



FY 2016 Annual Action Plan

Prepared By: City of Colorado Springs and
Civitas LLC

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The City of Colorado Springs, CO 80903
(719) 385-5912

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Colorado Springs is an entitlement jurisdiction that receives federal funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to invest in local housing and community development activities identified by the City. To receive these federal funds, the City must submit an Annual Action Plan each year. The purpose of the Annual Action Plan (AAP) is to guide the use of federal funds over the next program year. The AAP is guided by three overarching priority needs as identified previously in the Five Year Consolidated Plan. The priority needs are:

- 1) To stabilize and improve struggling neighborhoods
- 2) To increase and preserve the supply of affordable housing
- 3) To increase the availability of public facilities and services to prevent and end homelessness.

As required by HUD, the City of Colorado Springs is committed to investing in strategies that serve the needs of low- and-moderate-income (LMI) residents – residents earning up to 80% of Area Median Income (AMI). Very low income (less than 50% AMI) and extremely low income (less than 30% AMI) households are the highest priorities. The City has also identified special needs individuals including the homeless and persons threatened with homelessness, the elderly, and persons with disabilities as among those who face the greatest challenges and who should receive high priority in the expenditure of federal funds.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The 2016 Action Plan identifies specific activities to meet the goals and objectives outlined in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan:

Stabilize and improve struggling neighborhoods.

- Continue to provide expanded code enforcement in geographic target areas to improve neighborhood safety and livability.
- Invest in infrastructure projects that promote walkability, accessibility and connections to transit.

Increase and preserve the supply of affordable housing.

- Preserve existing units at risk of being converted to market rate.
- Prioritize new housing units for very low income (30-60%AMI) with emphasis on housing for seniors and persons with disabilities. Locate new units near public transportation and employment to encourage affordability throughout the community and to allow for housing choice.
- Continue to fund housing rehabilitation to improve housing quality and neighborhood livability.
- Focus on accessibility and energy efficiency improvements that reduce costs to homeowners.

Invest in facilities and services that prevent and end homelessness.

- Support public services that prevent and end homelessness and aid the working poor. Programs include shelter and day center operations, family services and meals.
- Provide gap funding to increase the number of permanent supportive housing units.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City has fulfilled the spirit and intent of the CDBG and HOME programs by facilitating affordability of decent housing, availability and accessibility of suitable living environments, sustainability of suitable living environments, and the accessibility of economic opportunities. Past performance, as reported to HUD in the FY2014 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), the most recent report filed is summarized below:

- Completed an affordable housing needs assessment and identified strategies for increasing the supply of affordable housing.
- Executed actions in the Initiative to End Homelessness in Colorado Springs:
 - Expanded street outreach. There was a 79% increase in the unduplicated number of youth and young adults (from 117 to 210) connected with through street outreach.
 - Added 153 winter shelter beds over the previous year. (Increased to 230 beds in 2015-16.)
 - Trained service providers and housing developers to build, operate, and maintain effective supportive housing aimed at preventing and ending homelessness.
 - Joined the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness and provided additional resources to meet goals to house all Veterans by the end of 2015.
 - Managed the process to develop a governance charter and membership structure for the CoC and initiate a strategic plan. The strategic plan launches on April 14, 2016.
- Assisted 97 low-income homeowners in making needed repairs to their homes.
- Added public facilities projects to the repertoire of activities: constructed two neighborhood playgrounds, installed a “loop” system in City Council Chambers to aid the hearing impaired, replaced the roof at a transitional housing facility, and worked with shelter providers to plan for facility improvements.
- Continued to improve institutional structure and program performance by engaging internal and external expertise in identifying and reviewing project proposals and coordinating activities across City departments. CDD also implemented new financial controls, documented policies and procedures, updated contracts, and developed new monitoring plans.
- Invested in 54 units of affordable housing, improved underwriting procedures and expanded outreach to private and nonprofit developers.

- Continued to evaluate how to best meet economic development objectives.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The City is in compliance with a citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105. The City's Citizen Participation Plan details procedures for involving the public to determine its housing and community development needs, to develop strategies for addressing those needs, and to undertake specific actions consistent with those strategies. Citizen participation was accomplished through meetings with the Continuum of Care, focus groups, neighborhood meetings to discuss capital improvements projects, a Notice of Funding Availability process and meetings with department heads to identify priority projects. In gathering input on community needs for consideration in preparing the Action Plan, Community Development Division (CDD) staff hosted five public hearings in locations around the City; hosted two targeted meetings with neighborhood organizations; and conducted a survey of providers of homeless services. City Council hosted a public input meeting on the municipal budget on October 20, 2015, which included the estimated budgets for the federal entitlement programs. Public comment and responses are summarized herein as required by HUD.

5. Summary of public comments

Input from public hearings and meetings largely centered on needs for: more affordable housing, especially for persons with disabilities and people experiencing homelessness; expanded transit services; higher paying jobs; more code enforcement and neighborhood clean ups; satellite offices for County Department of Human Services and Workforce programs; food sustainability and food related projects; and hearing accessible technology in more community venues. A more complete summary of citizen participation comments appears in the appendix section of this plan.

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

All comments were accepted.

7. Summary

The City of Colorado Springs expects to receive the following HUD funding for program year 2016:

Community Development Block Grant = \$2,647,049

HOME Investment Partnership = \$1,062,550

Emergency Solutions Grant = \$235,877

In addition, the City conservatively estimates receiving approximately \$100,000 in CDBG Program Income and \$200,000 in HOME Program Income. Program Income received in excess of anticipated amounts will be directed to housing rehabilitation activities.

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
CDBG Administrator	COLORADO SPRINGS	Community Development Division (CDD)
HOME Administrator	COLORADO SPRINGS	Community Development Division (CDD)
ESG Administrator	COLORADO SPRINGS	Community Development Division (CDD)

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

The City of Colorado Springs Community Development Division (CDD) developed an outreach effort to maximize input from a large cross-section of stakeholders. This outreach effort included public hearings with published meeting notices, public and stakeholder meetings, a community summit to prevent and end homelessness, and a survey of homeless services providers.

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

CDD actively consulted with a variety of non-profits, social service providers, community residents, and governmental agencies to determine the needs of the City and better allocate entitlement resources. The CDD manager is a member of the Pikes Peak Continuum of Care and met with the governing board monthly. The governing board is made up of private, governmental, mental health and service agencies. The Colorado Springs Housing Authority is also a member of the governing board. CDD reviewed the Colorado Springs Housing Authority Five Year and Annual Plan to ensure consistency with the Consolidated Plan. The CSHA plan informed the 2016 Action Plan. CDD also sponsored a Community Summit to Prevent and End Homelessness on October 26, 2015. The second half of the summit was dedicated to citizen and provider input on priority needs using an open space format where participants identified and discussed topics.

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.

Pikes Peak Continuum of Care. CDD is actively involved in the Pikes Peak Continuum of Care, which exists to plan and support implementation of strategies that will support a collaborative community-based system of housing and services for those experiencing homelessness or those persons at risk of homelessness within the City of Colorado Springs and El Paso County. The Community Development Manager sits on the CoC governing board as an ex officio member to support long-range planning and policy formation and to develop a strategic funding model that maximizes the impact of federal block

grant dollars. The CoC adopted a ten-year strategic plan in April 2016 and the Consolidated Plan includes the priorities identified by the CoC. CoC members are invited to comment on the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. The Community Development Manager is also a member of the Ranking and Prioritization Committee, making recommendations for use of CoC competitive funding.

Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. In addition, the City of Colorado Springs participates in the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness working closely with Rocky Mountain Human Services Homes for all Veterans (HAV) program and the Community Advisory Council on Veteran Homelessness managed by HAV and endorsed by the CoC. The City has allocated HOME funds to increase access to tenant based rental assistance for veterans experiencing homelessness who do not qualify for VASH, and the Mayor has made calls to action to encourage landlords to make units available. The City and the Apartment Association of Southern Colorado hosted a breakfast on September 21, 2015 and the *Gazette* published an Op-Ed from the Mayor again requesting community support in December 2016. The community continues to get closer to reaching “functional zero” and declaring an end to homelessness amongst Veterans, but continues to struggle with providing adequate permanent housing capacity to ensure identified Veterans can move from the street into permanent housing.

Family Day Center. In 2015, the City also partnered with Catholic Charities of Central Colorado and Family Promise to pilot a family day center for impoverished families at risk of or experiencing homelessness with the goal of building a family’s capacity for greater self-sufficiency through economic success, effective case management, and promoting healthy family behaviors. The FDC provides direct emergency assistance, enrichment classes, and case management 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

CDD manages both entitlement ESG funds and State ESG funds awarded competitively. The CoC recommends ESG priorities. Entitlement ESG funds are generally directed to shelter operations, to meet a critical shortage of permanent shelter beds, HMIS, and rapid rehousing. State ESG funds support homeless prevention and rapid rehousing. A Ranking and Prioritization Committee of the CoC evaluates

the performance of grantees in meeting goals of increasing the number of people sheltered, coaches poor performers, and adjusts funding priorities as needed.

