Utility Assistance	Low Income Individuals or Families	Public Services	CDBG: \$5,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 112 Persons Assisted
4	Sidewalks, Streets, Drainage	2013	2017	Street Improvements	Census Tracts	Public Facilities	CDBG: \$164,445	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1520 Persons Assisted
5	Administration	2013	2017	Administration	Low Income Individuals or Families	Administration	CDBG: \$40,000	Other: 2095 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Public Service - One Child, One Advocate	2013	2017	Neglected and Abused Children	Low Income Individuals or Families	Public Services	CDBG: \$5,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 Persons Assisted
7	Public Service -Boys and Girls Club (Rogers Unit)	2013	2017	Child Care	Low Income Individuals or Families	Public Services	CDBG: \$15,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted
8	Public Service - Sunshine School	2013	2017	Childhood Education for Disabled Children	Low Income Individuals or Families	Public Services	CDBG: \$8,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Housing
	Goal Description	This activity will provide decent housing by doing housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs needed to keep individuals and families warm, safe and dry as well as keeping the City's housing stock up to code. Administration costs to cover the housing rehabilitation program are also a part of this goal.
2	Goal Name	Public Service - Transportation Assistance
	Goal Description	This activity will provide mobility for the City's low income elderly and disabled as well as funding daily transportation to and from Open Avenues for approximately 100 adults with disabilities so they may work, train, and participate in the programs and services.

3	Goal Name	Public Service - Utility Assistance
	Goal Description	This activity will provide assistance to pay utility bills for individuals and families who encounter situations that make it impossible for them to pay their bills. Elderly and families with children will have priority on these funds.
4	Goal Name	Sidewalks, Streets, Drainage
	Goal Description	This activity will provide funding to build sidewalks to City standards in the low income census tracts in Rogers and provide funding for a loading dock at Open Avenues that will increase the work/income for their clients and increase revenue for the Work Center.
5	Goal Name	Administration
	Goal Description	This activity will provide funding for the City's administration of the CDBG Program.
6	Goal Name	Public Service - One Child, One Advocate
	Goal Description	This activity will provide funding to train and recruit court appointed special advocates for 25 children living within the Rogers City limits.
7	Goal Name	Public Service -Boys and Girls Club (Rogers Unit)
	Goal Description	This project will increase the access of low-income and minority families to quality after school and summer care facilities and services for their children. This will allow low-income and minority families to continue working, seek employment or obtain an employment skill or credential by providing this care along with youth development programming for their children. It will mediate many of the risk that are heightened due to the economic disadvantage of the family; such as the risk for school suspension and academic failure, food insecurity and poor nutrition, and involvement in antisocial behaviors.
8	Goal Name	Public Service - Sunshine School
	Goal Description	This will provide scholarships for students who qualify for low and reduced tuition rates for Preschool Enrichment Program which will provide high quality child care and preschool curriculum. Funding will help to develop and enrich the lives of individuals and families through therapy, education, and support in helping physically and mentally disabled children to reach their full potential as active members in their communities.

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):

The City does not receive HOME funds.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

2016 projects and reasons for allocation priorities and obstacles addressing these needs are listed below.

#	Project Name
1	Housing Rehabilitation and Emergency Repair
2	Public Service - Transportation Assistance
3	Utility Assistance
4	Sidewalks, Streets, Drainage
5	Administration
6	CASA
7	Boys & Girls Club
8	Open Avenues, Public Service
9	Sunshine School and Development Center
10	Adult Avenues - Facility

