

City of Portsmouth, NH Five Year Consolidated Plan 2015-2019

Including Year One (FY 2015-2016) Annual Action Plan

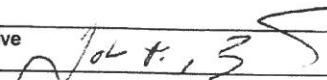
Submitted to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Community Development Department
City Hall
1 Junkins Avenue
Portsmouth, NH 03801

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

OMB Approved No. 3076-0006

Version 7/03

1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION: Application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		2. DATE SUBMITTED 5/15/2015	Applicant Identifier 02-6000714
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction	3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE		State Application Identifier
5. APPLICANT INFORMATION			4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY Federal Identifier
Legal Name: City of Portsmouth		Organizational Unit: Department: Community Development	
Organizational DUNS: 07-397-6706		Division:	
Address: Street: 1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801		Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (give area code)	
City: Portsmouth		Prefix: Mr.	First Name: David
County: Rockingham		Middle Name: Stephen	
State: NH		Last Name: Moore	
Zip Code: 03801		Suffix:	
Country: USA		Email: dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com	
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 02-6000714		Phone Number (give area code) (603) 610-7226	Fax Number (give area code) (603) 427-1593
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) (See back of form for description of letters.)		7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (See back of form for Application Types) Municipal Other (specify)	
10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: TITLE (Name of Program): Community Development Block Grants/Small Cities Program 14-219		9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY: U.S. Housing and Urban Development	
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): City of Portsmouth, NH		11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: City of Portsmouth - FY 2016-2020 Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Plan and FY 2015-2016 Annual Plan and Budget	
13. PROPOSED PROJECT Start Date: 7/1/2015		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: a. Applicant NH 01	
Ending Date: 6/30/2016		b. Project	
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:		16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?	
a. Federal	\$	505,162	a. Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON DATE:
b. Applicant	\$	635,783	b. No. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E. O. 12372
c. State	\$		<input type="checkbox"/> OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW
d. Local	\$		17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If "Yes" attach an explanation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
e. Other	\$	431,923	
f. Program Income	\$	11,996	
g. TOTAL	\$	1,584,864	
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.			
a. Authorized Representative			
Prefix: Mr.	First Name John		Middle Name P.
Last Name Bohenko		Suffix	
b. Title City Manager		c. Telephone Number (give area code) (603) 610-7202	
d. Signature of Authorized Representative 		e. Date Signed 5-20-15	

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the Consolidated Plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing- The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing, which means it will conduct an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction, take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis, and maintain records reflecting that analysis and actions in this regard.

Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR 24; and it has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the CDBG or HOME programs.

Drug-Free Workplace- It will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

1. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
2. Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
 - a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - b. The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - c. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - d. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.
3. Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph 1;
4. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph 1 that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will:
 - a. Abide by the terms of the statement, and
 - b. Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction
5. Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
6. Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b), with respect to any employee who is so convicted:
 - a. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or

- (b) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, state, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
7. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Anti-Lobbying -- To the best of the state, territory, or local government's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Local Government, State, or Territory -- The submission of the consolidated plan is authorized under state law and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction or state possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs under the consolidated plan for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with Plan -- The housing activities to be undertaken with HPRP funds are consistent with the strategic plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.


Signature/Authorized Official

5-12-15
Date

City manager
Title

Specific CDBG Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated housing and community development plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that provide decent housing, expand economic opportunities primarily for persons of low and moderate income. (See CFR 24 570.2 and CFR 24 part 570)

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan (or Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy) that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it certifies that it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low and moderate income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available);
2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds including section 108 guaranteed loans during program year(s) _____, _____ (a period specified by the grantee consisting of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years), shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period;
3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

The jurisdiction will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108, unless CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of fee or assessment attributable to the capital costs of public improvements financed from other revenue sources. In this case, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds. Also, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its

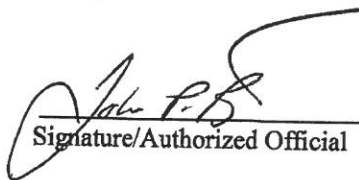
jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and

2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction;

Compliance With Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d), the Fair Housing Act (42 USC 3601-3619), and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, subparts A, B, J, K and R;

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.


Signature/Authorized Official

5-12-15
Date

City manager
Title

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

This Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan for the next five years and discusses the goals and objectives the Portsmouth Community Development Department plans to achieve from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020 (HUD FY 2015-2019). Each year the CD Department provides an annual update to the Consolidated Plan, which serves as an action plan for the upcoming fiscal year. In addition to the five year Consolidated Plan, this year's submittal contains an Annual Action Plan for HUD FY 2015.

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

This year's annual action plan and 5-year Consolidated Plan include goals and objectives for housing, public facilities, and programs which assist individuals and families. Priority needs include creating and preserving affordable housing units, helping homeowners remain in their homes, removing architectural barriers, supporting public service agencies, maintaining infrastructure, and improving access to public facilities to better meet the needs of people who earn low and moderate incomes.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Portsmouth has administered the CDBG entitlement program in Portsmouth for over 30 years. During this time the City has ensured adherence to CDBG program rules as well as compliance with federal regulations governing the use of funds. In the previous five year consolidated planning period, progress was made on several of the community development goals established for housing, public facilities, accessibility and public services, including:

- Improved the housing stock of eligible individuals and families;
- Removed architectural barriers to accessibility for homeowners and in public facilities;
- Carried out thousands of linear feet in streetscape improvements;
- Assisted over thirty first-time homebuyers;
- Provided grants to agencies providing key social supports for thousands of eligible households and families;
- Leveraged funding for various public facility improvement projects for non-profit service agencies; and
- Provided grants and loans for the development and renovation of several units in affordable housing complexes.

The specific accomplishments of projects and programs undertaken during the previous five year planning period will be provided in the FY 2014-2015 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

There are many worthwhile and eligible programs and projects, which are considered for funding each year. To assist the Community Development Department in determining which projects are funded, an eight member Citizens Advisory Committee meets to make funding recommendations to the City Manager. The CD Dept. also meets regularly with area service providers in order to ensure the needs of partner organizations and their clients are being met.

5. Summary of public comments

As the planned projects for the upcoming 5-Year period are not targeted towards specific neighborhoods, the amount of comments received from residents was minimal. Many comments were received from area organizations however, and the vast majority were positive and supportive of the direction the Community Development Department is taking.

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

There were no comments or views not accepted.

7. Summary

The City of Portsmouth receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Under this program, the City of Portsmouth is an entitlement community. In FY 2015-2016, the City of Portsmouth will receive \$505,162 to be used in carrying out various eligible programs that benefit residents who earn low or moderate incomes. CDBG funds must be used to primarily 1) benefit individuals and families who earn very low, low or moderate incomes; 2) improve neighborhoods in which over 51% of the residents earn very low, low or moderate incomes; and 3) improve accessibility for people with disabilities.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	PORTSMOUTH	Community Development Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

David Moore

Director of Community Development

City Hall

Community Development Department

1 Junkins Avenue

Portsmouth, NH 03801

(603) 610-7226

PR-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

The Portsmouth Community Development Department is the sole agency responsible for administering the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The CD Department is responsible for developing the Consolidated Plan, providing annual updates, reporting on activities accomplished and documenting funds expended at the end of each program year. The CD Department works in cooperation with public and private agencies who serve persons who earn very low-, low- and moderate incomes. The CD Department, as a Department of the City of Portsmouth, works closely with other municipal departments including the Planning, Public Works, Legal, Finance, Inspection, Health and Welfare departments. The Portsmouth Housing Authority is another City agency with which the CD Department coordinates services because that agency serves many of the same clientele as CDBG programs. Many residents in Portsmouth Housing Authority apartments are served directly or indirectly by programming and projects funded with CDBG. The CD Department's coordination and cooperation with various entities facilitates CDBG programming and assists in identifying community needs.

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)).

Community Development staff are very engaged on the quality and affordability of housing. Specifically, the City participates in regional discussions on workforce housing through the Workforce Housing Coalition and its sponsor, The Housing Partnership, a local non-profit housing organization. In recognition of the housing challenge, in 2008 the Portsmouth City Council established the Blue Ribbon Committee on Housing and charged the Committee with developing a "road map", or guidance document, on local housing options and issues; identifying creative solutions to address those issues; and developing a short list of policy and action items that could be taken by the City and others to increase affordable housing options. The results of this work have been incorporated in this, as well as past, Consolidated Plans.

The CDBG program has also worked to advance fair housing through its support for New Hampshire Legal Services (NHLS) Housing Justice Program. NHLS has been awarded funds regularly through the Public Service Agency Grant Program and will continue to receive funds. The agency's work in this area includes providing assistance to Portsmouth renters with fair housing concerns as well as initiating and conducting workshops on fair housing for the benefit of landlords and direct service non-profit providers interacting with clients.

The city also supports and coordinates with area organizations such as Seacoast Mental Health Center and the Families First dental program to promote access to governmental health and mental health services for individuals in need. Health organizations work directly with the Portsmouth Housing Authority to bring their services to low and moderate income residents.

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

The City is working with the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness in order to better coordinate services targeted toward families and individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness. A new coordinated access initiative between regional service providers is helping potential clients avoid shelters altogether and move forward directly to transitional or permanent placements that are best aligned with their needs. City staff recently attended a summit on homelessness organized by the Coalition that resulted in a new agreed upon set of priorities for the homeless service community to focus on in the near term, including implementation of a coordinated care program with area hospitals, expansion of data aggregation and analysis, and improving efficiency of advocacy work.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS

The Community Development Department consults with the public and service providers during Citizen Advisory Committee meetings. When an organization is being considered for funding or will be affected by potential policy developments, they are contacted regularly throughout the decision making process. Community Development staff attend meetings of the Seacoast Continuum of Care and take an active role in compiling information required by the State Continuum of Care. CD staff are also involved in forums and working groups addressing issues of chronic homelessness and coordination of services for those currently or at risk of becoming homeless. In addition to facilitating a Seacoast Continuum of Care meeting on homelessness issues in preparing the Plan, CD staff reviewed periodic publications and reports associated with the Homeless issue including: the New Hampshire DHHS Annual Homeless Reports and Point in Time Surveys, Homeless Teens, and the work for the New Hampshire Coalition to End Homelessness and local United Way of the Greater Seacoast-sponsored Ending Homelessness Workgroup.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	CROSSROADS HOUSE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director spoke before the Citizen's Advisory Committee presenting an outline of issues including areas to improve coordination on data collection and analysis, care coordination, and advocacy. This includes enhanced coordination with hospitals and service providers to ensure that repeat clients who suffer from mental illness resulting in incarceration and homelessness are better served. This agency is a lead organization in the Coalition to End Homelessness.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	FAMILIES FIRST
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Healthcare
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director came to speak to the CAC with regards to the organization's Dental Program. They described the increasing number of clients they are able to accept as a result of healthcare reform, but the uncertainty that of the fate of the Affordable Care Act in the future. Most of their clients have needs other than medical and Families First is looking for new partnerships and working with other service providers to better integrate care.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	PORTSMOUTH HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director spoke before the CAC regarding the housing services provided to clients as well as the recent "Making Classroom and Community Connections" program which provides recreational summer and after-school programming for resident children. The Executive Director is consulted regularly by City staff on many issues and emerging opportunities such as maintaining and adding additional affordable housing units, and improving service delivery for existing clients.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services for Persons of Low or Moderate Income
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director spoke before the CAC regarding SASS's merger with similar organization A Safe Place in order to better centralize services. They have identified a lack of transitional housing for sexual assault and domestic abuse victims, but have strong sustainability of funds and are exploring opportunities in the future. One of the agency's main focuses will be completion of their organizational transition to combine operations with A Safe Place.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	SEACOAST MENTAL HEALTH CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	A Psychiatrist from SMH spoke to the CAC with regards to the need for a community response team for working with non-cooperative patients taking up state resources in regular ER visits. He stressed the importance of providing preventative care to clients before hospitalization is required. He described increased cooperation with the state court system in serving people with severe mental health problems and a number of misdemeanors in order to prevent incarceration and better provide treatment.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	AREA HOMECARE AND FAMILY SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director spoke to the CAC regarding the important need that Area HomeCare meets for its clients with regards to medical in-home care services for low income elderly or disabled persons to help clients stay in their homes and their policy of not turning anyone away. Opportunities for increased coordination exist in better providing transportation services for clients in the future.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	AIDS RESPONSE SEACOAST
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director spoke before the CAC emphasizing the critical issue of housing affordability in Portsmouth and the region as a whole. He described the challenges facing persons living with HIV/AIDS and how important stable housing is to ensuring they can manage their disease effectively. Improved areas for coordination exist in identifying more opportunities to provide safe supportive housing for those with HIV/AIDS.

8	Agency/Group/Organization	NEW HEIGHTS DROP-OUT PREVENTION PROGRAM
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Recreation Programs for Children of Families with Low or Moderate Income
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Direct spoke before the CAC identifying transportation and funding sustainability as critical items in the next five years. Lack of transportation for youth can limit participation and activities, and the projected decline in funding support from the Foundation for Seacoast Health over the next three years will be difficult to overcome. Areas for improved coordination have been identified in partnering with the business community on its STEM programming, which has broad support.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY ACTION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Community Services Director spoke with the CAC describing challenges encountered from a lack of housing supply and then increased necessity for rental subsidies for families in temporary financial difficulty. He also spoke to housing needs and preventing homelessness as critical for the next five years, and that cooperation between homelessness and housing providers is becoming increasingly important.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	NH LEGAL ASSISTANCE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Development Director spoke to the CAC regarding the organization's Fair Housing Project and the need for it in the next five years to ensure that both tenants and landlords know their rights when difficult housing issues arise in the course of tenant-landlord relationships. She spoke positively of the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing as a rationale for continuing investment in the program, and also described the recent trainings at Cross Roads House (funded in part with CDBG Program funds) as important and productive.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	New Futures
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Substance Abuse Prevention
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Development staff met with the Executive Director at a community meeting on substance misuse including the recent epidemic of heroin deaths. New Futures identified a need for greater awareness about expanded peer support networks as well as detailed info on gaps in treatment resources in the area.

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

None

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	State of NH Bureau of Homeless and Housing Services	Typical services assisting the homeless in a Continuum of Care include case management, housing counseling, job training and placement, health care, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, child care, transportation, emergency food and clothing, family violence services, education services, moving services, entitlement access assistance, referrals to veterans' services, and legal assistance. In addition to participating in the Continuum Care, the City provides funding to agencies that make up a significant portion of the Continuum of Care system. This support is provided through the City's Community Development Block Grant-funded Public Service Agency Grant Program and through the Portsmouth Welfare Department Social Service grant program, which is supported by local tax dollars.
City Master Plan 2005	Portsmouth Planning Board	One of the many priorities for action identified in the Master Plan is supporting and maintaining a diverse community in the City, which includes promoting access to affordable housing.
Bike-Pedestrian Plan	Portsmouth Planning Board	The Plan calls for a connected bicycle and pedestrian network and new programs and policies to help encourage people to walk and bike on a daily basis. This Plan builds on the city's considerable attributes and growing support for walking, bicycling, and "Complete Streets" with the goal of promoting accessibility to diverse modes of transportation for the benefit of all residents.
Portsmouth Housing Authority 5-Year Plan	Portsmouth Housing Authority	The Plan's goals include increasing the quality and supply of housing for families of low or moderate income in Portsmouth, as well encouraging access to social services, healthcare, family support, youth programs and senior programs for current PHA residents.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
The Corrosive Effects of Alcohol and Drug Misuse	PolEcon Research	The report uses valid and reliable sources of NH data and appropriate analytical methods and tools to estimate the economic costs of alcohol and drug misuse in NH in 2012, the most recent year for which data was available.
2015 Regional Master Plan	Rockingham Planning Commission	As one of the largest communities in the County, the City has a vested interest in the success of neighboring communities. Portsmouth faces many of the same challenges as other towns in the region, albeit most other towns are significantly more rural.
2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	Regional Economic Development Center of Southern New Hampshire	The CEDS is a plan submitted by the REDC to the Department of Commerce annually. It emerges from a continuous planning process developed with broad based and diverse community participation that addresses the economic problems and potential of an area. The strategy promotes sustainable economic development and opportunity, fosters effective transportation systems, enhances and protects the environment, and balances resources through sound management and development.
2014 Greater Seacoast Plan to Prevent Homlessness	Corporation for Supportive Housing	A thorough report on the status of the Seacoast region's efforts to prevent and end homelessness and a framework for communities and service providers to increase the success of the current work being undertaken.
2014 Housing Existing Conditions Report	Portsmouth Planning Board	An analysis of the existing housing conditions in the City with a focus on future efforts to preserve existing affordable housing and encourage redevelopment of underutilized properties with housing that is affordable to houses at or below the area median income.
2014 Economic Dev. Existing Conditions Report	Portsmouth Planning Board	An analysis of the economic conditions of the City and surrounding area focusing particularly on the composition of the current labor pool and population as a whole. Also lays out opportunities for expansion and improvement of specific areas and neighborhoods in the City.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(I))

Community Development (non-CDBG funded) staff serve as staff to the City's local Economic Development Commission. CD staff also serve on the Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority. NHCDFA administers the statewide CDBG program and is a member of the three agency team that develops and implements the state's Consolidated Plan. In addition to this coordination, staff also work with the State Bureau of Homelessness and Housing Services, the NH Housing Finance Authority, and the State Lead Poisoning Prevention Program in the course of designing and implementing programs. The CD Department also acts as liaison to the Portsmouth Cultural Commission and the organization it established to carry out its work, Art-Speak, due to the critical role the arts play in the local economy. The City also has a liaison between it and several local organizations including the Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Business Association, Rockingham County Economic Development Authority, and the Tenant's Association at Pease to name a few.

Narrative (optional):

PR-15 Citizen Participation

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

The Portsmouth Community Develop Department worked with the eight-member (currently with two vacancies) volunteer Citizens Advisory Committee throughout the last year to update the Citizens Participation Plan and develop the priorities and goals to be focused on in the Consolidated Plan. Advertising public hearings in accordance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the CD Dept. sent out direct mailings to CDBG participant organizations, published legal notices in the local paper, and used the City's cable channel to publicize public hearings and participation in CDBG programs. Notices of public hearings were also published on the City's website and posted at Portsmouth City Hall and the Public Library. In addition, public notices and hearing dates are sent to existing public service agency grant participants and other non-profit service providers working with elderly populations, the disabled, immigrant communities and others. Specific language in subrecipient agreements with agencies receiving Public Service Agency Grant Program funds requires them to market their services to CDBG eligible neighborhoods as well as those living in housing developments owned or managed by the Portsmouth Housing Authority; updates on this are prepared by the agencies and reported during Consolidated Plan consultations.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	The Executive Director of the Portsmouth Housing Authority came to speak before the CAC with regard to the need for new window replacements for a senior housing development.	The Executive Director of the PHA requested the Committee recommend to the City Council an increase in the PHA's current CDBG funded loan in order to cover the costs, which the CAC granted.		
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Representatives of the Gundalow Company came to speak.	The Gundalow Company spoke on behalf of a recently submitted accessibility grant application that was submitted as part of a grant round in FY 2014-2015.		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
3	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Representatives of Cross Roads House and the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness came to speak.	They presented the outcomes of a recent homelessness summit organized by the Coalition and an outline of issues raised, focusing on the the priority areas that the homeless service provider community agreed to as part of the summit.		

4	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	Representatives of several area organizations came to speak including: AIDS Response Seacoast, New Heights: Adventures for Teens, Rockingham Community Action, and NH Legal Assistance.	The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss agencies' application for the FY 2015-2016 Public Service Agency Grant Program and their perspectives on the issues most in need of addressing in the 5 year plan. AIDS Response Seacoast emphasized the critical issue of housing affordability in Portsmouth and the region, describing the challenges facing persons living with AIDS and how important stable housing is to ensuring they can manage their disease effectively. New Heights		
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				<p>pointed to youth access to transportation to programs and funding sustainability as critical items for the next five years, describing the projected decline of critical funding support from the Foundation for Seacoast Mental Health which is expected to decrease to zero in three years. Rockingham Community Action indicated that housing supply would continue to be a challenge in the coming years and that rental subsidies for families in temporary financial difficulty would be</p>		
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
				<p>a critical support. NH Legal Assistance spoke about the need for ensuring that both tenants and landlords know their rights when difficult housing issues arise.</p>		

5	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	Representatives of several area organizations came to speak including: the Seacoast Task Force on Family Violence, Families First of the Greater Seacoast, Cross Roads House, the PHA, Seacoast Mental Health Center, Area Homecare, and the Seacoast Family School.	The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss agencies' application for the FY 2015-2016 Public Service Agency Grant Program and their perspectives on the issues most in need of addressing in the 5 year plan. STFFV spoke on the need for prevention education and stark lack of transitional housing services for victims. Families First spoke on the uncertainty of the current insurance market and need for greater integrated care among service providers. Cross Roads House discussed its need for increased		
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				<p>collaboration partners in the community in order to best support families during transition and referred to cooperation between homelessness service and other service providers as being critical to meeting the needs of clients and ensuring progress on issues such as substance abuse treatment in the next five years. PHA spoke to the growth of their MCCC program over the last year and the need for programming activity for youth in order to help kids succeed academically and</p>		
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				<p>socially. Seacoast Mental Health discussed the challenges posed by cuts to beds in state hospitals and limited less restrictive resources for treatment but identified opportunities in establishing mental health court teams to work with the judicial branch to better manage treatment for people with severe mental health problems and a number of misdemeanors in order to prevent incarceration. Area HomeCare discussed the unique nature of the services they provide and the</p>		
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
				need for transportation services for seniors in the future.		
6	Public Meeting	Seniors	The City's Senior Services Coordinator came before the CAC to discuss current issues in the senior community including ideas and recommendations regarding the creation of a senior center in Portsmouth.	The CAC discussed the ways in which CDBG funds might be of use in the creation of a senior center in Portsmouth at the Paul A. Doble Army Reserve center on Cottage Street. There was strong support for use of CDBG funds in the development of the Reserve Center.		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
7	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Representatives of Operation Blessing came to speak.	Operation Blessing spoke regarding the services it provides and needs for improvement of the Greenleaf Recreation Center building and skateboard facility, including streetscape improvement and pavement upgrades to the parking lot.	The CAC weighed requests for funds for skateboard facility and streetscape improvements in the context of other identified needs, and it was determined the work should be included in a future Annual Plan.	
8	Public Hearing	Homeless	The Executive Director of Crossroads House came to speak.	Cross Roads House gave an update on the progress of their programs as well as a summary of the core issues facing them and other agencies in the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness.		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
9	Public Hearing	Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Representatives of the Portsmouth Housing Authority came to speak.	The Portsmouth Housing Authority spoke on the status of their Making Community and Classroom Connections program and its success in its first full year of providing youth program services in Portsmouth.		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
10	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	It was a well attended community meeting.	Community Development staff met with the Executive Director on substance misuse including the recent epidemic of heroin deaths. New Futures identified a need for greater awareness about expanded peer support networks as well as detailed info on gaps in treatment resources in the area.		