The CoC has selected the Pikes Peak United Way (PPUW) as the HMIS administrator. The CoC and PPUW are currently working on a coordinated entry and assessment system to ensure there is no wrong door for people seeking services to prevent and end homelessness and to serve the highest priority needs first.

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	City of Colorado Springs
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Pikes Peak Continuum of Care
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Strategy
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Colorado Springs Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
4	Agency/Group/Organization	El Paso County Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Council of Neighborhood Organizations.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Community Needs

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

In addition to regular consultation with the CoC and Colorado Springs Housing Authority, CDD actively consulted throughout the year with a variety of non-profits, social service providers, community residents, neighborhood organizations and governmental agencies to determine the needs of the City and better allocate entitlement resources. CDD also consulted internally with City departments including Parks, Police, Planning, Public Works, Fire, Economic Vitality and Emergency Management.

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	City of Colorado Springs	Goals were adopted by the CoC and form the basis for the goals of preventing and ending homelessness identified in this plan.
Colorado Springs 2016-2020 Strategic Plan	City of Colorado Springs	This Plan and the City's Strategic Plan are designed to complement each other and contain the same goals and strategies, specifically around arresting decline in targeted neighborhoods and supporting affordable housing with access to transit.
Colorado Springs 2014 Affordable Needs Analysis	City of Colorado Springs & El Paso County	Affordable housing needs assessment and barriers to affordable housing are extrapolated from the results of this analysis.
Initiative to End Homelessness in Colorado Springs	City of Colorado Springs	The Initiative goals were adopted by the CoC and form the basis for the goals of preventing and ending homelessness identified in this plan.
Colorado Springs Analysis of Impediments	City of Colorado Springs	Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and the goals & strategies necessary to overcome them are extrapolated from this analysis.
Capital Improvement Program	City of Colorado Springs	The CIP prioritization informed the public facilities goals outlined in this plan, specifically in regards to rehabilitating existing facilities and investing in energy efficiency improvements to reduce long-term operating costs.
N. Nevada & S. Academy Economic Opportunity Zones	City of Colorado Springs	The research and analysis performed for these target areas identifies uses that would be most catalytic and beneficial to low and moderate income residents in these communities. EOZs are included in the geographic priority areas identified in this plan.
Community Plan to End Veteran Homelessness	Rocky Mountain Human Services	Strategies for ending veteran homelessness identified in this plan are aligned with the Community Plan.
2015 CAPER & Annual Action Plan	City of Colorado Springs	These federal documents are considered in order to assess progress, long term strategic planning, and future goals in light of past efforts.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

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 Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) provides for and encourages public participation and consultation, emphasizing involvement by residents and the organizations and agencies that serve low/moderate income persons in the planning and implementation of community development and housing programs. The CPP establishes the policies and procedures by which citizens of the City of Colorado Springs, public agencies, and other interested parties can actively participate in the development of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, Substantial Amendments, and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The City's Citizen Participation Plan is available throughout the city, particularly in areas where low and moderate-income people reside or seek services such as community and senior centers, the Colorado Springs Housing Authority, the City Administration Building and City Hall, Pikes Peak United Way, Pikes Peak Library District locations, and the Housing and Building Association. The CPP is also available on the CDD website at www.coloradosprings.gov and at the Housing and Community Initiatives Division office located at 30 S. Nevada Avenue, Suite 604, 80903.

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
1	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Action Plan Public Meeting August 3, 2015 at Meadows Park Community Center	See attached	All comments were accepted.
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Action Plan Public Meeting August 6, 2015 YMCA - Southeast	See attached	All comments were accepted.
3	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Action Plan Public Meeting August 10, 2015 Deerfield Community Center	See attached	All comments were accepted.
4	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Action Plan Public Meeting August 17, 2015 Fire Station 8	See attached	All comments were accepted.
5	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Action Plan Public Meeting August 24, 2015 Fellowship Bible Church	See attached	All comments were accepted.
6	Stakeholder Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	Action Plan Public Meeting August 31, 2015 Ivywild School	See attached	All comments were accepted.

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
7	City Council Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	City Council Budget Input Meeting, October 20, 2015, City Council Chambers	Broad comments about needs for affordable housing, infrastructure and neighborhood services, and transit.	All comments were accepted
8	Stakeholder Meeting	Homeless Service Providers/Public Stakeholders	Community Summit to Prevent and End Homelessness, October 26, 2015	Comments largely focused on the need for additional shelter, affordable housing, and support services. Input was captured for the CoC Strategic Plan.	All comments were accepted
9	Survey	Homeless Service Providers	Homeless Facilities Survey November 23, 2015 to December 11, 2015	See attached	All comments were accepted.

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The 2016 Annual Allocations have been announced by HUD. The City will receive \$2,647,049 in CDBG funding, \$1,062,550 in HOME funding, and \$235,877 in ESG funding for Program Year 2016.

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: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	2,647,049	100,000	0	2,747,049	7,941,147	Based on three more years of funding for this ConPlan period.

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: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,061,629	200,000	0	1,261,629	3,170,655	Based on three more years of funding for this ConPlan period.
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	235,877	0	0	235,877	707,631	Based on three more years of funding for this ConPlan period.

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

Colorado Springs complies with federal matching requirements for both HOME and ESG funds. Colorado Springs maintained \$3,479,269.24 in excess HOME matching funds from prior years. ESG funds are matched by subrecipient funds.

The City will use federal block grant funding and City General Funds to address the objectives identified in this Plan. In addition, agencies and developers will be directed to other programs as available and appropriate. Programs include:

- CoC competitive grant funds – application process administered by the CoC.
- Private Activity Bond – City’s capacity is set aside for affordable housing development each year. This program is implemented in conjunction with the El Paso County Housing Authority. The CDD Manager is a voting member of the Housing Authority Board.
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program – LIHTC has proven to be a highly effective method of increasing the supply of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income residents.

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

Not applicable.

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	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Provide for Homeless Prevention Services	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Homeless	CITY WIDE	Facilities/Services that Prevent/End Homelessness	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 180 Persons Assisted
2	End Homelessness	2015	2019	Homeless	CITY WIDE	Facilities/Services that Prevent/End Homelessness	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3000 Persons Assisted
3	Provide for Rental Assistance for Homeless Persons	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Homeless	CITY WIDE	Facilities/Services that Prevent/End Homelessness Increase/Preserve the Supply of Affordable Housing	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 30 Households Assisted
4	Provide for Affordable Rental Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CITY WIDE	Increase/Preserve the Supply of Affordable Housing Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods	Rental units constructed: 17 Household Housing Unit Rapid Re-housing: 150 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Preserve Existing Affordable Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CITY WIDE	Increase/Preserve the Supply of Affordable Housing Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 20 Household Housing Unit
6	Expand Public Facilities & Infrastructure	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE 2015 Neighborhood Target Areas	Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5775 Persons Assisted
7	Expand Code Enforcement Activities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	2015 Neighborhood Target Areas	Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 3500 Household Housing Unit
8	Expand Public Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE	Facilities/Services that Prevent/End Homelessness Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5054 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Provide for Homeless Prevention Services
	Goal Description	The City shall make investments in facilities and services that help to prevent homelessness.

2	Goal Name	End Homelessness
	Goal Description	The City shall utilize funding to provide for services and facilities to assist persons and families who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.
3	Goal Name	Provide for Rental Assistance for Homeless Persons
	Goal Description	The City shall utilize a portion of its funding each year to provide for Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) to assist persons and households who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.
4	Goal Name	Provide for Affordable Rental Housing
	Goal Description	The City will work toward increasing the supply of affordable rental housing as well as preserving the existing affordable rental housing stock.
5	Goal Name	Preserve Existing Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	The City will provide funding to assist homeowners with repairs and housing rehabilitation in an effort to preserve the existing affordable housing stock.
6	Goal Name	Expand Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Goal Description	The City shall invest in the improvement and/or expansion of public facilities and infrastructure in an effort to stabilize and improve struggling neighborhoods.
7	Goal Name	Expand Code Enforcement Activities
	Goal Description	CDBG funding shall be utilized to provide for Code Enforcement efforts in low to moderate income neighborhoods in an effort to stabilize and improve struggling neighborhoods.
8	Goal Name	Expand Public Services
	Goal Description	CDBG funding shall be utilized to provide for the expansion of public services for low to moderate income households throughout the community.

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):

HOME - Projected total assisted:

Provide gap financing to affordable housing developers to produce, rehabilitate, and/or preserve 17 affordable rental housing units for very low income persons as well as provide for owner occupied rehabilitation loans for 20 single family homes owned by very low income households.

HOME TBRA - Projected total assisted:

HOME TBRA subsidies will be made available to homeless individuals who are referred through a community assessment process. Homeless veterans will be given a priority through 2016. 30 households will be served over the next year.

ESG- Projected total assisted:

ESG supports operations at two permanent shelter facilities – 3,000 extremely low income persons served.

Rapid re-housing – 150 persons served.

Homeless prevention – 30 persons served.

CDBG - Projected total assisted:

Provide gap financing to affordable housing developers to produce, rehabilitate, and/or preserve affordable housing; 45 low income households

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The following projects have been identified for funding during the 2016 Program Year.