Table 8 – Project Information

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

Because the primary national objective of the CDBG Program is to benefit low-income residents, the City of Rogers' Community Block Grant Program funds will be targeted to neighborhoods that are low and moderate-income. Funds will also be targeted to include special needs population. By targeting these groups, we not only provide a benefit to these individuals and families, but we benefit the City as well. While not all of the housing applications are located in low mod census tracts, they are all low income. The transportation assistance riders are located throughout Rogers, but all are low income. The rationale for assigning funding priorities is consistent with the evaluation criteria set forth in the Consolidated Plan. The City of Rogers administers a competitive application process for all CDBG funded programs on an annual basis. The City's objectives are to fund programs and services to the greatest extent possible, keeping in mind that service projects are subject to a 15% cap of total funding received. The major obstacle to meeting all of the identified needs is the lack of funding resources. With the major funding cuts we saw in 2011 and again in 2014 and very little increases in 2012, 2013, and 2015, we are anticipating this being a much larger obstacle. At one time the City was consistently receiving \$487,000 each program year. The City sometimes receives application requests that are higher than the entitlement funding or we receive more applications than we can fund. We have seen the number of agencies applying decrease. Most of these applications fall into the service category. With the 15% cap we are really limited to the amount we can fund. The City does partner, when feasible, with other non-profits to leverage the City's funding allocation.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 9 – Project Summary

1	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation and Emergency Repair
	Target Area	Low Income Individuals or Families
	Goals Supported	Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Rehabilitation
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000
	Description	The City will continue to provide decent and affordable homes for low-income families/individuals by providing funding to assist homeowners with home rehabilitation and emergency repairs by preserving and revitalizing homes to assure our low income homeowners can live in warmth, safety and independence.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	We anticipate to do eight rehabilitation projects in 2016. All individuals and/or families will be low income and meet all HUD income guideline requirements.
	Location Description	Addresses are not known at this time. Those will be added to IDIS once applications are received and selections made.
	Planned Activities	Work will consist of weatherization, plumbing, electrical, structural, mechanical, and roofing. Works will also include buildings ramps, installing grab bars and home modifications to allow the elderly and disabled to safely use their homes.

2	Project Name	Public Service - Transportation Assistance
	Target Area	Low Income Individuals or Families
	Goals Supported	Public Service - Transportation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	This project will improve the mobility of income eligible citizens by providing transportation assistance through Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) and Northwest Arkansas Taxi, LLC. The project provides transportation assistance for income eligible disabled citizens of Rogers regardless of age.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project will provide transportation assistance for 100 individuals in Rogers.
	Location Description	We have the present addresses for those on the program, however, turn overs occur every month and we bring new riders onboard when that happens. New addresses are not known at this time.
	Planned Activities	We will provide transportation for normal needs of these individuals. They can use the passes for doctor's and dental appointments, trips to the pharmacy, shopping, banks, social security office, post office, church, movie theaters. The only place we do not provide transportation is to liquor stores, smoke shops, and nightclubs. Several of our riders are taking chemo treatments and are on dialysis. Without this service, they would have difficulty making these appointments.
3	Project Name	Utility Assistance
	Target Area	Low Income Individuals or Families
	Goals Supported	Public Service - Utility Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000

	Description	This project will assist with utility payments for extremely low to low-income residents of Rogers.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	We will probably touch the lives of 112 individuals with the utility assistance program.
	Location Description	We will not have the addresses of the recipients until they apply for assistance when the 2016 funding is received. We will input those into IDIS once the address is known.
	Planned Activities	We will pay electrical, gas, and water bills for individuals and families who are struggling to pay their bills. Priority is given to elderly and homes where children live. We will not pay telephone or cable bills.
4	Project Name	Sidewalks, Streets, Drainage
	Target Area	Census Tracts
	Goals Supported	Sidewalks, Streets, Drainage
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$139,445
	Description	This project will be used to continue rebuilding sidewalks in the low-income census tracts of Rogers to City code.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project will impact approximately 1,400 residents of the City of Rogers.
	Location Description	This project will include multiply addresses as it is in all the low-income census tracts of Rogers.
	Planned Activities	The City will use these funds to place sidewalks in the low-income areas of Rogers. Some of these areas have no sidewalks and other areas have sidewalk that are busted and hazards to walk on at especially at night.