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The Community Development staff maintain an open and active relationship with public service agencies, keeping staff aware of community needs. In addition, Community Development staff have been actively involved in the development of the City-wide Master Plan, Recreation Needs Study, the Blue Ribbon Committee on Housing's Final Report and Recommendations, as well as other planning and community development oriented local and regional issues. CD staff is also attentive to community issues receiving particular focus during this planning period including ending homelessness, serving the aging population, and treating people with mental-illness. Substance-abuse, particularly of opiates, has also been on the rise in the City. The CD Department is currently working to address the opiate abuse through greater cooperation between other agencies and service providers including law enforcement, health care providers, and the PHA.

Increasing affordable and assisted housing stock, and ensuring those most in need have access to public service providers are the City's most pressing priorities. The most common housing challenge is addressing the large number of cost burdened households. In addition, homelessness in Rockingham County has increased in recent years, and chronic homelessness has risen significantly.

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

Summary of Housing Needs

As the Seacoast region's urban center, Portsmouth has historically provided a range of housing options to serve the needs of a wide variety of households. Fully half of the City's housing stock is rental units, compared to 35% in the metropolitan area (Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area or PMSA, NH portion) and only 25% in Rockingham County. With 12.5% of all households in the PMSA, Portsmouth hosts 16% of the region's rental households and 20% of renters who earn the lowest incomes. Portsmouth strives to be a community with a high quality housing supply that is diverse in type, ownership and affordability, thereby promoting a healthy demographic and economic diversity within the population. Portsmouth is a regional job center with a high-cost housing market. The affordable housing supply has not kept pace with economic growth. Portsmouth's jobs-to-housing balance has changed dramatically as a result of the conversion of Pease Air Force Base into the Pease International Tradeport. The development of the Tradeport, along with other changes in the local and regional economy, has made Portsmouth a regional job hub. Despite this, very little developable land has meant the local housing supply has not been able to keep pace with expansion.

Along with the evolution of the local economy over the past 20 years, Portsmouth has become increasingly desirable as a place to live, attracting new and more affluent residents who are drawn by the amenities offered by the City and the Seacoast region. The combination of increased housing demand and limited supply has resulted in soaring housing costs. While market-rate housing costs have increased, Portsmouth has continued to provide its "fair share" of housing for households earning lower incomes. About 31% of the assisted rental housing supply available in the NH portion of the PMSA is located in Portsmouth. This does not include approximately 406 housing subsidy vouchers that are administered by the Portsmouth Housing Authority, which enable low and moderate income renters to afford housing in the private market.

Despite the dramatic shift in the housing market nationally beginning in late 2008, housing affordability in the Northeast and Portsmouth in particular has changed little. The Seacoast's livability and low foreclosure activity has not altered significantly the overall picture of housing cost burden or changes in vacancy or tenure.

Given the City's limited land supply, regional approaches are needed in addition to the City's existing affordable housing initiatives, which include the Housing Rehabilitation Program, the Residential Accessibility Program, the HomeTown First-Time Homebuyers Program, and housing projects such the Lafayette School Senior Apartments.

Demographics	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2011	% Change
Population	20,784	20,899	1%
Households	9,933	9,992	1%
Median Income	\$45,195.00	\$64,459.00	43%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2007-2011 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households *	1,270	1,145	1,265	970	5,345
Small Family Households *	250	260	385	240	2,350
Large Family Households *	10	25	30	40	155
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	280	255	125	240	700
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	275	230	220	165	315
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger *	140	33	135	124	450
* the highest income category for these family types is >80% HAMFI					

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	0	0	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	0	15	45	60	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	0	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	545	155	50	0	750	215	180	170	30	595

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	125	340	375	80	920	25	170	250	185	630
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	30	0	0	0	30	60	0	0	0	60

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	545	175	75	45	840	215	180	170	30	595
Having none of four housing problems	370	535	585	395	1,885	50	250	435	500	1,235
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	30	0	0	0	30	60	0	0	0	60

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	149	155	135	439	35	50	110	195
Large Related	10	24	10	44	0	0	0	0
Elderly	205	165	75	445	174	185	80	439
Other	310	165	215	690	25	120	230	375
Total need by income	674	509	435	1,618	234	355	420	1,009

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	145	45	0	190	25	35	55	115
Large Related	10	4	0	14	0	0	0	0
Elderly	115	45	20	180	160	90	0	250
Other	280	55	30	365	25	55	115	195
Total need by income	550	149	50	749	210	180	170	560

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	0	20	15	0	35	0	0	0	0	0

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	45	45	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	0	20	15	45	80	0	0	0	0	0

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present								

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Data Source
Comments:

Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

The number of single person households in need of housing assistance is relatively small. Usually the majority of single persons in need in the City are elderly individuals living alone who have difficulty maintaining their residences and performing everyday physical tasks.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Nearly one third of all women in NH have experienced intimate partner violence at some point in their lifetime. This estimate would be consistent with the number of families in need of housing assistance as it would be with the population overall.

What are the most common housing problems?

The most common housing problems stem from rapidly rising real estate prices that require families to spend an increasingly large percentage of their income on housing costs. There are few problems with

physical issues such as substandard housing, but many families are cost burdened spending more than 30% of their income on housing costs.

Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

The populations most affected by high housing costs are usually small families and the elderly. Small and single parent families have less of a combined income to draw off to defray housing costs, and many elderly persons see the costs of the residences they've lived in for most of their lives rise above their ability to pay. High rates of housing cost burdens also make it difficult for young persons to find housing in the area, and, while they are more mobile than other population groups, failure to attract and keep young people will have a distinct negative impact on the regional economy if it continues long term.

Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance

Low-income families are usually at risk of losing their housing due to situations outside of their control such as unanticipated healthcare costs or lack of stable employment. The best means to prevent loss of housing are to ensure families have access to affordable healthcare, stable employment, educational opportunities, and financial services. Particularly important for families transitioning back into housing is reliable transportation to service providers and place of work. In order to transition back into stable living situations and stay there, a household needs to be able to have access to a robust support network to address and deal with chronic issues and prevent recidivism.

If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:

Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

In Portsmouth the most pervasive issue with regards to housing instability is an increasingly high cost burden. When families are required to pay more than 30% of their income on housing costs they are left with less ability to pay for necessities such as food, healthcare, transportation, and education. This creates a downward spiral difficult to arrest, especially when families lack the resources to be able to relocate to a neighboring community with lower costs of living.

Discussion

Home prices in Portsmouth are relatively high. Portsmouth's prices aligned with regional prices from 2000-2005 and then diverged when prices throughout the region took a sustained dip after 2006, while Portsmouth's prices remained stable. Median single - family home prices in Portsmouth have fluctuated between \$300,000 and their peak level of \$350,000. The price of condominiums in Portsmouth has increased sharply since 2000, and continued to climb even during the recent recession (2007 - 2009). The median sales price of condominiums had more than doubled by 2012 since 2000, while single family home prices grew over the same time period by 68 percent. Although condominiums have traditionally provided a more affordable housing alternative for households who do not have the resources to purchase single family homes, this option is becoming less viable as condominium prices are increasingly comparable to single family homes.

The greatest gap in Portsmouth's housing inventory is for households who earn less than 50 percent of median income. These households range from 1 - person households with incomes below \$31,000 to 4 - person households with incomes below \$ 44,000. These households typically need assistance in meeting housing costs, as market rate housing is priced well above what is affordable to low - income households. While Portsmouth has 882 assisted units, there are more than 2,600 households who fall within this income bracket.

The gap in affordable rental and ownership units suggests that many residents are burdened with excessive housing costs. In fact, In 2010 43 percent of Portsmouth's renter households were paying more than 30 percent of their income on housing costs, and nearly one third of renters are severely cost burdened, paying more than 35 percent of their income on housing. Homeowners paying mortgages have almost as much cost burden as renters, with 37 percent paying more than 30 percent of their income on housing, and 29 percent paying more than 35 percent of their income. A smaller proportion of homeowners without mortgages are cost burdened.

Portsmouth had approximately 2,000 rental units that met the workforce rental price threshold. American Community Survey estimates that 2400 ownership units are valued at less than \$300,000, which meets the workforce threshold for ownership units. By this measure, the city meets its fair share of the current and foreseeable regional housing. Nonetheless, the growing incidence of severe housing cost burden and the gap in housing units affordable to the lowest income households suggest that there remain significant local housing needs.

NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

Using the 2007-2011 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, the City has calculated whether there is a disproportionately greater need from a particular racial or ethnic group in an income category that has one or more of four housing problems. These housing problems include lacking complete kitchen facilities, lacking complete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room and a cost burden greater than 30%. The CHAS data has six categories of race and ethnicity to compare along with the data from the jurisdiction as a whole. In Portsmouth, the vast majority of residents facing housing problems are dealing with cost burden; very few residences lack complete kitchen or plumbing facilities and the city as a whole has a very low average person per household rate at 2.03 persons per unit.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	910	270	85
White	870	260	85
Black / African American	35	0	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	10	0

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	865	280	0
White	775	260	0
Black / African American	0	0	0
Asian	50	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	15	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	0	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	875	395	0
White	845	365	0
Black / African American	25	15	0
Asian	0	15	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	340	630	0
White	280	600	0
Black / African American	60	25	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Discussion

Portsmouth is a relatively homogeneous City with a white population of greater than 91% according to data from the 2013 American Community Survey. As such, it was expected to see that there is a disproportionately greater need for whites across the board. What the data tells us is that there is not a racially-based disproportionately greater need. At the same time, the City will continue to work to solve the four housing problems for all categories.

**NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205
(b)(2)**

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

As a relatively homogenous community, the City does not have a significant disproportionately greater need among racial or ethnic minorities.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	760	425	85
White	740	395	85
Black / African American	20	15	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	10	0

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	355	790	0
White	335	700	0
Black / African American	0	0	0
Asian	0	50	0

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	15	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	20	10	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	245	1,020	0
White	245	965	0
Black / African American	0	40	0
Asian	0	15	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	75	895	0
White	30	850	0
Black / African American	45	40	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

Discussion

Severe housing problems data largely mirrors the housing problems analysis in the previous section. the data confirms that the most pressing severe housing problem is cost burden.

NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction:

As a relatively homogenous community, the City does not have a significant disproportionately greater need among racial or ethnic minorities. The portion of racial or ethnic minorities experiencing housing cost burdens is reflective of the percentage of the population experiencing cost burdens overall.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,635	1,585	1,345	85
White	5,810	1,975	1,380	90
Black / African American	140	60	20	0
Asian	235	85	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	15	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	95	25	20	0

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Discussion:

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)

Are there any Income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

Portsmouth is not a very ethnically diverse community, and the income categories are on par with the demographics of the City overall.

If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?

The needs of minorities are deemed no different from the population at large.

Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

The number of racial or ethnic groups in the city is small enough that there are no large identifiable concentrations in specific areas or neighborhoods in the community.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

The Portsmouth Housing Authority works to serve the housing needs of individuals and families who very low, low, and moderate incomes. The Housing Authority manages several residential complexes serving the elderly, families with children, and families with disabilities. In addition, the Authority manages a tenant-based section 8 program and waiting list. The Housing Authority has also worked with local public safety providers to ensure effective screening policies, strict lease enforcement and the maintenance of healthy and safe neighborhoods. The Housing Authority also provides employment and education incentives to tenants as well as youth risk prevention services.

The City of Portsmouth and the Portsmouth Housing Authority have worked closely on addressing the need for public housing units including the retention, renovation and development of housing units as well as improvements to livability and access to services by residents. This section provides a description of the existing public housing resources as well as the goals for the future.

Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	0	418	376	42	333	1	0	0

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	0	13,882	14,935	16,958	14,659	22,048	0
Average length of stay	0	0	6	7	0	7	1	0
Average Household size	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	176	114	37	77	0	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	150	142	5	137	0	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	418	376	42	333	1	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Race	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	389	342	41	300	1	0	0
Black/African American	0	0	22	33	1	32	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	18	10	3	7	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0	400	366	39	326	1	0	0

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:

The Portsmouth Housing Authority has identified that 87 of the 257 families on the waiting list for housing units are disabled and conducts regular needs assessments to ensure potential residents' concerns are being addressed. In order to meet the need of a growing number of disabled tenants the PHA has begun housing non-elderly residents with disabilities in previously senior-only housing in order to prevent disabled potential residents from being disproportionately on the waiting list for long periods of time. Tenants and those on the waiting list have the same need for access to services such as healthcare, education, and employment support. In order to ensure applicants on the waiting list don't decline into unstable living situations it's important that there are measures in place to prevent them from becoming too cost burdened in their current living situation and that they are able to support themselves while they are under consideration. If waiting times for applicants become long enough to impose a burden on them, applicants become increasingly at risk of being homeless and an increase in housing stock is needed.

Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders

The number of families on the waiting list for PHA units as of 2014 was 257. 70% were white, nearly a quarter were elderly, a third had disabilities, and roughly 18% had children. The number of families on waiting lists fluctuates but has gone up in recent years with increasing housing costs. Applicants' most immediate needs are assistance maintaining their stability with regards to their current housing situation. Most applicants apply once they realize their current living arrangements are unsustainable, and therefore will need some form of housing support while they wait in order to prevent them from falling into homelessness. Families in transition also need healthcare services, employment support, and access to transportation in order to ensure they are able to maintain a regular source of income and can maintain good health and minimize unexpected expenses.

How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large

All persons, regardless of income level, have the same basic needs and expenses. Families with higher incomes are better able to address their own chronic needs and deal with any unexpected costs that come up, whereas many times families of low or moderate income live in constant uncertainty when they lack access to community support services. By identifying and addressing the needs of those most at risk of housing instability before they fall into homelessness, the community defrays costs long-term and improves quality of life for residents overall.

Discussion

In recent years the PHA has experienced a significant amount of administrative change with a focus on improving service delivery, adding new units, and ensuring the quality of existing units. The PHA is a participant in community issues and concerns, and the City will continue to work with the PHA as its principle housing partner.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

The data collected for use in this plan was collected by the State of New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Homelessness and Housing Services (BHH). BHH is responsible for compiling the homelessness data for the Balance of State Continuum of Care (BOSCO). The BOSCO homelessness information consists of data representing the whole of Rockingham County.

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	3	65	68	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	12	61	73	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Individuals	6	51	57	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Families	0	14	14	0	0	0
Veterans	0	4	4	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Child	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Data Source
Comments:

Indicate if the homeless population is:

Has No Rural Homeless

If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):

The number of homeless persons overall has declined from 2012-2014, but some categories are going up while others are going down. While the number of homeless families statewide has declined by nearly 10%, in Rockingham County and neighboring Strafford County they have increased by nearly 25% and nearly 50%, respectively. While statewide veteran homelessness has increased by 44%, in Rockingham and Strafford Counties there are only 4 identified veteran homeless. Chronic Homelessness in Rockingham County has unfortunately increased significantly at a rate of 115%, from 33 in 2012 to 71 in 2014. This discussion is severely limited by available data; info from Crossroads Home indicates the shelter is full year round and has a diversity of clientele including families with children.

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	0	0
Black or African American	0	0
Asian	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0

Data Source
Comments:

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.

Families with several children and adults who are underemployed or unable to work are most at risk of housing instability and in need of assistance. Families with children constitute nearly 600 of the persons experiencing homelessness in NH in a given year.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.

Demographics of homelessness are relatively equivalent to the population of the community as a whole.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

The community of Portsmouth has sufficient resources to ensure as many persons have access to shelter as necessary. Unsheltered populations in the city many times are chronically homeless individuals who resist services and do not seek out shelter, and may have untreated mental illnesses. Sheltered homeless are usually families and individuals suffering from housing instability and previously lacked access to basic support services, and unsheltered homeless populations usually fluctuate seasonally.

Discussion:

The network of area homeless advocates is currently working on implementing best practices in the area of coordinating intake and access to services with medical providers. The local subgroup of the Balance of State meets regularly to discuss ways to support the chronic homeless

NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)

Introduction:

Combination Federal, State and local funding are required to meet non-homeless special needs in the Consolidated Plan. Agencies serving special needs populations rely on various combinations of funding from public and private sources. Continued support for these programs will directly affect the ability of the programs to meet the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

The special needs population in Portsmouth largely consists of the elderly and those with physical or mental disabilities. The City has a large senior population who in many cases require supportive housing but are able to live semi-independent lives and continue to be active members of the community. Recent increases in the number of persons with disabilities requiring supportive housing has required the Portsmouth Housing Authority to place younger disabled residents in previously designated senior housing, but through administrative changes and partnering with the community the PHA is confident they can continue to meet the needs of both populations.

New Hampshire has been dealing with high rates of alcohol abuse for decades, and over the past several years Portsmouth, along with many other communities in New England, has seen a substantial rise in opiate use and related drug overdoses. As the problem continues and more residents become impacted, it is becoming increasingly apparent that there is a lack of access to treatment services, especially for individuals of low or moderate income. With just a 6% rate of treatment state-wide, NH is the second worst state after Texas for providing access to treatment for individuals in need. Economic losses attributable to substance misuse cost the state about \$1.84 billion in lost productivity/absenteeism, criminal justice costs, health care costs, and other costs in 2012. Substance misuse has a negative impact not only on the long-term development of the economy, but even more importantly on the personal lives of residents and their families; alcohol and drug abuse are prevalent among family incidents of child abuse and neglect, and 43% of perpetrators of domestic violence homicide in NH had a history of substance abuse.

What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

Senior populations are very likely to be at risk of being cost burdened if they live in private rental units; they require access to prompt medical services, assistance with everyday household tasks, and a supportive communal environment to keep them socially engaged. The City targets support to seniors by funding social programs targeted toward the elderly community, and by maintaining a large stock of senior supportive housing in order to minimize the costs and risks associated with elderly individuals living alone in apartments or large homes. Those with mental or physical disabilities have similar needs to seniors, in that it's important for the city to ensure they have access to preventative medical services and are integrated as valuable members of the community. This is achieved through programs such as

Friends in Action, which promotes social opportunities for those with developmental disabilities who may otherwise be isolated, and supportive housing opportunities to ensure those who need regular care and assistance have it.

Persons suffering from substance abuse require significant support from the community in order to recover, including access to medical services and supportive housing options. Lack of adequate services in Rockingham County is reflective of the lack in access to services state-wide, and will require a significant renewed effort by the state government in cooperation with municipalities in order to properly address.

Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:

The population in Portsmouth affected by HIV/AIDS and receiving services is identified as only 16 individuals, but nevertheless there are supportive services available throughout the Seacoast region to provide medical and housing assistance to best address each individual's specific needs and prevent hospitalization.

Discussion:

The City plans to make progress in the next five years in addressing the needs of special needs populations. This includes making improvements to accessibility of public transportation and facilities, and significant ongoing investments into ensuring universal access to services.

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

Public Facility needs are being addressed by the City, but include plans over the next several years to renovate municipal offices, and construct a new police station, fire station, and senior center. These plans will benefit all residents of the City, including individuals and families of low or moderate income.

How were these needs determined?

Public facility needs were identified through the City's capital improvement planning process in which the Planning Board's Capital Improvement Plan Subcommittee works with each City department and the City Manager's office to identify, prioritize, and schedule needed capital improvements in the City over a six-year period. The Planning Board recommends the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to the City Council and to the public in the form of public hearings. In turn, the City Council utilized the 6-year Capital Improvement Plan to develop the City's Annual Budget. The CIP and the Annual Budget are used as management tools to achieve a balance between competing needs, while ensuring that the City is financially capable of meeting those needs. The public hearing process that is carried out prior to CIP adoption by the City Council is a critical one. Two key purposes of the CIP are to inform the taxpayers of anticipated future improvements and to provide an opportunity for the public to express their reactions to such projects. Public facility projects are also identified through consultation with representatives of eligible CDBG neighborhoods, representatives of public service organizations, and through the public hearing process. Needed facility improvements at Portsmouth Housing Authority owned and managed properties are addressed in the Portsmouth Housing Authority's Five-Year Plan.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

The Portsmouth Community Development Department has recognized an increased need for accessibility improvements at the Municipal Complex and other locations throughout the City. Plans have been adopted to undergo renovations to update entrances to City Hall to facilitate ease of access for those with disabilities. In 2014 the senior center was closed, and since then seniors have had to utilize temporary spaces.