#	Project Name
1	CDBG Program Administration (2016)
2	CDBG Public Services (2016)
3	CDBG Housing Activities (2016)
4	CDBG Public Facilities & Infrastructure (2016)
5	HOME Program Administration (2016)
6	HOME CHDO Set Aside 15% (2016)
7	HOME Development Projects (2016)
8	ESG Projects (2016)

Table 8 – Project Information

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

In the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City identified special needs individuals including the homeless and persons threatened with homelessness, the elderly, and persons with disabilities as among those who face the greatest challenges and who should receive highest priority in the expenditure of federal funds. During 2016, CDD is making funds available to increase emergency shelter beds, build a day center for homeless services, remove physical barriers in housing to improve accessibility, install ped ramps and make safe connections to transit routes, and increase housing for homeless and very low income families and individuals. Because the City is not a direct service provider and does not manage affordable housing, distribution of funds for housing development and services is dependent upon responses from organizations to City-issued applications and Notices of Funding Availability. A lack of responses can be an obstacle for addressing underserved needs. Additionally, there is only one certified CHDO in the City.

CDD staff continues to work with the Continuum of Care, public and private housing developers, other community organizations, target populations and the local media to better ensure community awareness of funding opportunities and will specifically seek out and select only those projects that clearly meet the highest priorities.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 9 – Project Summary

1	Project Name	CDBG Program Administration (2016)
	Target Area	CITY WIDE
	Goals Supported	Provide for Homeless Prevention Services End Homelessness Provide for Rental Assistance for Homeless Persons Provide for Affordable Rental Housing Preserve Existing Affordable Housing Expand Public Facilities & Infrastructure Expand Code Enforcement Activities Expand Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods Increase/Preserve the Supply of Affordable Housing Facilities/Services that Prevent/End Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$512,253
	Description	Administration of the 2016 CDBG Program for the City of Colorado Springs. Administrative expenses are limited to 20% of the total CDBG entitlement grant for the 2016 program year.
	Target Date	3/31/2017

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	City wide administration of the CDBG program.
	Planned Activities	<p>Citizen Participation Activities</p> <p>Fair Housing Promotion</p> <p>Planning Studies</p> <p>Administrative Staff Expenses including salaries and benefits</p> <p>Operating Expenses</p>
2	Project Name	CDBG Public Services (2016)
	Target Area	CITY WIDE
	Goals Supported	Expand Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Facilities/Services that Prevent/End Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$419,000
	Description	The CDBG program will fund a variety of public service organizations throughout the City in order to enhance and/or expand the availability of services to the citizens of Colorado Springs. Public Services funding is capped at 15% of the annual CDBG entitlement grant.
	Target Date	3/31/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The average number of individuals that will benefit from these proposed services are 5,868 very low income (0-30% AMI), 17 low income (31-50% AMI), and 3 moderate income (51-80% AMI). Additionally the families that will benefit from the proposed services are low to moderate income persons.
	Location Description	City wide public services activities.

	Planned Activities	<p>The planned activities below are only planned. As such, only conditional funding commitments have been issued to the respective agencies or organizations. Each planned activity must complete all due diligence requirements as required by the City of Colorado Springs and HUD regulations. Upon completion of the due diligence and approval by CDD staff, the City and the respective organizations shall enter into a funding agreement (or contract) for delivery of the activity. In all cases, activities must be for the benefit of low to moderate income persons and/or households within the boundaries of City of Colorado Springs.</p> <p>Ascending to Health Respite Care Inc. \$28,000 Catholic Charities - Marian House Soup Kitchen \$45,000 Catholic Charities - Family Day Center \$55,000 City of Colorado Springs Community and Senior Centers \$100,000 Interfaith Hospitality Network - Family Shelter \$10,000 Springs Rescue Mission - Day Center \$110,000 Tessa - Safe House Program \$15,000 The Salvation Army - RJ Montgomery Center Bed Extension \$56,000</p>
3	Project Name	CDBG Housing Activities (2016)
	Target Area	CITY WIDE 2015 Neighborhood Target Areas
	Goals Supported	Provide for Rental Assistance for Homeless Persons Provide for Affordable Rental Housing Preserve Existing Affordable Housing Expand Code Enforcement Activities
	Needs Addressed	Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods Increase/Preserve the Supply of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,115,795

	Description	CDBG funded housing activities throughout the City.
	Target Date	3/31/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Code enforcement will conduct 3,500 inspections, housing rehabilitation for accessibility will rehab 20 households, owner occupied housing rehabilitation will rehab 20 home owned properties, emergency repairs program will assist 45 households, and rental and utility assistance program will assist 30 persons. Additionally the families that will benefit from the proposed services are low to moderate income persons.
	Location Description	City wide housing activities.
	Planned Activities	City of Colorado Springs - Code Enforcement City of Colorado Springs - Housing Rehabilitation for accessibility City of Colorado Springs - Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Emergency Repairs Program Colorado Springs – Affordable Housing
4	Project Name	CDBG Public Facilities & Infrastructure (2016)
	Target Area	CITY WIDE 2015 Neighborhood Target Areas
	Goals Supported	Expand Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods Facilities/Services that Prevent/End Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$700,000
	Description	The City of Colorado Springs will utilize a portion of the 2016 CDBG grant to improve public facilities and infrastructure throughout the community.
	Target Date	3/31/2017

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	There are 3 LMI census tracts identified for a total of 4,175 LMI persons. In addition, census tract 301 identified 1,670 LMI persons.
	Location Description	City wide public facility and infrastructure improvements. Funding is available city wide but is prioritized on the 5 geographic target areas.
	Planned Activities	Winters/Cascade \$400,000 ADA improvements \$100,000 Las Vegas Street Improvements \$200,000
5	Project Name	HOME Program Administration (2016)
	Target Area	CITY WIDE
	Goals Supported	Provide for Rental Assistance for Homeless Persons Provide for Affordable Rental Housing Preserve Existing Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods Increase/Preserve the Supply of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$121,022
	Description	The HOME program rules and regulations limit the amount of funding allocated to administration of the grant to just 10% of the annual allocation.
	Target Date	3/31/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	City wide administration of the 2016 HOME program.

	Planned Activities	Planning Studies TBRA Administration Staff salaries and benefits
6	Project Name	HOME CHDO Set Aside 15% (2016)
	Target Area	CITY WIDE 2015 Neighborhood Target Areas
	Goals Supported	Provide for Affordable Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	Increase/Preserve the Supply of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$195,164
	Description	Per the HOME Program regulations, the City of Colorado Springs must set-aside no less than 15% of the annual allocation for activities to be carried out by eligible and certified Community Housing Development Organizations or CHDOs.
	Target Date	3/31/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	17 low to moderate income households will benefit from the CHDO project.
	Location Description	City wide CHDO activities.
7	Project Name	HOME Development Projects (2016)
	Target Area	CITY WIDE

	Goals Supported	Provide for Rental Assistance for Homeless Persons Provide for Affordable Rental Housing Preserve Existing Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Stabilize and Improve Struggling Neighborhoods Increase/Preserve the Supply of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$945,650
	Description	The City of Colorado Springs will allocate a portion of the HOME funds for a variety of housing development activities throughout the community. This may include new construction, rehabilitation, and or the use of HOME funds for TBRA.
	Target Date	3/31/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	HOME TBRA subsidies will be made available to homeless individuals who are referred through a community assessment process. Homeless veterans will be given a priority through 2016. 30 households will be served over the next year.
	Location Description	City wide HOME eligible activities.
	Planned Activities	City of Colorado Springs - Affordable Housing Development City of Colorado Springs - Owner Occupied Housing Rehab Program City of Colorado Springs Housing Authority - Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA)
8	Project Name	ESG Projects (2016)
	Target Area	CITY WIDE
	Goals Supported	Provide for Homeless Prevention Services End Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Facilities/Services that Prevent/End Homelessness
	Funding	ESG: \$235,877

Description	The City and its partners will utilize the limited ESG funds to address homelessness in the community. Funding utilized for the administration of the grant is capped at 7.5% of the annual allocation.
Target Date	3/31/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2,500 low to moderate income persons will benefit from the ESG program in 2016.
Location Description	City wide homeless services.
Planned Activities	<p>Planned activities below are only planned. As such, funding commitments have not been issued. Each agency selected must complete all due diligence requirements as required by the City of Colorado Springs and HUD regulations. Upon completion of the due diligence and approval by CDD staff, the City and the respective organizations shall enter into a funding agreement (or contract) for delivery of the activity. In all cases, activities must be for the benefit of low to moderate income persons and/or households within the boundaries of City of Colorado Springs.</p> <p>ESG Program Administration \$11,793</p> <p>Shelter Operations \$141,526</p> <p>HMIS management \$28,000</p> <p>Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-housing \$54,556</p>

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The City generally distributes federal funds city-wide, but has identified geographic target areas with high priority needs, and has adopted a comprehensive strategy for arresting decline in these areas. The strategy includes code enforcement inspections, residential rehabilitation, infrastructure improvements, neighborhood clean ups, public facilities expansion and public services, (CDBG eligible code enforcement activities are limited to the census tracts in the geographic target areas.)

