

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

West Allis is a member of a HOME Consortium with Milwaukee County and the City of Wauwatosa, and is also a HUD Entitlement Community under the CDBG program. The Five-Year Consolidated Plan (the "Plan") is a comprehensive document that outlines West Allis's goals on a five-year vision to assist low-moderate income persons and address the presence of slum and blight conditions within the community. In the past few months, West Allis has worked with community stakeholders to establish a vision for housing, community, and economic development actions.

West Allis's CDBG funds will be used under the following "project" categories:

1. Administration
2. Public Services
3. Housing Programs
4. Economic Development Activities
5. Public Facilities

West Allis's intentions for the use of CDBG funds include the following:

1. Redevelop abandoned/underutilized industrial sites
2. Eliminating slum and blighting influences
3. Addressing the needs of low-moderate income neighborhoods
4. Expand Economic Opportunities
5. Decent and Affordable Housing
6. Delivery and provision for providing social services or outreach programs

In an effort to increase public involvement in the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, West Allis, Wauwatosa, and Milwaukee County contracted with Community Planning and Development Advisors, LLC (CPDA) to conduct focus groups and an on-line citizen survey for stakeholders, practitioners and possible beneficiaries involved with the CDBG and HOME programs.

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

Goals over the next 5 years:

1. Increase supply of standard affordable housing
 - a. 132 rehabbed units
2. Assure access to services for targeted populations
 - a. Provide health and recreational services to 2,100 elderly, disadvantaged
 - b. Provide recreational/educational opportunities to 900 youth
 - c. Assist crime awareness/drug abuse programs to 1,500 people
3. Improve/develop infrastructure
 - a. Provide 24 infrastructure projects to meet LMI needs, remove blight and/or improve parks
 - b. Provide 4 target area sweeps of code enforcement in target blighted areas
4. Develop economy and employment
 - a. Provide micro-enterprise technical assistance, counseling and educational services to 13 people
 - b. Assist private businesses to create 31 jobs
 - c. Provide façade improvements to 12 businesses
5. Provide strong program planning and administration

3. Evaluation of past performance

Over the past four years, the City of West Allis has designated CDBG Entitlement funding toward our community redevelopment and planning, revitalization, affordable housing, and public service related activities through a competitive application process. Below is a description outlining the use of CDBG funding in the last four (4) years (because we are not completing the 5-year Con Plan, interrupting it to begin a new 5-year Plan).

Allocation of 2016-2019 CDBG Projects:

- 23% - Administration
- 16% - Public Service
- 12% - Housing Rehab
- 32% - Economic Development
- 17% - Public Facilities

The City's unique approach to implementation of CDBG-funded programs involves a competitive process for all potential activities/subrecipients, even those operated under the City government umbrella. Generally, the program has funded between six (6) to eight (8) subrecipients and intergovernmental agencies annually, allowing for each agency to receive a small portion of the total CDBG Entitlement amount for their various community development-related request. Over the four-year time frame, the annual award experienced a gradual increase of funding. Past performance achievements include:

Public service: Over 1,200 seniors were served through senior outreach activities and new initiatives worked to address over 100 domestic violence victims served through the WISH program; over 1,600 families provided services and resources through the Family Resource Center program; provided lead screening and healthy home services to nearly 1,000 LMI people; LMA population of 45,690 people were provided extra crime prevention services through the Community Service Officer, Neighborhood Watch and Gang Prevention programs that would not otherwise be provided if not for CDBG funds.

Housing: Provided housing rehab loans to over 61 LMI single-family and duplex units; managed over 250 Housing Rehab loan portfolios under the 14H HUD matrix code.

Economic Development: 10 façade grants provided, totaling \$475,000 in façade improvements; \$588,000 in economic development loans provided, creating 93 new jobs in West Allis and fostering nearly \$3 million in private investment.

Public Facilities: served the City's LMA population of 45,960 people with street beautification funds in designated LMI areas and with code enforcement funds (over 22,000 inspections made during the 4-year period); made several improvements to several neighborhood parks including Veterans, Roosevelt, Rodgers, and Liberty Heights. Completed a lead abatement project at the West Allis Farmers Market.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The City of West Allis follows HUD's citizen participation guidelines for an Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Plan with the following steps: (1) publication in City's official newspaper, emails to CDBG "solicitation" list, posting in City buildings, and posting on City website seeking public comment and ideas in developing goals and projects for the next year's funding; (2) hold public comment meeting; (3) publication in City's official newspaper, emails to CDBG "solicitation" list, posting in City buildings, and posting on City website that the City is accepting/soliciting for applications for the next year's funding; (4) public hearing at Block Grant Committee meeting to consider all proposals submitted for the next year's Annual Action Plan; (5) review/approval of Annual Action Plan by Common Council; (6) notice of making the Annual Action Plan available for review and public comment; (7) notice to public of a Finding of No Significant Impact on the Environment.

The City of West Allis Block Grant Committee, consisting of citizen representation from each aldermanic district, fully recommended approval of the **2014 Annual Action Plan** and the **2014-2018 Five-Year Consolidated Plan** to the Common Council. The proposed plans were approved at the Common Council on **September 17, 2013**. To date, no citizen comments have been received and no requests for copies of the plan were received.

In an effort to increase public involvement in the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, West Allis, Wauwatosa, and Milwaukee County contracted with Community Planning and Development Advisors, LLC (CPDA) to conduct focus groups and an on-line citizen survey for stakeholders, practitioners and possible beneficiaries involved with the CDBG and HOME programs.

The County E-mailed invitations to 102 individuals and organizations, including the HOME Consortium (West Allis, Wauwatosa), Urban County member communities, CDBG sub-recipients, relevant County staff (e.g. Health, Engineering, Public Works, Fire and Police), and County Supervisors. On December 5, 2019 and January 21, 2019, the consultant (CPDA) facilitated focus groups using a group technique developed to help each participant generate a series of responses to topic questions and the group then clarified and consolidated the ideas. On November 14, 2019 a focus group was held for the City of Wauwatosa and on December 12, 2019 one was held for the City of West Allis.

A Milwaukee County Consolidated Plan Needs survey was conducted online during the months of September, October and November 2019. A press release with the survey link and purpose was sent to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and posted on the County's Housing CDBG/HOME webpage and the webpage of participating members in the HOME Consortium and the Urban County.

5. Summary of public comments

The 2020-2024 Community Needs survey asked for any comments or recommendations on the use of CDBG and/or HOME funds for community development in their community over the next five (5) years. All the comments received are available as an attachment to the Plan.

Oral or written comments or complaints made regarding a Plan, amendment to a Plan, or a performance report for activities carried out under a Plan, shall be summarized and attached to the relevant document for submission to HUD, along with a response to the comment or complaint.

A written complaint from a citizen directed to the Department of Development will receive a written response within 15 working days of receipt of the complaint, whenever practical.

Comments or complaints regarding documents prepared by the City of Wauwatosa or Milwaukee County shall be addressed by these entities.

To date, no citizen comments have been received and no requests for copies of the plan were received for the 2020 Annual Action Plan or the 2020-2024 Con Plan.

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

No comments or views were received.

7. Summary

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