5	Project Name	Administration
	Target Area	Census Tracts Low Income Individuals or Families
	Goals Supported	Administration
	Needs Addressed	Administration
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	Administration costs to administer the CDBG Program.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	With the ongoing programs we will be administering in 2016, we anticipate impacting the lives of 2,095 people.
	Location Description	No addresses will be involved since this is administration only.
	Planned Activities	This project funding will be used to pay the salary of the CDBG Administrator, purchase any office supplies needed, travel expenses for meetings and training, and display ads for the City's Action Plan and Caper.
6	Project Name	CASA
	Target Area	Low Income Individuals or Families
	Goals Supported	Public Service - One Child, One Advocate
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000
	Description	Provide volunteer child advocacy to 25 children in Rogers to ensure the child is safe, happy, and receiving the appropriate medical treatment, educational services and psychological counseling. Funding will be used to train the volunteers. No funding will be used for food or transportation expenses.
	Target Date	12/31/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	We anticipate 25 children living in Rogers will benefit from this activity. All families are low income and are families where physical and mental abuse has become the norm in the household.
	Location Description	No addresses will be provided in IDIS because the children involved in this program are minors.
	Planned Activities	Training will consist of in-depth training with licenses therapists and the Benton County Court System. The CASA advocates will speak for the best interest of the abused and neglected children in court and will ensure each child a safe home.
7	Project Name	Boys & Girls Club
	Target Area	Low Income Individuals or Families
	Goals Supported	Public Service -Boys and Girls Club (Rogers Unit)
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	Provide after school and summer care facilities and services for low income children enabling their parents to continue working, seek employment or obtain an employment skill or credential by providing them a free care and youth development service for their children. This will help mediate many of the risk that are heightened due to economic disadvantage of the family such as risk for school suspension and academic failure, food insecurity and poor nutrition and antisocial behavior.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated that 200 children will benefit from this program, most of them extremely low income minority.
	Location Description	Addresses are on file in the CDBG office, but too many to undertake in submitting through IDIS.

	Planned Activities	Provide a safe, developmentally appropriate place for children after school and in the summer. A secondary beneficiary of the project is to provide parents who have few alternatives for the care of their children a safe place while they work. A third beneficiary is that it helps reduce unproductive times of the parents who at times have to deal with unsupervised children during hours they are not in school. The program not only provides child care but provides these children academic tutoring, character education, financial training, and numerous field trips that would not be possible in their own home environment.
8	Project Name	Open Avenues, Public Service
	Target Area	Low Income Individuals or Families
	Goals Supported	Public Service - Transportation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	This project will help fund the daily transportation to and from Open Avenues for approximately 100 adults with disabilities so they may work, train, and participate in the programs and services. In the past funding was provided by an AHTD 5316 grant which has been discontinued. Open Avenues will have to make up the \$90,000 they received from that grant through other funding avenues.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	100 adults will benefit from this activity. All of these adults are either mentally or physically disabled and live at home. By being able to come to Open Avenues to work each day, it allows these adults to have a job to come to each day and give the parents of these disabled adults some time to themselves.
	Location Description	There would be too many homes to list all the addresses for pickup. Open Avenues, where they will be delivered each day, is located at 2202 North 24th Street.