Geographic target areas were identified using an index that assessed need across a spectrum of six different housing and economic variables. The variables utilized were:

- Unemployment rate (Employment Index)
- Median household income (Prosperity Index)
- Vacancy rate (Occupancy Index)
- Median household value (Housing Value Index)
- Rental rate (Homeownership Index)
- Normalized and aggregated property crimes (Safety Index)

These variables were input into an index of 0 to 100, with 0 being the lowest possible score and 100 being the highest. City staff considered the results of this analysis and information on key community initiatives to identify five target areas encompassing 14 census tracts. All areas are designated as LMI areas by HUD.

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Identification of geographic target areas enables staff to prioritize services and improvements to areas with the highest priority needs and to leverage resources and investments identified in other City initiatives targeted to these areas including City General Funds, Trails Open Space and Parks funds, and Pikes Peak Regional Transportation Authority funds. Investments in geographic target areas are not tracked in IDIS but are identified in the CAPER.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The following one-year goals have been established based on the indicators and scope of the City of Colorado Springs' projects this year.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	1,210
Non-Homeless	50
Special-Needs	250
Total	1,510

Table 10 – One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	30
The Production of New Units	8
Rehab of Existing Units	40
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	78

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

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

Colorado Springs Housing Authority (CSHA) is the largest provider of affordable housing in Colorado Springs. CSHA owns 707 units of federally funded public and senior housing, administers approximately 2,290 additional units through the federal Housing Choice Voucher Program, operates about 813 units of locally funded affordable housing not included in its public housing portfolio, is involved in approximately 1,481 units through tax credit partnerships, and administers a HOME-funded Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program, which serves approximately 40 households. CSHA will continue its housing activities in 2016, utilizing its annual formula grant to implement these activities.

CSHA will continue to manage the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program for all of El Paso County except the City of Fountain. The following table reports characteristics by bedroom size according to September 2014 survey data from CSHA. One-bedroom units are the most common. Notably, demand for larger units, as judged by the waiting list unit size preference, suggests that the supply is drastically insufficient to meet current need, especially for two- and three-bedroom units.

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

The Housing Authority will continue to use the capital fund program over the next few years to rehabilitate and modernized its public housing units to ensure housing quality standards. The City will continue to support CSHA in maintaining safe and decent public housing for families and seniors by expediting licenses and permits for repairs and maintenance to Authority-owned and operated facilities.

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

CSHA has a number of strategies to increase resident involvement and to improve the living environment for residents. CSHA staff meets with residents to share information regarding the Authority and to receive input on renovation needs and priorities. There is a “tenant-Commissioner” position on the Board of the Housing Authority. That position is currently filled by a resident of the Authority’s housing and provides input to the Board and Executive staff. The Authority also provides congregate meals to residents in multi-family senior housing through a partnership with Silver Key Senior Services.

Over the years, the Housing Authority administered a first-time home buyer’s program open to the general public. The program consisted of pre-purchase counseling and a down payment assistance loan. Due to lingering impacts from the financial crisis and issues in the local real estate market, the program has been on hold with the Authority managing the existing loan portfolio.

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

The CSHA is not designated as troubled.

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

Introduction

Preventing and ending homelessness is a top priority in 2016. In 2014, the City launched the Initiative to End Homelessness, an action plan framework designed to bring a fresh focus to the growing and expensive problem of homelessness in Colorado Springs by raising public awareness, building collaboration and investing in urgent needs quickly. Though not a direct service provider, the City of Colorado Springs engages with service providers, business leaders, policy-makers, and other service providers to achieve the following goals:

- Increase access to emergency shelter.
- Facilitate development of a day center offering comprehensive services and amenities.
- Expand outreach programs to reduce street homelessness.
- Increase access to stable and affordable housing (long-term).
- Strengthen the City of Colorado Springs/El Paso County Continuum of Care long-term).
- Develop a 10 year plan to end homelessness.

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

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

Expanding outreach programs is a key component of helping homeless persons in making a transition into permanent housing. In Colorado Springs, faith-based organizations provide a significant amount of outreach. However, most outreach is performed by volunteers. There are currently very few professional staff dedicated to outreach. The City of Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) Homeless Outreach Team provides specialized outreach activities, but cannot always help homeless persons transition to permanent housing. This year, the focus of the City's outreach strategy is to:

- Increase outreach efforts that are consistent, frequent, and targeted to chronically homeless

- Improve collaboration between service providers and CSPD Homeless Outreach Team to identify the chronically homeless and move them off the street and into shelter and housing
- Increase the number of shelter beds and set aside beds to provide an immediate housing opportunity to outreach clients
- Identify transportation options to aid the homeless in accessing services

Furthermore, the CDD Manager will continue to serve on the CoC Governing Board to promote better collaboration and ensure the highest priorities are funded first. The CoC has a consumer advisory committee to ensure people experiencing homelessness have a voice in identifying the programs they need to return to stable housing. In addition, a Comprehensive Homeless Assistance Providers (CHAP) committee made up of service providers and interested community members will continue to meet monthly to discuss homeless issues. Members of this committee work firsthand in reaching out to the homeless population, including unsheltered and chronically homeless persons, delivering services and assessing needs in Colorado Springs.

b) Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

There is significant unmet need for emergency shelter in Colorado Springs. Shelter programs have routinely operated at or above their maximum capacity since November 2013. One of the primary goals for 2016 is to increase access to permanent emergency shelter. The City Council recently approved a substantial amendment to the 2014 Action Plan to make \$2.5 million available to expand the number of year round shelter beds and build the city's first day center with comprehensive services. In 2016 CDD seeks to:

- Increase year round shelter capacity, especially for chronically homeless, families with children and persons recovering from illness
- Ensure the availability of nightly winter shelter beds between November 1st, 2016 and March 31st, 2017
- Simplify access requirements to reduce barriers to entry at shelters
- Target investments to move clients out of shelter and into housing quickly, including case management and rental assistance

The City contributes CDBG, ESG and General Fund to help assist local service agencies in providing these services. Non-profit agencies apply through CDD. Funds are also used to provide supportive services such as case management, counseling, job training, and life skills classes.

c) 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

Residents remain in shelters from several days to months depending on their needs. Shelters offer supportive services such as counseling and case management to help homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing. The City contributes CDBG, ESG, State ESG and General Fund revenues to assist local service agencies in providing these services. Non-profit agencies apply through CDD. Through the local Continuum of Care system, the agencies have cooperative arrangements with human service agencies, educational institutions, Pikes Peak United Way, and various non-profit and civic groups to offer supportive services.

CDD will continue to administer State ESG funds awarded on a competitive basis for homeless prevention and rapid rehousing. Funds are awarded to two agencies and other agencies refer clients through these agencies. By limiting the number of agencies administering the funds, CDD can provide more technical assistance and better monitoring to ensure outcomes are achieved.

In 2016, the CoC will launch a robust coordinated entry and assessment process to best identify and better coordinate housing and supportive services to ensure long-term housing stability for people who have experienced homelessness. Competitive CoC funds will be awarded only to agencies that use the coordinated assessment tools. Performance will be evaluated annually as part of the application process.

d) 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.

Increasing access to stable and affordable housing is a key element of the community's strategy to prevent homelessness. Stakeholders interviewed as part of the Consolidated Plan process placed an emphasis on providing wraparound services over the next five years in order to promote long-term housing stability. The current plan to end homelessness largely centers on providing health, social, and employment services in tandem with housing in order to comprehensively address the needs of the extremely low-income individuals and families in Colorado Springs. In 2016 CDD anticipates providing gap funding to support construction of 65 units of permanent supportive housing with wrap around services on site – the first PSH project of its kind in Colorado Springs. CDD is also recommending funding to support a respite care program for homeless persons discharged from hospitals, to support rapid rehousing for youth and families, and to fund tenant based rental assistance for homeless persons or persons at imminent risk of homelessness.

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

Introduction

As identified in the 2014 Affordable Housing Needs Assessment, the following strategies will be examined over the next five years in order to remove or ameliorate the barriers to affordable housing in Colorado Springs:

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

The City has actively addressed barriers to affordable housing as outlined above. In 2016 the City will:

- Implement recommendations in the Infill and Redevelopment Action Plan to permit accessory dwelling units, shorten appeals processes to reduce housing development risks, establish water development charges for smaller units, and establish a TOD (Transit Oriented Design) overlay to allow for more mixed uses in areas of opportunity.
- The City will launch a comprehensive planning process, expected to be completed over two years, that will include recommendations for meeting affordable housing needs and identify areas for affordable housing development consistent with Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule.
- CDD will pilot a neighborhood planning process with the Mill Street Neighborhood and adjacent business owners and human service providers to identify opportunities for neighborhood improvement and identity and encourage economic activity.
- CDD will continue to advocate for affordable housing through public presentations, letters to the editor, making recommendations on federal, state and local legislation, and providing technical assistance to affordable housing developers and managers on housing development and Fair Housing laws.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

In alignment with the goals and strategies of the Consolidated Plan, the City will implement the other actions listed below.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

CDD staff continues to work with local government and service providers to build community capacity to meet underserved needs. Distribution of federal funds for housing development, public facilities, and public services is dependent upon responses from organizations to City-issued applications and Notices of Funding Availability. A lack of responses can be an obstacle for addressing underserved needs. Some agencies that do apply do not have the necessary financial systems and professional staff to ensure compliance with HUD regulations and either cannot be funded or require significant technical assistance.