How were these needs determined?

Public Improvement projects in CDBG eligible neighborhoods are carried out based on project eligibility and funding availability, and most project plans originate directly from the neighborhood. No specific projects were identified in this Consolidated Plan in CDBG eligible neighborhoods.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

Community Development Staff maintain an open and active relationship with public service agencies to stay aware of community needs. In 2012, Community Development Staff, in conjunction with the City's Library and Recreation Departments, developed a Report on the Status of Senior Services in the City of Portsmouth. The report recommended the hiring of a Senior Services Coordinator in addition to an expansion of senior meals, senior transportation and senior activities in the City. Each of the recommendations has been implemented and Community Development Staff are working with the Senior Services Coordinator on various projects aimed at serving the senior population. Public Service agencies in the City more than address the needs of residents, and in many cases the City is seen as a hub for services in Rockingham County. This can create difficulties with access to services for clients from outlying communities, but the City has been working with COAST transportation services in order to determine the best timing schedule and bus routes in order to best serve the public.

How were these needs determined?

Public Service needs were determined through close consultation with service providers and clients in order to best identify inefficiencies and gaps in delivery.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

Portsmouth has a booming housing market, but it is growing at such a rate as to make it significantly difficult for residents to find affordable housing opportunities and to threaten the labor pool of service industry workers that the City relies upon as a hub of tourism. Recent data to make particular note of include the rapidly rising cost of housing in the City; home prices have risen 90% and rent rates have risen 50% from 2000-2010, reflecting an increasingly expensive housing market further compounded by Portsmouth's low household occupancy rate of 2.03 persons per household.

MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

Introduction

Portsmouth is fortunate to have a diverse supply of housing types including:

- Owner-occupied housing in single family neighborhoods;
- Large, older homes converted to condominiums;
- Upper story downtown apartments;
- Privately and publicly owned large and small apartment complexes;
- Several older mobile home parks; and
- The World War I era planned residential neighborhood of Atlantic Heights.

The neighborhoods immediately surrounding the downtown area provide a mix of single and multi-family housing; some are predominantly single family in character, while others are primarily multi-family. Outside of these areas, neighborhood housing stock is more homogenous in nature. Entire single family neighborhoods, such as Elwyn Park, Pannaway Manor, Maple Haven and the Woodlands, are comprised exclusively of single family homes. Outside of the city center there are also a large number of multiple-unit condominium/apartment style developments such as Beechstone, Osprey Landing, Sagamore Court, and Patriots Park.

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	4,436	41%
1-unit, attached structure	854	8%
2-4 units	1,846	17%
5-19 units	2,197	20%
20 or more units	1,141	11%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	283	3%
Total	10,757	100%

Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	24	0%	175	4%
1 bedroom	309	6%	1,541	33%
2 bedrooms	1,675	31%	2,136	46%

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
3 or more bedrooms	3,380	63%	752	16%
Total	5,388	100%	4,604	99%

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.

Portsmouth has nearly 1,100 units of assisted affordable housing targeted to families of low or moderate incomes, seniors, and adults with physical or mental disabilities.

Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.

The City doesn't expect to lose any affordable housing units in the near future, and is planning on increasing the current stock over the next 5 years.

Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?

The current availability of housing units unfortunately does not meet the needs of the population. With an average household size of 2.03 persons Portsmouth's measure is considerably lower than other Seacoast communities and NH overall. Although Portsmouth's household size is low, there is a large number of houses with 3 or more bedrooms, reflecting what seems to be a high bedroom vacancy rate.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

Reflecting the low household size, there is a need for a greater number of smaller affordable housing units. There is also greater need for assistive housing for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Discussion:

MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

Introduction

The rapidly rising costs of housing in Portsmouth represent the City's increasing popularity as a destination for both tourists and prospective residents. This is compounded by a lack of affordable housing that is becoming increasingly difficult to address as high property values make it difficult to site non-luxury developments.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2011	% Change
Median Home Value	164,500	312,600	90%
Median Contract Rent	661	999	51%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2007-2011 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	845	18.4%
\$500-999	1,526	33.1%
\$1,000-1,499	1,704	37.0%
\$1,500-1,999	417	9.1%
\$2,000 or more	112	2.4%
Total	4,604	100.0%

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	555	No Data
50% HAMFI	1,115	169
80% HAMFI	2,290	384
100% HAMFI	No Data	869
Total	3,960	1,422

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	718	837	1,064	1,458	1,521
High HOME Rent	718	838	1,065	1,459	1,523
Low HOME Rent	718	838	1,007	1,163	1,298

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source Comments: Comparison of Area Rent Limits for Portsmouth-Rochester NH, HMFA

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

No, there is unfortunately a lack of affordable housing in Portsmouth. Rent and ownership costs have skyrocketed in the past ten years, pricing many families out and imposing significant financial burdens on current residents.

How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

From 2000-2010 average home values rose 90% and rent payments rose 51%, reflecting Portsmouth's increasing popularity as a community to live and work in. While the City is exploring opportunities to increase affordable housing stock, it is likely that rent and property values will continue to rise in the near future.

How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

HOME/Fair Market rent is considerably lower than Area Median Rent, reflecting a need for greater numbers of affordable housing units. The increasingly high value of property in the Downtown area makes it difficult to site affordable housing units in accessible areas of the city and necessitates further research on potential areas of development.

Discussion:

MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

Introduction

High demand for housing in the City ensures properties are well kept and do not stay vacant or in substandard condition or long periods of time. Only a few properties are vacant and abandoned, all of which have been identified and are currently being addressed.

Definitions

The jurisdiction defines substandard condition as a property that is in disrepair to such an extent as to pose a hazard or housing problem to its occupants. Properties deemed to be suitable for rehabilitation are considered to not cost more to rehabilitate than the overall assessed value of the property as a whole.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	1,797	33%	1,867	41%
With two selected Conditions	8	0%	29	1%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	3,583	67%	2,708	59%
Total	5,388	100%	4,604	101%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	262	5%	156	3%
1980-1999	1,076	20%	1,328	29%
1950-1979	1,601	30%	1,105	24%
Before 1950	2,449	45%	2,015	44%
Total	5,388	100%	4,604	100%

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	4,050	75%	3,120	68%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	139	3%	155	3%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS (Total Units) 2007-2011 CHAS (Units with Children present)

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	8	0	8
Abandoned Vacant Units	8	0	8
REO Properties	0	0	0
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Data Source Comments: Legal Memo for 2014

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Portsmouth has a high turnover rate with units and rarely has extended vacancies. The 8 abandoned vacant units have all been identified and are currently being addressed through a city-wide initiative of the City Council

Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards

Over 7,000 of the City's 11,000 properties were constructed before 1978 and are therefore at risk of LBP hazards. Nearly 1500 family households and over 2200 non family households are considered to have low or moderate income. Comparing the population of households of low or moderate income against the number of housing units at risk of LBP hazards results in an estimate of roughly 2300 households living in a unit built before 1978. Many households built before 1978 have had their LBP hazards addressed, but the City is in constant cooperation with State agencies to ensure new problems are addressed and the safety of City residents is maintained, including through its own Housing Rehab Program.

Discussion:

MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

Introduction

The Portsmouth Housing Authority (PHA) owns seven housing complexes- Gosling Meadows, Wamesit Place, Woodbury Manor, State Street, Pleasant Street, Feaster, and Margeson Apartments and leases three other developments, Lafayette School Senior Apartments, Atlantic Heights Elderly and Disabled Apartments and the Cottage Affordable Senior Housing. A total of 581 public housing units for families who earn low-moderate-income and elderly individuals are located at these facilities. 327 of the housing units located at these facilities are targeted for the elderly, and 224 are family units.

Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	0	421	406	12	394	0	0	0
# of accessible units									
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:

There are currently 421 housing units owned and managed by the Portsmouth Housing Authority, as well as 160 units owned by other entities but managed by the PHA. All of the units are currently in good physical condition and the PHA regularly inspects and updates facilities as needed.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Portsmouth Housing Authority 2011	96
Portsmouth Housing Authority 2012	94
Portsmouth Housing Authority 2013	93

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

In the past several years the PHA has renovated the apartments at Wamesit Place, undergone substantial accessibility and infrastructure improvements to residences at Gosling Meadows, and conducted internal facility updates to Feaster Apartments. The PHA has the budget and resources necessary to undertake updates and renovations as needed.

Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:

The PHA constantly strives to encourage more residents to become involved with the community through resident advisory boards. The PHA has also engaged in organizing afterschool and summer recreation programs for children at New Franklin Elementary School, Making Classroom and Community Connections (MCCC), which encourages socialization between resident and non-resident students.

Discussion:

MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

Introduction

The City's Continuum of Care assists the homeless with such services as case management, housing counseling, job training and placement, healthcare, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, child care, transportation, emergency food and clothing, family violence services, education services, moving services, entitlement access assistance, referrals to veteran's service, and legal advice. The City has no shortage of housing facilities targeted to homeless, and supports homeless populations throughout the county with its robust Continuum of Care.

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	86	0	18	0	0
Households with Only Adults	54	3	0	14	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	3	0
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	0	0	0

Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source
Comments:

2014 Rockingham County Point in Time Data from NH Bureau of Homeless and Housing Services

Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons

The organizations involved in the Continuum of Care are able to sufficiently cover all the needs of the homeless population in the area, and have partnerships with other related organizations in the area not specifically targeted towards the homeless in order to best ease the transition out of homelessness. All mainstream services are committed to identifying individuals and families at-risk of becoming homeless and referring them to the appropriate service agencies.

List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.

Cross Roads House (CRH) provides emergency and transitional housing to families and individuals who have become homeless. In addition to emergency shelter services, CRH also provides transitional housing services. The Cross Roads House facility underwent a major renovation which was completed in 2009, and additional improvements are planned in the agency's family building. Individuals and families staying at CRH have access to food, clothing, laundry facilities, telephones, and case management referrals to the City's social service network. Supportive services are available through CRH staff and referral to outside agencies. CRH maintains a staff of direct care service providers who co-ordinate services for transitional housing clients.

A Safe Place (ASP) is a specialized shelter and support to battered women and their children. Supportive services are provided to all victims of battering, such as legal support, support groups, and assistance seeking social safety net services including aid to families with dependent children, and food stamps. Because of the nature of the population served by this shelter, no one is denied shelter. If the shelter is at capacity, ASP expands its capacity by using volunteer homes and other shelters. ASP and Sexual Assault Support Services recently combined operations in order to create a stronger agency and better services for their clients.

Rockingham County Community Action Program (RCCAP) is a key regional anti-poverty agency whose services include assisting the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless. RCCAP's Housing Services Program provides up to 80% of a required security deposit to enable a homeless family to secure housing. In addition, RCCAP will refer families at risk of becoming homeless to appropriate agencies that will help the family avoid eviction. RCCAP also administers the Fuel Assistance Program and Weatherization Program, both of which are crucial to helping families who earn low incomes avoid homelessness.