	Planned Activities	Each morning a bus will come to the homes of these disabled adults and pick them up and take them to Open Avenues where they work and provide business and industry with a reliable off-line production workforce. For their clients, they open avenues to learning and success. For their families and friends, they open avenues to support. For their business and industrial partners, they open avenues to an exceptional workforce and the opportunity to support this training program. They have built a strong reputation of excellence and professionalism in the community.
9	Project Name	Sunshine School and Development Center
	Target Area	Low Income Individuals or Families
	Goals Supported	Public Service - Sunshine School
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	This project will provide funding for scholarships for students who qualify for low and reduced tuition rates for the Preschool Enrichment Program to be able to cover the extended cost of the program and provide them with access to high quality child care and preschool curriculum.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	These scholarships will be designated for eight children. We know that eight families will benefit from this project, but once those eight families are chosen, there could be as many as 30 plus that actually benefit from this project.
	Location Description	3400 Wood Lane, Rogers, AR 72756
	Planned Activities	These funds will be used to provide scholarships for eight children so the extended cost of the program will be provided to them enabling them to have access to high quality childcare and preschool curriculum, impacting a total of 30 people connected to these children.
10	Project Name	Adult Avenues - Facility
	Target Area	Low Income Individuals or Families

Goals Supported	Sidewalks, Streets, Drainage
Needs Addressed	Public Facilities
Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
Description	This project will provide access from the shipping and receiving area of the Work Center to the south parking lot to store baled and recyclable cardboard and eventually to load trucks at this location. This will free up one of the loading docks that is currently used for a trailer in which cardboard is loaded until it is full and replaced with another trailer for the same purpose. This usually takes about a month. With the availability of a new dock, Open Avenues can schedule three deliveries a day in lieu of two increasing their work/income for their clients and increase revenue for their Work Center. It will also enhance their forklift training.
Target Date	12/31/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	There are 120 mentally and physically disabled adults at Open Avenues that benefit from this activity. This does not include the parents of these adults who can now have time to get away from their house during the day since they know their adult children are being taken care of and provided an exception service in the City of Rogers.
Location Description	2202 North 24th Street, Rogers, AR 72756
Planned Activities	Funding will provide an additional access from the shipping and receiving area of the Work Center for storing baled and recyclable cardboard and loading trucks. This will allow all the existing docks to be used for three deliveries a day in lieu of two. This increase the workload for those attending the center as well as increasing revenue and allowing these disabled adults to receive larger paychecks. It will also enhance forklift training at Open Avenues

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

There are 13 census tracts within the City limits of Rogers with five of those tracts considered as low-mod areas (LNMAS) where low to low-moderate income of the residents range from 43% to 71%. Some of the actual block groups within these census tracts have low-to moderate income residents ranging from 51% to 71%. The CDBG projects proposed for 2016 will have an impact on many citizens of Rogers. The housing projects will benefit low and moderate-income persons and prevent or eliminate slum or blight conditions. The service projects will benefit low to low-moderate-income persons and special populations to include the elderly and the physically and disabled/handicapped persons. The facility projects will benefit low to moderate-income and special populations to include the elderly and the physically and disabled/handicapped persons to include those with mental needs.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Census Tracts	34
Low Income Individuals or Families	66

Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically is to meet the primary objective of the CDBG Program which is to benefit low-income and moderate-income residents.

Discussion

The City of Rogers will allocate all funding to low and moderate income residents, special needs individuals and low and moderate income areas of the City.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One of the biggest needs is affordable housing. In the height of the housing construction, the new construction approach was the high-end market homes. Land prices had escalated to a point that the cost of land precluded the building of affordable housing. When the housing market crashed, most of the available homes in the City were not considered affordable housing. As we have moved through the housing boom, we are starting to see the developer building smaller homes. Several years ago the City partnered with Habitat for Humanity to build the first Habitat subdivision in Arkansas. Presently there are eight homes in the subdivision with space to build seven more homes.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	7
Special-Needs	1
Total	8

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	8
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	8

Table 12 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City does not receive funds that can be used for new construction and cannot really make a difference in providing affordable housing. We have implemented ordinances that allow for affordable housing in Rogers. We use our CDBG funding to rehab existing housing to preserve the housing stock and help keep our low income citizens in structurally sound homes that are warm, safe, and dry.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

There is no public housing authority in Rogers, Arkansas. Rogers falls under the Siloam Springs office which handles all of Benton County.