To address this obstacle, CDD staff has clarified its priorities, adopted better monitoring procedures, sponsored educational sessions (in cooperation with the State and CoC) and expanded subrecipient training. CDD has also expanded its citizen outreach as documented in the Citizen Participation Plan and continues to work with the Continuum of Care, public and private housing developers, other community organizations, target populations and the local media to better ensure community awareness of funding opportunities and specifically seeks out and selects only those projects that clearly meet the highest priorities.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

CDD will continue to administer its housing development, rehabilitation and tenant-based rental assistance programs to increase and preserve the supply of decent, affordable housing and provide more access to existing housing. The City is also updating its comprehensive plan and developing an infill and redevelopment action plan, which addresses zoning, utility and transportation issues that impact housing costs and will recommend tools and incentives. Please refer to AP 55 for further

discussion on affordable housing strategies and goals.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The elimination of lead-based paint hazards in existing housing is an important part of CDD's strategy for addressing potential health conditions faced by at-risk low- to moderate-income families, particularly those with young children in target housing. All CDBG and HOME funded housing rehabilitation and affordable housing preservation projects include testing for lead-based paint and related hazard elimination activities when needed. In order to ensure compliance with HUD's Lead Safe Housing Rule, a senior staff person with extensive construction experience and HUD/EPA training in the identification and elimination of lead-based paint hazards oversees this effort. The Division's goal is to increase the number of hazard-free, affordable housing units available in the community.

In 2016, CDD is applying for a grant made available by HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes in order to further the Division's goal. Specifically, the grant, if awarded, will enable CDD to develop a coordinated program with its community partners that will increase awareness of the health risks associated with lead-based paint hazards, conduct comprehensive testing of both single- and multi-family target housing, and continue carrying out hazard reduction activities. The Notice of Funding Availability for this grant requires a minimum 10% match commitment of local funds. CDD intends to commit a portion of its annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation for this purpose, an allowable use per HUD and the Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Grant Program. If CDD is awarded a grant through this program, the maximum amount of this commitment will be \$50,000 per year for the next 3 consecutive years.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Reducing poverty requires job creation and increasing income. Job creation is a platform goal of the City of Colorado Springs 2016-2020 Strategic Plan. Strategic objectives are:

- Nurture local businesses and promote alignment of educational institutions, the local workforce, and job opportunities.
- Encourage the development of a defined and well-promoted City image.

- Make it easy to do business with the City.

While General Funds have largely funded job recruitment and retention efforts, federal funds have been invested in neighborhood stabilization activities, including public facilities and infrastructure, public housing rehabilitation and code enforcement with the goal of improving quality of life and making the area more attractive for private investment. This combined investment will encourage job creation and retention and help reduce the number of poverty-level families in the City. And as described throughout this Action Plan, CDD will continue to support programs, facilities, and housing to prevent and end homelessness and help all low-income households better achieve economic stability.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City is committed to developing institutional structure by improving its internal systems and helping to develop a durable service delivery system in the broader Colorado Springs community.

Internal Systems. The City's CDBG and HOME programs were audited by the HUD OIG in 2014-2105. As a result of those audits, CDD has developed a better system for time tracking; updated its policies and procedures for environmental review, monitoring and file management; updated HOME program policies and procedures; and updated all of its subrecipient and developer agreements. CDD has received HUD technical assistance and in 2016 will update its ESG written standards to ensure full compliance and all staff will be trained in IDIS.

Community Service Delivery. The City is actively engaged with the Pikes Peak Continuum of Care and managed the consultant contract to bring the CoC into compliance with the HEARTH Act and develop a long-term strategic plan. To aid our community in building a durable system of places and programs to serve people in need, in 2016 CDD will:

- Align federal funding with key goals established by the CoC to prevent and end homelessness; develop long-term funding plan.
- Work with the CoC to deploy a coordinated assessment tool. HUD intends for coordinated

assessment systems to establish system-wide entry, assessment, and referral processes.

- Plan for both year round, winter, and emergency shelters; plan for youth and family shelters and day centers.
- Engage the community. Convene meetings and conversations with stakeholder groups to get input and address emergent issues.

Further, code enforcement activities are now part of CDD, and the City is putting more focus on neighborhood services and improvements. In 2016, CDD will expand services to LMI neighborhoods (such as neighborhood clean ups) and will work with the Mill Street Neighborhood and area stakeholders specifically to develop a plan for improving that area for residents and encouraging more economic activity.

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

The City will continue to collaborate with the CoC, Colorado Springs Housing Authority, CHDOs and other housing agencies to coordinate housing and services to achieve the goals and objectives of the Consolidated Plan. This will be achieved through meetings and subcommittee work. Also, CDD will ensure code enforcement officers have the training and resources to identify issues in the field and connect housing providers with appropriate service agencies to address needs.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	100,000
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:	100,000

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
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2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan. 80.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

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

Not applicable.

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

CDD utilizes the resale provision for homebuyer activities.

Resale Provision:

Per HOME rule 92.254(a)(5)(i), the CONTRACTOR must ensure that, when a HOME-assisted homebuyer sells his or her property, either voluntarily or involuntarily, during the affordability period,

1.) The property is sold to another low-income homebuyer (80% or less of area median income) who will use the property as his or her principal residence

2.) The original homebuyer receives a fair return on investment.

i. The original homebuyer's investment is defined as their down payment plus the value of any improvements they made to the house. For example, the homebuyer made a \$1,000 down payment to purchase an existing home and they also invested in a new kitchen that added \$5,000 to the value of the home for a total investment of \$6,000. "Fair return" is defined as the percentage change in the value of the home, based on the percentage change in median home prices and documented by appraisals from the former homebuyer's purchase and subsequent (new)

homebuyer's purchase. For example, the median sales price for the home's unit type (single family vs. condo; existing vs. new construction) and market area, according to the local Multiple Listing Service, was \$200,000 when the homebuyer purchased it. When they decide to sell, the same measure of median sales price indicates an increase of 2.5% to \$205,000. The seller must be allowed to sell the home for enough to recoup both their original investment (\$6,000) and 2.5% fair return on that investment ($\$6,000 \times 2.5\% = \150), a total of \$6,150. NOTE: if median sales prices actually decline between sales, the seller may not receive a return on their investment.

3.) The property is sold at a price that is "affordable to a reasonable range of low-income buyers."

i. The property must be sold to a household at 50%-80% of area median income that will pay not more than 30% of their income for principal and interest or the CONTRACTOR may use the "residual income" approach, which determines affordability based on whether a family can afford other basic necessities after paying for housing.

ii. If the affordable sales price is not enough to allow the seller to realize a fair return on their investment, the City may provide HOME funding to help a qualified buyer afford a sales price that does ensure a fair return.

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

Recapture Provision for Units Acquired or Rehabilitated with HOME funds:

The City utilizes the recapture provision for properties that are acquired or rehabilitated with HOME funds. If at any time prior to the termination of the affordability period the units no longer meet the HOME affordability requirements, the developer is required to repay the HOME funds in full to the City.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that

will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

Not applicable.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Reference 91.220(I)(4)

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

CDD is currently updating the written standards for providing ESG assistance. Following is a summary of current standards.

Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Written Standards

Jurisdictions receiving Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) are required to develop written standards for providing ESG assistance. The minimum requirement regarding these standards are set forth in 24 CFR 576.400(e) (1) and (e) (3). The jurisdiction must have written standards for providing ESG assistance and must consistently apply those standards in its Consolidated Plan.

The City of Colorado Springs (City) uses ESG funds for shelter operations, homeless prevention, rapid rehousing street outreach, and the Homeless Management and Information System.

- I. **Standard policies and procedures for evaluating individuals' and families' eligibility for assistance under ESG**

All applicants must be interviewed by a case manager to determine the eligibility. The subrecipient must complete an initial assessment utilizing the centralized assessment system developed by the CoC. This assessment will determine the potential eligibility of the client, the kind and amount of assistance that the client needs. The initial assessment must be conducted in accordance with the requirements set forth under 24 C.F.R. 576.400(d) and these written standards.

All ESG assisted individuals and households must meet the definition of homelessness as established by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and published in 24 C.F.R. Part 576, as amended.

All ESG assisted individuals and households must be literally homeless or have incomes below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Income will be determined using the Section 8 definition of income found in 24 CFR Part 4. Third party documentation of income is the preferred method to document income and homeless status.

During the application process, the applicant must demonstrate that no appropriate housing options are available, that the household lacks the financial resources to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing; and the household lacks support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing.