The *Families First Healthcare for the Homeless Van* provides individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness an access point for primary care health services. The work of the van is coordinated with several local agencies serving the homeless population. The Van serves clients at several locations in the City and region.

The Portsmouth *Welfare Department* provides emergency assistance to families who are in need of shelter. Consistently, the expenditures related to emergency shelter are the most expensive service related expense for the Welfare Department.

Portsmouth Special Needs Fund is the City's emergency mortgage payment fund which makes funds available to families who are temporarily unable to pay their mortgage through no fault of their own.

Seacoast Mental Health Center (SMHC) has a homeless outreach coordinator who works with the unsheltered homeless and assists them in accessing important local services. This coordinator actively works with partners in the Seacoast Area Continuum of Care.

MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)

Introduction

Services for special needs non-homeless populations are funded by a combination of Federal, State, and local sources both public and private, and are reliant on CD funds in order to continue functioning. Continued support for these programs will directly affect the ability of the programs to meet the needs of the targeted populations in the area. In order to support the welfare of special needs residents of Portsmouth, the City works with a number of different local and regional organizations to ensure all their needs are met.

Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs

With the elderly and those with disabilities or HIV the main goal with regard to housing and supportive services is to prevent hospitalization and promote healthy lifestyles. With residents recovering from alcohol or drug addictions it is also important to maintain healthy living habits, but with a greater focus on preventing relapse and regression in treatment. Public Housing residents require stable comfortable housing, as well as access to quality healthcare, transportation and employment resources.

Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing

The City partners with organizations such as Seacoast Mental Health and Area HomeCare & Family Services to ensure that those in need have access to services including therapy and homecare assistance.

Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)

During the next year the City will pursue its goals by continuing to support programs such as the Area Homecare Homemaker program, Wentworth Connections Senior Companion/Activities program, and the Seacoast Mental Health Psychiatry program which provide home care, support activities and medical care for those with special needs. The City will also promote programs that provide social activities that will support the physical and emotional health of senior citizens. The City will also support organizations such as AIDS-Response Seacoast in order to provide case management and support services to individuals in low or moderate income households living with HIV/AIDS.

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

During the next year the City will pursue its goals by continuing to support programs such as the Area Homecare Homemaker and the Seacoast Mental Health Psychiatry programs that provide home care, support activities and medical care for those with special needs. The City will also promote programs that provide social activities that will support the physical and emotional health of senior citizens. The City will also support organizations such as AIDS-Response Seacoast in order to provide case management and support services to individuals in low or moderate income households living with HIV/AIDS.

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

As a well preserved historic city, Portsmouth has a vested interested in continuing to maintain the culture and heritage of the community; this is especially true with regards to the downtown area. While Portsmouth has historically allowed housing types that provide for a diverse range of housing options, the opportunities for producing significant numbers of housing units is currently constrained by the lack of availability of developable land. On the other hand, there may be untapped potential for redeveloping underutilized parcels to meet local housing needs and other planning goals.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

Introduction

Portsmouth enjoys a healthy economy, with a diversity of businesses meeting the needs of local residents. Moreover, with the growth of Pease International Tradeport as an industrial and business center over the past decade, Portsmouth has also become a major source of employment in the Seacoast region. While almost half of the City’s working residents are employed locally, nearly 80 percent of the employees in Portsmouth businesses commute in from other communities.

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	14	6	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	1,194	3,370	14	12	-2
Construction	228	507	3	2	-1
Education and Health Care Services	1,447	4,735	17	17	0
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	783	3,179	9	11	2
Information	273	1,613	3	6	3
Manufacturing	634	1,760	8	6	-1
Other Services	271	714	3	3	-1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	911	3,875	11	14	3
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	1,416	4,100	17	15	-2
Transportation and Warehousing	145	441	2	2	0
Wholesale Trade	397	1,136	5	4	-1
Total	7,713	25,436	--	--	--

Table 40 - Business Activity

Data 2007-2011 ACS (Workers), 2011 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)
Source:

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	12,998
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	12,401
Unemployment Rate	4.59
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	19.06
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	3.47

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	3,654
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	578
Service	1,094
Sales and office	3,213
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	717
Production, transportation and material moving	561

Table 42 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	9,201	80%
30-59 Minutes	1,414	12%
60 or More Minutes	839	7%
Total	11,454	100%

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	130	0	150

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	1,666	186	425
Some college or Associate's degree	2,563	140	498
Bachelor's degree or higher	5,940	106	612

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	16	13	50	57	128
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	196	76	7	77	171
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	460	566	379	1,345	1,293
Some college, no degree	449	491	517	1,205	461
Associate's degree	83	242	253	521	246
Bachelor's degree	611	1,823	999	1,523	456
Graduate or professional degree	60	628	569	1,116	489

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	20,799
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	31,154
Some college or Associate's degree	34,163
Bachelor's degree	52,610
Graduate or professional degree	60,915

Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

Portsmouth's has a diverse workforce, with most jobs being in the sectors of education and health care services, retail trade, arts/entertainment/accommodations, and finance/insurance/real estate.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

Most of Portsmouth's workforce is either service-based or office/professional, necessitating a need for diverse housing supplies to ensure employers have consistent access to affordable labor. Due to Portsmouth's high quality of life and geographic assets, many individuals and families of higher income choose to live in the area and commute to work outside the City, necessitating easy access to highways and main transit routes. Portsmouth has a well-known reputation for its large number of high-quality restaurants, but many service industry employees are forced to commute as it becomes increasingly difficult to find affordable housing within the city, adding increased transportation costs for workers. As a shopping and dining destination, many businesses rely on ample parking as a necessary source of income and customers, and as developments have grown parking shortages become an increasing concern.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

The City is currently undertaking plans to help alleviate the issue of lack of parking downtown by constructing a new parking garage. The City is also assessing opportunities to promote development of workforce housing through plans for redevelopment of the former Frank Jones Center into affordable housing units, as well as exploring the possibility of introducing ordinances designed to encourage new developments to have an as yet to be determined portion of units be designated as affordable.

How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?

The workforce of the City is highly educated, and is able to meet the needs of the high-skill employer base in the area. The current workforce is for the most part suited to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction, except in many cases the lack of affordable housing requires service and retail employees to commute from neighboring communities with less expensive housing costs.

Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

The City collaborates with Great Bay Community College to provide access to workforce training programs to residents of low and moderate income. This is in line with the City's plans to promote opportunities for upward mobility among residents.

Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

Yes

If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

Portsmouth is a member of the Regional Economic Development Center of Southern New Hampshire. The REDC's CEDS goals and objectives for 2014 include Economic Development, Infrastructure Development, Regional Cooperation, Workforce Development, Workforce Housing, and Environmental Preservation. The City of Portsmouth is particularly committed to: increasing cooperation with regional service providers and organizations such as the Rockingham Planning Commission and Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness; promoting targeted economic development through the neighborhood charrette process, establishment of Economic Revitalization zones, and adoption of Character-Based Zoning Districts; supporting workforce development through increased collaboration with Great Bay Community College for vocational training opportunities targeted to low/moderate income residents; and encouraging greater opportunities for workforce housing through a long-term focus on pedestrian-friendly mixed-use developments closer to the City center with zoning ordinances that incentivize efficient higher density developments that promote affordability. In the past several years Portsmouth has also undertaken a city-wide overhaul of its structurally deficient arterial bridges, identified and begun to address the long term issues posed by and solutions to the City's growing parking shortage, and conducted a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan as part of a regional Coastal Resilience Initiative in order to address future hazards posed to the area by climate change.

Discussion:

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

There are very few homes in the City with multiple housing problems, but the ones that do exist are dispersed and not concentrated in any specific area. Areas would be defined as concentrated if there were a substantial number of households with multiple housing problems and a majority or large portion of them were located in a specific neighborhood or group of neighborhoods.

Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

While the City has a very small and dispersed population of racial or ethnic minorities, low-income families are concentrated in the Downtown and Upper Woodbury Block Groups. The concentration is determined by these areas containing the substantial majority of the city's low-income populations from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

The characteristics of the market in these areas is strong and vibrant, especially in Downtown. The reason for the Downtown's inclusion as an area with a concentration of low-income households is mainly because of the large populations of the Margeson and Feaster senior assisted living public housing developments. Upper Woodbury is more defined by planned housing developments (including the large 346-unit mixed income Osprey Landing, and the Gosling Meadows family development owned by the PHA) and neighboring commercial retail space in the adjacent jurisdiction of Newington.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Yes, the Downtown as the center of the City has substantial community assets. Upper Woodbury however is on the edge of the City's jurisdiction and public facilities, but is serviced by a regional bus-line and has significant access to commercial entities and employment opportunities.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

The Woodbury Avenue area and all of the City's entrance corridors, including Islington Street and US Route 1, are envisioned for redevelopment in line with the 2005 Master Plan and subsequent implementation of Gateway District zoning laid out in the Plan.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The Portsmouth Community Development Department is the sole agency responsible for administering the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The CD Department is responsible for developing the Consolidated Plan, providing annual updates, reporting on activities accomplished and addressing funds expended at the end of each program year. The CD Department works in cooperation with public and private agencies who serve persons who earn very low-, low- and moderate incomes. The CD Department, as a Department of the City of Portsmouth, works closely with other municipal departments including the Planning, Public Works, Legal, Finance, Inspection, Health and Welfare departments. The Portsmouth Housing Authority is another City agency with which the CD Department coordinates services because that agency serves many of the same clientele as CDBG programs. Many residents in Portsmouth Housing Authority apartments are served directly or indirectly by programming and projects funded with CDBG. Working with area service providers the CD Department over the next 5 years plans to address the most prevalent issues facing individuals and families of low or moderate income in the areas of housing affordability and quality, accessibility improvements, ensuring high quality public services and facilities.

SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	Area Name:	City-Wide
	Area Type:	Strategy area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	5/15/2015
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?		
2	Area Name:	City Hall
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Other
	Other Revital Description:	Accessibility
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	The Municipal Complex at 1 Junkins Ave, Portsmouth, NH.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	

	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	
3	Area Name:	Former Doble Army Reserve Base
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	The property located at 125 Cottage Street, Portsmouth, NH.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?		
4	Area Name:	Operation Blessing Center
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Other
	Other Revital Description:	Infrastructure
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	The Operation Blessing Center at 600 Lafayette Rd, Portsmouth, NH
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	

	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	

General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

The citizen participation process, community needs, and available funding drive the geographical allocation of investments in the community. In this five-year Consolidated Plan investment of community development resources are planned for projects and programs located throughout the jurisdiction. Specifically, the Housing Rehabilitation Program and the Residential Accessibility Grant Program are undertaken without regard to geography, but instead, are based on income of the property owners. Public service agencies that receive CDBG grant funds are scattered through the City and public facilities projects occur in locations that directly benefit those who earn low or moderate incomes or those who are presumed to earn low or moderate incomes. The City of Portsmouth has five Census block groups where a majority of residents earn low or moderate incomes. Projects in these areas are carried out based on project eligibility and funding availability. In the next five years, there is no plan to target CDBG or other HUD resources in a particular area as there has been in recent past plans.

SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)

Priority Needs

Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Housing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Housing Program Administration
	Description	To support the creation and preservation of housing opportunities for people who earn very low-, low- and moderate-incomes and to support the ability of people with disabilities to remain in their homes.
	Basis for Relative Priority	With significantly rising housing costs the City of Portsmouth is committed to supporting households of low- moderate- income in creating affordable housing opportunities or staying in their homes.
	2	Priority Need Name
Priority Level		High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Non Profit Planning and Programs Citywide Accessibility Improvements Program Administration
	Description	To improve infrastructure in areas where a majority of residents earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes with the objective of improving safety and aesthetics; and to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.
	Basis for Relative Priority	It's important for the City to keep up with needs for infrastructure improvements in order to ensure access for individuals with disabilities across the jurisdiction.
3	Priority Need Name	Public Services
	Priority Level	High

Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
Associated Goals	Non Profit Planning and Programs Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation Public Services Program Administration
Description	To support public service agencies that provide services important to the health of people who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes.
Basis for Relative Priority	Portsmouth has a substantial safety and support network for residents of low-moderate- income and recognizing the need for Public Services ensures they have access to necessary services.

4	Priority Need Name	Youth Programs
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Public Housing Residents Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Non Profit Planning and Programs Youth Programs Program Administration
	Description	To support public service agencies that provide services for children and youth from families who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes that will foster their growth into healthy adults.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Portsmouth has a substantial amount of low- moderate- income families with children, and Youth Programs are necessary in order to provide support for working parents and developing young persons.
5	Priority Need Name	Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Elderly Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Non Profit Planning and Programs City Senior Center Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services Program Administration
	Description	To support public service agencies that provide services to help prevent the hospitalization of the elderly and those with disabilities by providing home care, support activities and medical care; provide programming that will support the physical and emotional health of senior citizens.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Portsmouth has a substantial and growing population of seniors, as well as a large number of adults with disabilities. In order to ensure these populations to not become isolated or at risk of homelessness the City is committed to providing supportive housing and homecare services.
6	Priority Need Name	Homeless and HIV/AIDS
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Families with Children Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Non Profit Planning and Programs Homeless Goal and HIV/AIDS Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation Program Administration
	Description	To support public service agencies that provide emergency and transitional shelter for the homeless and facilitate their movement into permanent housing through life skills enhancement activities; and help prevent the hospitalization of those living with HIV/AIDS through the provision of supportive services.
	Basis for Relative Priority	While the City doesn't have a significantly large population impacted by HIV/AIDS, there is a substantial number of homeless in need of services. Portsmouth provides greater services than the vast majority of communities in the region, and therefore has the burden of addressing the needs of homeless families and individuals from many neighboring towns and cities.
7	Priority Need Name	Program Administration
	Priority Level	Low

Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide Former Doble Army Reserve Base City Hall Operation Blessing Center
Associated Goals	Program Administration
Description	General program administration of the City's CDBG Entitlement Program.
Basis for Relative Priority	Administration of CDBG Program.

Narrative (Optional)

Priority needs include housing, accessibility and infrastructure, public services, youth programs, special needs/non-homeless services and homeless & HIV/AIDS.

SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	An increasingly strong rental market will necessitate deeper subsidies but will also most likely result in an increased gap between rents available under voucher programs and those outside the programs.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	Rising rents will necessitate deeper subsidies.
New Unit Production	Rising real estate prices will necessitate higher funds for any future new unit production.
Rehabilitation	There will be no effect on the Rehab program.
Acquisition, including preservation	Rising real estate prices will make acquisition more expensive.

Table 49 – Influence of Market Conditions

SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

This section is intended to summarize the funding sources which may be available to the CDBG program to make progress on priority needs and Consolidated Plan goals.

Anticipated Resources

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	505,162	0	635,783	1,140,945	0	CDBG dollars will be used to fund projects and activities benefiting low to low-moderate income individuals.
General Fund	public - local	Admin and Planning Public Improvements	500,000	0	0	500,000	1,000,000	General Fund dollars are anticipated to be matched with CDBG funds as projects are identified on an annual basis. Typically, projects funded in part with CDBG for public facilities will see a cost share with local general fund dollars, primarily through the City's capital budget.

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: \$		
LIHTC	public - federal	Housing	0	0	0	0	1,000,000	The funding source and amount is intended to serve as a placeholder for potential partnerships in the five-year period that may result in the preservation of existing affordable units or the expansion of the inventory of affordable units in the City.

Table 50 - Anticipated Resources

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

General fund dollars are anticipated to be matched with CDBG funds as projects are identified on an annual basis. Typically, public facilities projects funded in part with CDBG dollars assume a cost share with local general fund dollars, primarily through the City's capital budget.

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

The City is currently drafting plans to construct a Senior Center at the former Doble Army Reserve Base property.

Discussion

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
CROSSROADS HOUSE	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region
FAMILIES FIRST OF THE GREATER SEACOAST	Continuum of care	Homelessness public services	Region
NH LEGAL ASSISTANCE	Non-profit organizations	Ownership Rental	State
PORTSMOUTH HOUSING AUTHORITY	PHA	Public Housing	Region
ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY ACTION	Regional organization	Economic Development Ownership Rental public services	Region
SEACOAST MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	Regional organization	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs	Region
NH Community Development Finance Authority	Redevelopment authority	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning Public Housing Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State
City of Portsmouth Welfare Department	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Public Housing public services	Jurisdiction

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Planning Department, City of Portsmouth	Government	Planning	Jurisdiction

Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

In the past no gaps were identified in the institutional delivery system, but in recent years the City has seen a substantial increase in heroin and opiate related overdoses. Agencies in the region provide a full spectrum of delivery of services for homeless persons within the city, yet there is a growing need and opportunity for service providers working directly with those most at risk or impacted by substance abuse.

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X		X
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X		
Utilities Assistance	X		
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X		
Mobile Clinics	X		
Other Street Outreach Services	X		
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X		
Child Care	X		
Education	X		
Employment and Employment Training	X		
Healthcare	X	X	
HIV/AIDS	X		X
Life Skills	X		
Mental Health Counseling	X		
Transportation	X		
Other			

Table 52 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)

In Rockingham County in 2010 a total of 155 beds were available for individuals, and 97 for persons in families with Children. These were utilized by a total of 141 persons reflecting sufficient shelter coverage for homeless persons seeking shelter. In order to reach out to unsheltered homeless, Seacoast Mental Health Center employs a homeless outreach coordinator who assists unsheltered homeless in accessing important local services and actively works with partners in the Seacoast Area Continuum of Care. AIDS Response of the Seacoast provides education, advocacy, support services, rental assistance, and referral to any persons whose life is affected by HIV/AIDS.

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above

While there are gaps in Rockingham County as a whole, Portsmouth houses 60% of the County's total emergency beds and promotes a robust spectrum of support services, although transportation to services in Portsmouth from outside the area may prove challenging. Typical services assisting the homeless in the City's Continuum of Care include case management, housing counseling, job training and placement, health care, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, child care, transportation, emergency food and clothing, family violence services, education services, moving services, entitlement access assistance, referrals to veterans' services, and legal assistance. In 2013 the Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness collaborated with other area non-profits to organize the Coordinated Access program in Strafford and Rockingham Counties with the goal of streamlining and centralizing the process for client assessment and referral to best provide the most effective services as efficiently as possible. Representing one of the delivery system's strongest improvements in recent years, the Coordinated Access system reduces burdens on those in need by allowing clients to begin the process to receive services through one phone call, when previously it could take as many as five. In addition to participating in the Continuum of Care, the City provides funding to agencies that make up a significant portion of the Continuum of Care system. This support is provided through the City's Community Development Block Grant-funded Public Service Agency Grant Program and through the Portsmouth Welfare Department Social Service grant program, which is supported by local tax dollars. The most significant identified gap in the delivery system is a lack of local organizations specifically targeting individuals affected by substance abuse; while there are service providers in neighboring communities, Portsmouth does not have a developed substance abuse recovery infrastructure. This lack of services in the City is quickly becoming an issue that needs to be addressed, especially with the increase in opiate overdoses in recent years.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs

The City of Portsmouth provides for capacity of services greater than its individual needs, yet unfortunately many persons of need from outside the City do not have access to reliable transportation to get to service providers. In order to better address the needs of the County as a whole the City should continue to promote public transportation options such as the regional COAST Bus and encourage expansion of service providers in other population centers in the county to decrease the burden on those seeking services. This issue is reversed with regards to substance abuse treatment, and while improved transportation will assist in the short-term, concerted effort by the City in cooperation with service providers is necessary to address identified needs. The City is planning to pursue a strategy of rapid rehousing on a regional level to best meet the needs as quickly as possible of those experiencing homelessness.

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Program Administration	2015	2016	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Program Admin	City-Wide Former Doble Army Reserve Base City Hall Operation Blessing Center	Accessibility and Infrastructure Homeless and HIV/AIDS Housing Public Services Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services Youth Programs Program Administration	CDBG: \$110,463	Other: 1 Other
2	City Senior Center	2015	2018	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Former Doble Army Reserve Base	Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services	CDBG: \$250,000 General Fund: \$500,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted
3	Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation	2015	2016	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	Operation Blessing Center	Homeless and HIV/AIDS Public Services Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services	CDBG: \$35,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Citywide Accessibility Improvements	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Accessibility and Infrastructure	CDBG: \$344,491	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Persons Assisted
5	Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing	City-Wide	Housing	CDBG: \$191,779	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 Households Assisted
6	Non Profit Planning and Programs	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Accessibility and Infrastructure Homeless and HIV/AIDS Public Services Special Needs/Non- Homeless Services Youth Programs	CDBG: \$132,212	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
7	Public Services	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Public Services	CDBG: \$24,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Persons Assisted
8	Youth Programs	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Youth Programs	CDBG: \$18,500	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-Wide	Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services	CDBG: \$17,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted
10	Homeless Goal and HIV/AIDS	2015	2019	Homeless	City-Wide	Homeless and HIV/AIDS	CDBG: \$17,500	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Persons Assisted

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Program Administration
	Goal Description	Program/general administration of the City's CDBG Entitlement Program.
2	Goal Name	City Senior Center
	Goal Description	The City has a need for construction of a new Senior Center to serve area residents, and has identified a location to build one at the former Paul A. Doble Army Reserve Center property. The City plans to use CDBG funds in conjunction with locally raised funds in order to finance the project.
3	Goal Name	Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation
	Goal Description	A new emergency power generator will be installed at Operation Blessing in order to allow them to prevent the spoilage of perishable goods in their food-bank during power outages.