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

The City of Rogers does not have a Public Housing Office. All Section 8 vouchers are handled out of the Siloam Springs Housing Authority. The City does have 588 units of low income housing available with 62 of these units designated for elderly only. Another 72 senior units are scheduled for future construction when Federal funding is available. A newer 60-unit complex for elderly has opened in Rogers. When the apartments were under construction we were told only a few of those would be designated low income. The management has changed that policy and as long as they have a unit available, they will lease to someone who qualifies as low income if they are next on the waiting list. These units are all energy star rated. In checking with the Siloam Springs Housing Authority, there are 130 people living in Rogers in Section 8 housing. The City will continue to work in any endeavor it can to assure availability of affordable housing. We stay in contact with the Siloam Springs office for assistance.

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

The CDBG Administrator attends and is involved in any meetings and workshops to encourage involvement in management and participation in homeownership. The Housing Authority, who oversees public housing, is the Siloam Springs Housing Authority. They cover all of Benton County. The City works with this agency in helping people find public housing in Rogers. We have also offered to provide the agency a place to meet for any town hall meetings they might wish to have with the residents of Rogers who live in low-income housing.

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

PHA is not designated as troubled.

Discussion

Ongoing communication with public housing agencies will continue in order to identify needs and opportunities to further address preservation of existing affordable housing units.

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

Introduction

The City of Rogers is in partnership with the Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care to address the needs of the homeless. The purpose of this coalition is to reduce and/or end homelessness in Northwest Arkansas. There are several organizations in this area that serve families or persons who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The City is involved with all these agencies. The City is also involved in the point in time headcount with the University of Arkansas which is done every two year. This headcount provides specific information regarding the various services and programs, a listing of the number of beds available, and the number, reasons and costs involved in housing the homeless as well as placement of the homeless.

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

Again, the City has partnered with the Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care to work on a plan to end homelessness. One of the key strategies is to address chronic homelessness and providing outreach in this prevention. The Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care is represented by agencies that specifically target the homeless and assist individuals with accessing mainstream mental health and chemical dependency services. Part of this outreach is education of both the service providers and the communities to assist in eradicating homelessness. You can either choose to engage the community or you can ignore the problem. The City of Rogers has chosen to engage the community.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The largest gap in meeting the needs of the homeless is the need for additional emergency shelters and transitional housing with support services. Safe havens are also needed in this area. The City will continue to be involved with agencies that provide this service and help in any way we can to help facilitate the construction of these facilities and/or provide needed services. The City receives no emergency shelter grants.

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

Again, the City is not an agency who can take this on. All we can do is be involved and provide support in areas that we are able to lend our CDBG funding to assist in making the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

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 Rogers will continue its ongoing efforts to increase the number of affordable housing units in Rogers and to help rehabilitate homes that would otherwise be destined for condemnation. We feel it is imperative to keep our housing stock in good shape and to prevent anyone from becoming homeless due to the condition of their home. We don't have a large problem with youth living in existing foster care and residential facilities being discharged with no housing in place; however, we need to make sure that adults being discharged from jails and other systems of care are not homeless upon release. This will require a good coordination from all agencies involved with homelessness.

Discussion

The City does not receive HOPWA funding.

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

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

Introduction

Barriers to affordable housing can lie in several things, i.e., banking, finance, and insurance industry regulations, socio-economic situations, neighborhood conditions, and public policy legislation and enforcement.

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

For a period of a couple of years, Rogers saw a drop in home prices that could put more homes within reach for the low to moderate-income families and individuals, however, getting qualified was a huge barrier to the prospective low-income home owner. We are now seeing those home prices start to rise, but the home loan situation and requirements have not changed. The economy is also a barrier to affordable housing making it harder for low-income families and individuals to save for a down payment. The City will continue to encourage the development of housing for low-income by being flexible as possible with the developer to ensure profitability. The City has issued zoning ordinances allowing homes to be built on smaller parcels of land and as a result of these ordinances we are seeing developers look at smaller parcels of land to build homes in the \$90,000 to \$110,000 price range.