Homeless Prevention – The applicant may receive funding for housing relocation and stabilization services and for short- and/or medium-term rental assistance necessary to prevent an individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in 576.2. Short term assistance is assistance up to 3 months. Medium term assistance is up to 24 months. The applicant must meet the criteria under the “at risk of homelessness” definition, or who meet the criteria in paragraph (2), (3) or (4) of the “homeless” definition in section 576.2 and have an annual income below 30 percent of median family income for the area, as determined by HUD. The costs of homelessness prevention are only eligible to the extent that the assistance is necessary to help the program participant regain stability in the program participant’s current permanent housing or move into other permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Homelessness prevention must be provided in accordance with the housing relocation and stabilization services requirements in 576.105, the short-term rental and medium-term rental assistance requirements in 576.106. The subrecipient must meet with each clients at least monthly to insure that the client is progressing in any agreed upon plan with the appropriate time frames.

Rapid Re-Housing – The applicant may receive funding for housing relocation and stabilization services and short-and /or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing achieve stability in that housing. The applicant must meet the criteria under paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in 576.2 or who meet the criteria under paragraph (4) of the “homeless” definition. The rapid re-housing assistance must be provided in accordance with the housing relocation and stabilization services requirements in 576.105, the short-and medium-term rental assistance requirements in 576.106. The subrecipient must meet with each clients at least quarterly to insure that the client is progressing in any agreed upon plan with the appropriate time frames.

The subrecipient must collect the basic demographic information on the client (HMIS universal data elements) and make sure that the client has access to financial services from other agencies, such as food stamps and disability assistance.

II. **Policies and procedures for determining which eligible families and individuals will receive homelessness prevention assistance and which eligible families and individual will receive rapid re-housing assistance**

Homeless Prevention – Eligible clients for homeless prevention must either be at imminent risk of homelessness, homeless under other federal statutes or be fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence. The total household income of the family must not exceed 30% of the area median income as determined by HUD. The Section 8 definition of income must be used to determine compliance with the income requirement.

Clients receiving homeless prevention must provide case managers with information and/ or documentation in order to demonstrate that they have no other persons / support systems to help them with maintaining their current home, or prevent them from entering a shelter. Clients receiving more than one month of financial assistance must develop an individual service plan in consultation with the case manager that demonstrates a plan to be permanently housed once the homeless prevention assistance ends.

The City has identified the following priorities for homeless prevention assistance:

1. Families with children;
2. Veterans; and
3. Unaccompanied youth under the age of 18

These are priorities and are not meant to preclude other eligible persons from receiving assistance. Within these priorities, the City will enable each subrecipient to prioritize the eligible families using the initial centralized assessment and other information provided by the client.

Rapid Re-Housing – Eligible clients for rapid re-housing must be literally homeless or be fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence. In order to ensure that ESG funds are the most appropriate source of funding, the case manager must document that the client is ready to reside in permanent housing and have a low demand for housing support services.

The housing unit that is leased must meet HUD’s rent reasonableness standards, does not exceed HUD’s fair market rent, is appropriately zoned and meets the Section 8 Housing Quality Standards.

Clients receiving more than one month of financial assistance must develop an individual service plan in consultation with the case manager that demonstrates a plan to be permanently housed once the homeless prevention assistance ends.

The City has identified the following priorities for rapid re-housing assistance:

1. Families with children;
2. Veterans;
3. Unaccompanied youth under the age of 18; and
4. An individual or family fleeing domestic violence

These are priorities and are not meant to preclude other eligible persons from receiving assistance. Within these priorities, the City will enable each subrecipient to prioritize the eligible families using the initial centralized assessment and other information provided by the client.

III. **Standards for determining what percentage or amount of rent and utilities cost each program participant must pay while receiving homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance**

ESG funding must be used as a last resort, be the least amount of assistance needed to stabilize the client and be for the least amount of time possible. ESG funds are not to supplant other available resources to the client nor will ESG funds be used to duplicate a resource provided in the same time period for the same cost. Case managers must develop a household budget for the client and identify the least amount of ESG funds needed to help the client maintain permanent housing. For clients receiving ongoing financial assistance lasting more than three months, the case manager must develop a plan with the client requiring them to contribute up to 30% of household income towards rent and utilities. Case managers must obtain proof that the client payment was received by the third party prior to paying out ESG funds.

VI. **Standards for determining how long a particular program participant will be provided with rental assistance**

Due to the limited amount of ESG resources available, the maximum period clients may receive assistance within a 3 year period will be limited to the following:

1. Unpaid rent & utilities – 3 months plus any late fees or utility reconnection fees
2. Rapid re-Housing – 6 months plus a security deposit. The time period may be increased to 24 months if the client is enrolled in a full or part time training program designed to provide permanent long term employment

V. **Standards for determining the type, amount and duration of housing stabilization and / or relocation services**

Security Deposits

- ☐ Not to exceed 1 month's rent; and
- ☐ Limited to one time assistance within 3 years.

Utility Payments

- ☐ Limited to 3 months per utility provider within a 3 year period; and

- ☐ Cable TV or other similar utilities may not be paid with ESG funds

Rental Assistance

- ☐ Rental Assistance is limited to 6 months, within a 3 year period. The time period may be increased to 24 months if the client is enrolled in a full or part time training program designed to provide permanent long term employment;
- ☐ The landlord must agree that they will not evict the tenant in return for receiving ESG funds;

No ESG funds may be disbursed until the case manager receives a draft written lease showing the names of the tenants, the move-in-date, occupancy terms, expiration date and the costs payable by the tenant. All payments must be paid to verified third parties. Under no circumstances can ESG payments be made directly to the client.

VI. **The recipient must ensure that data on all persons served and all activities assisted under ESG are entered into the applicable community-wide HMIS**

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

The CoC has not established a centralized coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements. The CoC will be piloting a system in 2016.

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

CDD consults with the CoC to determine priorities. In 2016, ESG will be allocated as follows:

Emergency Shelter Operations: 60% of the entitlement award will be allocated for emergency shelter operations. CDD will conduct an open and competitive process for funding. Respondents will be evaluated based on consistency with the written standards for ESG assistance and past performance.

HMIS: HMIS funds will be directly allocated to the Pikes Peak United Way – the sole source manager of the CoC HMIS as designated by the CoC Governing Board – following CoC Governing Board approval of a HMIS operating budget.

Rapid Rehousing/Homeless Prevention: The balance of funds will be allocated for Rapid Rehousing and/or Homeless Prevention activities. CDD will conduct an open and competitive process for funding. Respondents will be evaluated based on consistency with the written standards for ESG assistance and past performance. Funds will be awarded to up to three agencies.

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

CDD consults with the Pikes Peak Continuum of Care when considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG. Per the CoC Governance Charter, the CoC governing board composition must include at least one homeless or formerly homeless person. In addition, the CoC has established a Consumer Advisory Council comprised of currently or formerly homeless consumers. The committee identifies consumer priorities, reviews matters requested by the Governing Board, provides inputs to processes and program requirements, assists in identification of barriers and potential solutions, and generally provides consumer-oriented recommendations to the Governing Board. The committee meets at least monthly.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

CDD continues to work with the CoC to implement a process for consistent performance metrics and evaluation across all funding sources/agencies. In the meantime, agencies receiving ESG funds will be monitored annually to ensure that program guidelines are being followed. Monitoring procedure will be conducted as outlined in the ESG Monitoring Plan. All agreements require quarterly reimbursement requests and timely expenditure of funds. In addition, before reimbursement can be made, verification of expenditures is required.

Attachments

ESG Written Standards

Housing & Community Initiatives

City of Colorado Springs

Citizen Participation Comments

PUBLIC NEEDS HEARING ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2015

Present: PUBLIC

Location Meadows Park Community Center

I. Announcements

Presentation on 2016 Action Plan

Three primary topics were identified as being important, Housing, Transportation and Jobs.

II. Housing

- A. Lack of large units available for families
- B. Cost Burden
- C. Tiny Homes as an option for affordable housing
- D. Utilize vacant buildings for homeless
- E. Supportive housing (open ended housing)

III. Transportation

- A. Jobs don't connect with bus routes
- B. Need more bus routes / extended hours

IV. Jobs

- A. Education/Job Training
- B. Availability of decent paying Jobs in the area
- C. Felons have a hard time getting jobs
- D. No funds allocated for Economic Development

V. Other

- A. Other communities are referring/sending people to Colorado Springs
- B. Biophilia – "Humans natural love for life helps sustain life"
- C. Food Farms – grow our own food
- D. Collaborative efforts needed within City departments

**PUBLIC NEEDS HEARING ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
NEEDS**

Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2015

Present: PUBLIC

Location: SE YMCA, 2190 Jal Wing Dr.

I. Announcements

Presentation on 2018 Action Plan

Four primary topics were identified as being important, Housing, Transportation, Jobs and Redevelopment.

II. Housing

- A. Affordable housing is needed for people with disabilities, including life threatening illnesses. Discrimination may exist for disabled people seeking and keeping housing.
- B. Qualifying for housing can have monetary barriers (application fees & deposits) and includes the discrimination of felons and/or recently released from prison.
- C. Confusing legal issues related to death of homeowner (wills, trusts, estate planning) and disabled survivors/beneficiaries who may lose program benefits or have challenges in transition.
- D. Stricter lending guidelines in areas in need of housing.
- E. Need for permanent supportive housing and where to seek housing in emergencies.
- F. Elderly in need for housing rehabilitation.

III. Transportation

- A. New jobs in NE and no bus service
- B. Need more bus routes / extended hours.

IV. Jobs

- A. Distance between jobs and housing.

V. Redevelopment/Revitalization

- A. Lack of amenities and resources within dying commercial shopping centers throughout S. Academy
- B. Fire station Airport/Academy reuse.
- C. Park Hill neighborhood in need of community center.
- D. How do we align with EOZ?
- E. How do we identify CIP?

VI. Other

- F. "University Area" in need of bilingual signs.
- G. Working with Law Enforcement in public spaces.

**PUBLIC NEEDS HEARING ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
NEEDS**

Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2015

Present:

PUBLIC

Location:

Dearfield Hills Community Center - 4290 Dearfield Hills Rd, 80216

I. Announcements

Presentation on 2016 Action Plan

Four primary topics were identified as being important, Housing, Transportation, Jobs and Redevelopment

ii. Housing

- A. Affordable housing is needed for people with disabilities. Discrimination may exist for disabled people seeking and keeping housing.
- B. Fair market rents are too high for persons with fixed incomes.
- C. Elderly in need for housing rehabilitation.

iii. Transportation

- A. Need more bus routes / extended hours.

iv. Jobs

- A. Distance between jobs and housing.

v. Redevelopment/Reutilization

- A. In need of a Southeast Partnership like downtown.
- B. Need neighborhood clean-up
- C. Install benches on Drennon Road so disabled and/or seniors can rest while walking
- D. Investors need to work on taking care of their investment - eye sore
- E. How much involvement will the citizens have about the location for the homeless facility?

vi. Other

- A. Centralization of Social Services - human services, workforce. Could the community centers function as the centralized location.
- B. Citizen Participation - need to work on getting the word out about community meeting.
- C. City Council needs to be more involved in their districts - community meetings.

**PUBLIC NEEDS HEARING ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
NEEDS**

Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2015

Present: PUBLIC

Location: Fire Station 8, 3737 Airport Rd.

I. Announcements

Presentation on 2016 Action Plan

Seven primary topics were identified as being important: Housing, Transportation, Jobs, Redevelopment, Neighborhoods and Code Enforcement, Crime, and Other.

II. Housing

- A. Do we/can we provide incentives for affordable housing?
- B. Gentrification of Circle and Airport, redevelopment then higher rents.
- C. Comment that housing/jobs/transportation problems have not been addressed since late 1980s.
- D. Limited number of affordable housing providers/developers and onerous application fees upon rental of housing.
- E. Do we revisit or have a maintenance program to follow up on our investments?
- F. Pros and Cons of mixed income and new HUD Affirmatively Fair Housing rule.

III. Transportation

- A. What can we do to overcome transportation barriers?
- B. Limited bus system schedule and individuals who work more than job in evenings.

IV. Jobs

- A. Lack of living wage jobs, cannot afford housing.

V. Redevelopment/Revitalization

- A. Focus on local developers, versus out of state
- B. What can developers do for us beyond development – community benefits agreements?
- C. Elimination of business personal property taxes and related business startup fees
- D. Advocacy of infill vs. annexation

VI. Neighborhoods and Code Enforcement

- A. Prevalence of renters and lack of upkeep, overcrowding of housing
- B. Extra officer has/was assigned in SE for multifamily
- C. Importance of grassroots driven citizen participation
- D. Memorial Park, Pikes Peak Park, and Rock Island Trail are unkempt or have rubbish.
 - a. Can we have prisoners/community service do this?
 - b. Mention of Keep COS beautiful.

- E. Opportunity for Public Private Partnerships and proactive community action to assist neighborhoods.
- F. Lack of neighborhood spirit

VII. Crime

- A. Drug dealing and landlords looking the other way
 - Investor apathy and not improving properties
 - Lack of enforcement
 - Culture (us as a city reactive vs. proactive)

VIII. Other

- A. El Pamar Foundation may provide resources to the SE in the short term future.
- B. How do you target and plan your projects?
- C. Lack of master/comprehensive planning at city level.
- D. Trails could be improved, trail amenities in other CO cities.

**PUBLIC NEEDS HEARING ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
NEEDS**

Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2015

Present: PUBLIC

Location: Fellowship Bible Church, 5590 N Nevada Ave COG 80918

I. Announcements

Presentation on 2016 Action Plan

Four primary topics were identified as being important, Housing, Transportation, Jobs and Community buy-in. Residents from communities north of Colorado Springs stressed the importance of coming up with regional solutions to housing, transportation, and employment issues.

II. Housing

- A. Affordable housing is needed for people with disabilities including housing with support services for residents struggling with addiction.
- B. Communities outside of the City have limited housing resources available and that places additional demand on all providers.

III. Transportation

- A. Need more bus routes / extended hours.
- B. Better coordination of regional transportation services.

IV. Jobs

- A. Distance between jobs and housing places additional strain on households with limited income.

V. Community Buy-in

- A. El Paso County communities struggling with 'Nimby-ism,' and lack of support for programs to assist homeless.



Handwritten initials

Housing and Community Initiatives Director
Public Needs Meeting - 2015 Action Plan
Meadows Park Community Center - 1943 S. El Paso Avenue, 80905
August 3, 2015 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm



Name (please print legibly)	Organization	Phone Number & Email Address
David Anderson	Aurora Housing	
Summer Thompson	Spring-Rock Mission	
Lynn Frasier	Spring-Eagle Mission	
Michelle Swanson	FHA/Spring League	
Eise Lehman	Local Welfare, RBC	
Rachel Gammiller	Spring Rescue M.	

OMA Control No: 2506-0117 (exp. 07/31/2015)

Housing and Community Initiatives Division
 Public Needs Meeting - 2016 Action Plan
 YMCA Southeast - 2190 Jet Wing Drive, 80916
 August 6, 2015 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm



Name (please print legibly)	Organization	Phone Number & Email Address
Cherie A. Farrell Randy Westfall		
JOHN WILLIAMS MAITREY BOGLEY	THE LIFE SHOUT HOUSE CITY OF	
LARRY BOGLEY JANE ROBERT	CITY COUNCIL SANTA TERESA	
Marilyn Wozniak	Gospel House Fellowship	

Housing and Community Initiatives Division
 Public Needs Meeting - 2016 Action Plan
 Deerfield Hills Community Center - 4290 Deerfield Hills Rd, 80918
 August 10, 2015 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm



Name (please print legibly)	Organization	Phone Number & email/address
Suzi Arnold	PRWA	
Zachary Andrews	SAN	
Cassie McGrath	SAA	
Julie Sawa	Deerfield	
Ed Moore	Deerfield	
Dana Jones	Deerfield Hills	
James Rosemore	Deerfield Hills	
Marilyn Vazourel	Gospel Home for Women	
Cynthia Ithaya		
FELICIA BOHNER	THINE COLLEAD SKINS	
Jane Walker		



Housing and Community Initiatives Division
 Public Needs Meeting - 2016 Action Plan
 Fire Station #8 - 3737 Airport Road, 80910
 August 17, 2015 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm



Name (please print legibly)	Organization	Phone Number & Email Address
Dora Lopez	DECKFIELD HILL	
Paul Lopez		
Paul Lopez	MONTANA	
Paul Lopez		
Paul Lopez		
Paul Lopez	Franklin University	
Paul Lopez	Sagebrush Mountain Home	
Paul Lopez	Resident in SD 215	
Paul Lopez	Black Plateau Coalition	
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Paul Lopez		

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

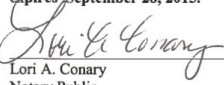
STATE OF COLORADO
COUNTY OF EL PASO

I, Mary Heifner, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Legal Sales Representative of THE COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE, LLC., a corporation, the publishers of a daily public newspaper, which is printed and published daily in whole at the city of Colorado Springs in the County of El Paso, and the State of Colorado, and which is called The Gazette; that a notice of which the annexed is an exact copy, cut from said newspaper, was published in the regular and entire editions of said newspaper 1 time(s) to wit, July 17, 2015.

That said newspaper has been published continuously and uninterruptedly in said County of El Paso for a period of at least six consecutive months next prior to the first issue thereof containing this notice; that said newspaper has a general circulation and that it has been admitted to the United States mails as second-class matter under the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1879 and any amendment thereof, and is a newspaper duly qualified for the printing of legal notices and advertisement within the meaning of the laws of the State of Colorado.


Mary Heifner
Legal Sales Representative

Subscribed and sworn to me this July 17, 2015, at said City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado. My commission expires September 28, 2015.