Discussion

The City of Rogers supports provisions for affordable housing. Our goal is to maintain an affordable housing inventory for low- and moderate-income persons and households. We look at providing housing needs for our seniors and persons living with disabilities. We also work with agencies that provide supportive housing.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

Listed below are the actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, reduce lead-based paint hazards, reduce the number of poverty-level families, develop institutional structure, and enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The major obstacle to meeting all of the identified needs is the lack of funding resources. We have seen major funding cuts in previous years and even in years where the funding has increased from one year to the next, we are still not even close to the allotted amount the City received each year prior to funding cuts. In 2014, the City took a huge cut in its CDBG funding; however, the 2015 funding increased by about \$37,000. Applicant request amounts are generally much higher than the entitlement amounts, however, we are seeing less applicants and smaller requests for funding. We attribute part of that to not being able to fund in previous years. Budgetary constraints are an obstacle to meeting the underserved needs. The City does partner, when feasible, with other non-profits to leverage the City's funding allocation.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City will continue to encourage the development of affordable housing by being flexible as possible with the developer to build this type of housing and ensure profitability which allows the developer and contractor to stay in business. The City will continue to provide rehabilitation, weatherization and emergency repairs to our existing housing stock.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Rogers will use a portion of the CDBG allocation for housing rehabilitation. All Federal regulations will be followed. Companies and individuals working on renovations that disturb paint in homes built before 1978 must be certified by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. All persons conducting the lead hazard control work must successfully complete an approved eight hour "Lead Safe Work Practices" (LSWP) class. This class will provide workers with information they need to understand that lead-based paint can create health hazards and that using proper work practices can control hazards. Proof of LSWP training will be required prior to commencement of lead-hazard control work. Testing for lead-based paint will be done as part of the inspection process for any work done inside the house that will disturb the paint. Applicants for housing rehabilitation found to have lead-based paint will receive priority funding status for the cost of remediation. The City of Rogers has two building inspectors that have completed the LSWP class.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Strategies in 2016 include continuation of existing programs that promote a stable living environment and reduce dependency. The City will continue providing housing rehabilitation and home repairs to help the low-to-moderate-income remain in their homes. This program not only promotes a stable living environment and reduce dependency, but prevents homelessness, financial hardships and possibly institutionalization. The City will continue to work to maximize program dollars and opportunities in neighborhoods with the greatest number of low-to-moderate-income residents.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Rogers is the lead administrative agency for the Community Development Block Grant Program. The Mayor, Director of Planning and Transportation, Finance Director, and CDBG Administrator provide fiscal and regulatory oversight of all CDBG funding sources and their Federal grant. The Administrator is responsible to see that all reports are submitted timely. These reports include HUD-272, Federal Cash Transaction Report, HUD-2526 and 2516-A, Contract and Subcontract Activity, HUD-4710, Semi-Annual Labor Standards Enforcement Report, and Section 3, Summary Report which is submitted with the CAPER each year. The City of Rogers also acts as the final authority for the appropriation of funds for Annual Action Plan activities following recommendations to the Rogers City Council. Within each of the funding areas where the City has partnered with a non-profit agency, all activities will be completed and managed with those agencies involved.

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

The City of Rogers has limited resources to address the priorities identified. As such, the City has created and will continue to seek partnerships to leverage the City's 2016 allocation. These partnerships will be cooperative working relationships.

Discussion

The City is committed to continue its participation with Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as profit and non-profit sector, to reach the needs of target income individuals and families in the City of Rogers. The City will also continue to work on infrastructure improvements and services for our low-income citizens.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

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

Discussion

In the past years, the City has always used their funding to benefit persons of low and moderate income. If you take out the cost of administration for the 2016 Program Year, the City will commit 90% of their funds to benefit persons of low and moderate income.