Lori A. Conary
Notary Public

LORI A. CONARY
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF COLORADO
My Commission Expires 9/28/2015

The Gazette

PUBLIC NOTICE
The City's Housing and Community Initiatives division is hosting a series of public meetings to obtain citizens views and comments on the use of federal block grant funds (CDBG, HOME and ESG). The information gathered will be used in the preparation of the Annual Action Plan for the period of April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2017. The Annual Action Plan outlines the strategies for addressing housing, economic and community development needs of low- and moderate-income residents. Citizens are encouraged to attend any of the public meetings held throughout the city at the following locations:

August 3rd @ 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Meadows Park Community Center
1943 S. El Paso Avenue, 80905

August 6th @ 6:00 - 7:30 pm
YMCA Southeast
2190 Jet Wing Drive, 80916

August 10th @ 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Deerfield Hills Community Center
4290 Deerfield Hills Rd., 80916

August 17th @ 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Fire Station 8
3737 Airport Rd, 80910

August 24th @ 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Fellowship Bible Church
5590 N. Nevada Avenue, 80918

"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Colorado Springs (City) will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service to participate in this meeting should make the request as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event."
Contact: 385-5876 or irisley@springsgov.com for more information.

PUBLICATION DATE: July 17, 2015



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF COLORADO
COUNTY OF EL PASO

I, Mary Heifner, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Legal Sales Representative of THE COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE, LLC., a corporation, the publishers of a daily public newspaper, which is printed and published daily in whole at the city of Colorado Springs in the County of El Paso, and the State of Colorado, and which is called The Gazette; that a notice of which the annexed is an exact copy, cut from said newspaper, was published in the regular and entire editions of said newspaper **1 time(s) to wit, April 4, 2016.**

That said newspaper has been published continuously and uninterruptedly in said County of El Paso for a period of at least six consecutive months next prior to the first issue thereof containing this notice; that said newspaper has a general circulation and that it has been admitted to the United States mails as second-class matter under the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1879 and any amendment thereof, and is a newspaper duly qualified for the printing of legal notices and advertisement within the meaning of the laws of the State of Colorado.

Mary Heifner

Mary Heifner
Legal Sales Representative

Subscribed and sworn to me this **April 26, 2016**, at said City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado. My commission expires **November 2, 2018.**

Tina L. Goheen

Tina L. Goheen
Notary Public

The Gazette



NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS ON THE 2016 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Colorado Springs Community Development Division will conduct a public meeting on April 18, 2016 from 6:00-7:00 PM at the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 107 N. Nevada Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903 on proposed actions regarding the 2016 Action Plan for the use of federal block grant funds received annually from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
The Community Development Division will be discussing the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partners/Not (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) proposed projects for FY 2016.
The proposed 2016 Action Plan will be available for public review from April 11, 2016 to May 10, 2016 at the following locations Monday through Friday during normal business hours: Community Development Division, 30 S. Nevada Ave., Suite 604, Office of the City Clerk, 30 S. Nevada Ave., Suite 101, City Hall, 107 N. Nevada Ave #200, Penrose Library, 20 N. Cascade Ave., 21st Century Library, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr., Pikes Peak United Way, 518 N. Nevada Ave., Hillside Community Center, 925 S. Institute St., Westside Community Center, 1628 W. Biou St. and Meadows Park Community Center, 1943 S. El Paso Ave. The draft substantial amendment can also be viewed at any time, within the aforementioned dates, online by visiting the Community Development's website, <https://coloradosprings.gov/residents-services/planning-development/housing/housing-community-initiatives>
Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the 2016 annual action plan to the City of Colorado Springs, Community Development Division and address them to Felix J. Lopez, (719) 385-6676 or fopez@springs.gov. All comments received on or before May 10, 2016 will be considered by the City of Colorado Springs Community Development Division. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.
"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Colorado Springs will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service to participate in this meeting should make the request as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event. Citizens who are deaf and hard of hearing may dial 711 or 800-659-3656 Relay Colorado (voice) or 800-659-2656 (TTY). Contact (719) 385-6676 or fopez@springs.gov for more information.
Published in CS Gazette April 4, 2016

Dear Mr. Lopez,

In reference to the CDBG funding, please give serious consideration to providing hearing-accessible technology in a community venue – specifically, an induction hearing loop at the Gold Hill Police Substation Community Room.

The community is in need of venues available to and for public use, that provide communication access for people with hearing loss. A sound-system is simply not adequate for many of us, and this population is underserved.

Our non-profit national organization, Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), is the nation’s leading organization representing people with hearing loss. Our mission statement is “to open the world of communication for people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy,” and our local non-profit Colorado Springs Chapter (HLAA-CS) is known as the **city’s** voice for people with hearing loss.

It is burdensome to the city, and for the community, to depend on the city providing **temporary** accessible communication when and where needed, even if required by ADA law. And, it would benefit the city, the community, and community-based organizations if we had a permanently-looped facility for public use. Although the city needs looped venues in various parts of the community, we ask, for starters, that the Gold Hill Police Substation Community Room be looped for a few reasons.

Although we use it for our free monthly meetings, which are open to the public, the venue is:

- safe, and available for public use daytimes, evenings, and weekends, without rental fees or special staffing necessary;
- an adequate size, with a kitchen, for many community programs, public functions; etc.
- parking is adequate;
- easily accessed (close to the entrance from the parking lot, and the community room is directly located at the entrance) - this is important for any group when hauling in equipment, etc., which we are currently doing
- centrally located - this would be advantageous for the City’s public information meetings, briefings, etc. also.

The City does not have anything like this available at this time. And, it is essential that people with hearing loss have an accessible venue to be able to hear what is being said and to be included, not only for general-interest meetings, community classes, etc., but especially when the community has vital information for personal safety, disaster meetings, etc.

Our Chapter has \$2,000 - \$5,000 in funding, and possibly equipment to donate, to help with this project. And the entire community will benefit from it. With this opportunity, let’s partner together in this endeavor and use a portion of the grant funding for ADA improvements, along with ours, to ensure the greatest good for the community, and the best possible use of grant funds.

For more information on hearing loops, visit www.hearingloss.org; www.hearingloop.org, or www.hearinglosscolorado.org. You can contact the HLAA-CS Chapter Board at hlaacoloradosprings@outlook.com if you have further questions.

Vickie Pacheco, Vice President
Outreach and Technology Committee Chair
Colorado Springs Chapter
Hearing Loss Association of America

Dear Mr. Lopez,

We are writing to request that a portion of the CDBG funds designated for improving accessibility be committed to installing a sound system and hearing loop in a venue in Colorado Springs that can accommodate between 30 and 100 people. Our city currently has no medium size venue that is available to the public, particularly on the weekends. Our organization, Hearing Loss Association of America, Colorado Springs Chapter has experience great difficulty finding a meeting location that is available on Saturdays and that provides hearing access. We currently meet at Gold Hill Police Station Community Room and must bring in our own loop system, mixer, speaker and microphones. This is cumbersome to transport and to set up and tear down. Further the room does not have adequate access for other public meetings that are held there.

The sites we would be interested in seeing looping installed are, in order of preference, Gold Hill Police Station Community Room, the Colorado Springs Senior Center on Hancock, and the Westside Community Center. We are especially interested in Gold Hill because of the ease of access to the location, the 24/7 availability of staffing, the fact that there is no rental charge, the space is welcoming, attractive, and large enough to permit our group to continue to grow. The only drawback of this location is the lack of a good sound system and a permanently installed loop. If these were added, this would give our community a hearing accessible venue that is rent free for use by the public and has good availability, especially evenings and weekends for medium size groups. We do not have anything like this available at this time.

As to utilization, Gold Hill is used for a variety of community programs and briefings. 20% of the adult population has hearing loss and the number rises to 1 in 3 in persons over age 65. In El Paso County in 2014 there were approximately 132,703 persons with hearing loss. Any time groups gather in our community, it is likely that individuals with hearing loss will be present. Looping a venue like Gold Hill will increase access for those with hearing loss to pertinent information such as emergency preparedness and landslide activity in our area, as well as other topics of interest to the general public. Last but not least, HLAA Colorado Springs meets there monthly, bringing 20-25 people with hearing loss to the venue each time. These are individuals who might use the loop for other meetings once they were aware of its existence.

The other 2 venues mentioned, Colorado Springs Senior Center on Hancock and Westside Community Center are of interest because they serve numerous seniors and offer a wide variety of classes and community activities. Neither offer the broad evening and weekend availability of Gold Hill Community Room though and both would charge rental fees for use for our meetings.

Hearing loss is an invisible disability. "Unlike someone visibly left outside because of wheelchair inaccessibility - which would leave others appalled - inaccessibility due to hearing loss is invisible and thus often unremedied." (David Myers, Author and Professor of Psychology at Hope College) For more information on hearing loops visit www.hearingloss.org or www.hearingloop.org. Feel free to contact us at hlaacoloradosprings@outlook.com if you have further questions.

Please commit a portion of the funds earmarked for ADA improvements to creating better communication access for our Hard of Hearing population. Our city lags behind other communities in development of looped venues. We have received an estimate of \$9,700 to loop the Gold Hill Community Room from Assist2Hear. This includes \$1200 for carpet removal and reinstallation. Our organization has committed \$2000 toward this project. We are asking your help in creating a place in our community where individuals can attend meetings and be fully included.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Ann Belfiglio, President
Hearing Loss Association of America
Colorado Springs Chapter