4	Goal Name	Citywide Accessibility Improvements
	Goal Description	This project will provide funding for the design and construction of citywide accessibility improvements at City public facilities, including City Hall.
5	Goal Name	Housing
	Goal Description	To support the creation and preservation of housing opportunities for people who earn very low-, low- and moderate-incomes and to support the ability of people with disabilities to remain in their homes.
6	Goal Name	Non Profit Planning and Programs
	Goal Description	To improve accessibility/infrastructure for non profits serving areas/populations where a majority of residents earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes; and to improve accessibility to non profit agencies for people with disabilities.
7	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	To support public service agencies that provide services important to the health of people who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes.
8	Goal Name	Youth Programs
	Goal Description	To support public service agencies that provide services for children and youth from families who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes that will foster their growth into healthy adults.
9	Goal Name	Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services
	Goal Description	To support public service agencies that provide services to help prevent the hospitalization of the elderly and those with disabilities by providing home care, support activities and medical care; provide programming that will support the physical and emotional health of senior citizens.
10	Goal Name	Homeless Goal and HIV/AIDS
	Goal Description	To support public service agencies that provide emergency and transitional shelter for the homeless and facilitate their movement into permanent housing through life skills enhancement activities; and help prevent the hospitalization of those living with HIV/AIDS through the provision of supportive services.

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 91.315(b)(2)

In the City's FY 2016-2020 (HUD 2015-2019) five-year period the jurisdiction aims to provide a number of opportunities for affordable housing to low and moderate income families. Through the Residential Rehabilitation and Accessibility Programs the City plans to use CDBG funds to rehabilitate 20 housing units and make accessibility improvements to 12 housing units by June 30, 2020. Working with New Hampshire Legal Assistance the City also plans to provide Fair Housing counseling and services to 350 individuals who earn eligible incomes, and working with the Hometown First-Time Homebuyer's Program the City plans to assist 20 individuals or families purchase homes in Portsmouth.

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)

Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)

No, the Portsmouth Housing Authority is not required and does not need to increase the number of accessible units. The PHA continuously undertakes renovations and improvements to its properties in order to further increase accessibility and quality of life for its residents, including most recently the completion of construction of 188 ramps and stairs at Gosling Meadows which increased resident safety and the attractiveness of the community.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

The Portsmouth Housing Authority believes in the importance of resident participation in all of their administered neighborhoods and that strong resident participation in their communities improves social outcomes, reduces crime, fosters greater civic engagement, and assures more caring and compassionate communities. For example, last year the PHA began the Making Community and Classroom Connections program (MCCC) with a Public Service Grant awarded from the Community Development Department. The program was successful, and recently the PHA has worked with the Portsmouth School Department to win a 5-year grant through New Hampshire's 21st Century Learning Center program. This grant will provide approximately \$500,000 to sustain an after school program for kids at Gosling Meadows and other low income families at New Franklin School; a program in which there are now more than 100 children enrolled. In addition to focusing on adding more programs and services and programming for their tenants, the PHA's goal is to try to more actively engage residents in their communities. The City has also worked to rent the Greenleaf Recreation Center to local organization Operation Blessing of NH in order to allow them to develop and implement a free recreation program including basketball, soccer, skateboarding, and BMX bike trail programs designed to keep children off the streets and focused on healthier choices.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?

No

Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation

N/A

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)

Barriers to Affordable Housing

As a well preserved historic city, Portsmouth has a vested interested in continuing to maintain the culture and heritage of the community; this is especially true with regards to the downtown area. While Portsmouth has historically allowed housing types that provide for a diverse range of housing options, the opportunities for producing significant numbers of housing units is currently constrained by the lack of availability of developable land. On the other hand, there may be untapped potential for redeveloping underutilized parcels to meet local housing needs and other planning goals.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

In preparing the City's Housing Existing Conditions Report for the 2015 Master Plan Update, the planning consultants met with and interviewed various persons who are involved or interested in local housing issues. Several respondents commented that city government presents a challenging climate for permitting new development. Permitting hurdles are especially discouraging for investment in workforce housing, as higher end and luxury residential projects can more easily absorb the premium costs associated with building in Portsmouth. The Community Development Department has also identified a lack of data and access to education resources on fair housing laws and protections as having a negative impact on the City's ability to encourage detection, reporting, and prevention of housing discrimination by advocates, tenants, and landlords.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

The City of Portsmouth already sufficiently reaches out and works closely with area organizations that provide sufficient services to all homeless persons within the City, and will continue support of programs providing direct assistance to the homeless sub-populations and chronic-homeless persons. In order to better serve populations in the County the City's priorities include providing support for regional facilities, which promote expansion of service accessibility, and promoting development of new housing facilities for homeless and at risk populations, including supportive, transitional and permanent housing. The Community Development Department will also continue support for services which assist in preventing homelessness for individuals and families, including temporary emergency rent assistance.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

In the recent past the City has worked with area organizations to increase the number of emergency shelters beds, and in the next 5 years will continue to work to maintain and increase the number of transitional shelter units.

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.

Area homeless service providers plan to increase the number of permanent-supportive units available in order to better facilitate the transition to independent living and reduce homeless recidivism.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

The City will continue to work with service providers and support organizations in order to prevent at-risk individuals and families from becoming homeless by ensuring access to support such as physical and mental health services as well as fuel and rent assistance in order to avoid eviction.

SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards

The NH Dept. of Health and Human Services Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program maintains an extensive blood lead surveillance system for the purposes of monitoring trends in blood lead levels in adults and children in New Hampshire. The data is used to help identify populations at risk for elevated blood lead levels (BLLs) to determine whether screening guidelines are being followed in high-risk populations and to ensure that appropriate environmental and medical follow-ups are provided to children with elevated BLLs. An estimated 50 licensed laboratories that serve approximately 1,500 medical clinics, hospitals, and employer groups report to the program ensuring that incidents are identified and addressed as quickly as possible in order to minimize health risks to the public.

How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?

Portsmouth is not classified as one of the state's "higher risk" communities, and therefore is not the focus of primary prevention strategies. While LBP hazards are not as significant of an issue in Portsmouth as in other communities in NH, the city actively monitors at-risk populations and still has access to the states substantial resources to identify and address situations if and when an incident does occur.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

The City integrates the above actions into housing policies and procedures by ensuring all LBP hazards are identified and referred to the state in order to coordinate efforts state-wide. The City only uses contractors that have been certified for LBP removal in the Housing Rehabilitation Program, and has expanded the LBP protocols in municipal operations.

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)

Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

The City of Portsmouth is committed to supporting and promoting opportunities for families in poverty to achieve stability and success. By focusing on the three areas of housing, financial, and healthcare security, the City will work to provide a framework and support network for families to assist them in lifting themselves out of poverty. The City works closely with the Portsmouth Housing Authority to ensure residents have access to and are able to utilize supportive programs.

How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan

The Portsmouth Housing Authority has already embraced exploring opportunities to increase workforce and affordable housing stock as one of its primary objectives, and the City is undertaking promotion of increased development of affordable housing opportunities as one of its priorities. In accordance with HUD's Notice PIH 2014-26(HA), the City will work with the PHA to better provide access to financial literacy and education resources among residents of the PHA in order to promote saving and asset building to help families achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency. The City promotes access to preventative medical care service for individuals and families earning low or moderate income through community organizations such as Families First, and encourages residents to enroll for insurance under the Affordable Care Act to minimize the amount of uncompensated care provided.

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures that the jurisdiction will use to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and will use to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

The Community Development Department has the responsibility to ensure compliance with federal regulations by all of its contractors and subrecipients, and does this by close monitoring of the projects and programs determined to be of the greatest risk of non-compliance. Whether a program or project is considered high-risk is determined by the following factors: length of program history, amount of funding, complexity of terms in subrecipient agreement, and familiarity of subrecipient of personnel assigned to duties under the CDBG agreement. Grantees in the Public Service Agency Grant Program are required to submit quarterly reports to CD staff, who also conduct on site monitoring visits annually to those agencies deemed high-risk. The progress of all housing projects funded is monitored by the Housing Specialist, and construction and rehabilitation of projects within the City are also monitored by the City Inspection Department for compliance with building codes. The progress of all public facilities projects is monitored by CD staff; the staff person in charge of the project is responsible for ensuring that the project is carried out in accordance with all pertinent HUD regulations, bid specifications and plans to meet project goals. The CD Director provides final approval on all payments made for project expenses.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

This section is intended to summarize the funding sources which may be available to the CDBG program to make progress on priority needs and Consolidated Plan goals.

Anticipated Resources

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	505,162	0	635,783	1,140,945	0	CDBG dollars will be used to fund projects and activities benefiting low to low-moderate income individuals.

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: \$		
General Fund	public - local	Admin and Planning Public Improvements	500,000	0	0	500,000	1,000,000	General Fund dollars are anticipated to be matched with CDBG funds as projects are identified on an annual basis. Typically, projects funded in part with CDBG for public facilities will see a cost share with local general fund dollars, primarily through the City's capital budget.
LIHTC	public - federal	Housing	0	0	0	0	1,000,000	The funding source and amount is intended to serve as a placeholder for potential partnerships in the five-year period that may result in the preservation of existing affordable units or the expansion of the inventory of affordable units in the City.

Table 54 - 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

General fund dollars are anticipated to be matched with CDBG funds as projects are identified on an annual basis. Typically, public facilities projects funded in part with CDBG dollars assume a cost share with local general fund dollars, primarily through the City's capital budget.

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

The City is currently drafting plans to construct a Senior Center at the former Doble Army Reserve Base property.

Discussion:

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Program Administration	2015	2016	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Program Admin	City-Wide Former Doble Army Reserve Base City Hall Operation Blessing Center	Program Administration	CDBG: \$110,463	Other: 1 Other
2	City Senior Center	2015	2018	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Former Doble Army Reserve Base	Accessibility and Infrastructure Special Needs/Non- Homeless Services	CDBG: \$250,000 General Fund: \$500,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted
3	Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation	2015	2016	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	Operation Blessing Center	Homeless and HIV/AIDS Public Services Special Needs/Non- Homeless Services	CDBG: \$35,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Citywide Accessibility Improvements	2015	2017	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide City Hall	Accessibility and Infrastructure	CDBG: \$344,491	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Persons Assisted
5	Housing	2015	2017	Affordable Housing Public Housing	City-Wide	Housing	CDBG: \$191,779	Rental units rehabilitated: 2 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 4 Households Assisted
6	Non Profit Planning and Programs	2015	2017	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Accessibility and Infrastructure	CDBG: \$132,212	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
7	Public Services	2015	2016	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Public Services	CDBG: \$77,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Persons Assisted

Table 55 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Program Administration
	Goal Description	General program administration of the City's CDBG Entitlement Program.
2	Goal Name	City Senior Center
	Goal Description	The City has a need for construction of a new Senior Center to serve area residents, and has identified a location to build one at the former Paul A. Doble Army Reserve Center property. The City plans to use CDBG funds in conjunction with locally raised funds in order to finance the project.
3	Goal Name	Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation
	Goal Description	A new emergency power generator will be installed at Operation Blessing in order to allow them to prevent the spoilage of perishable goods in their food-bank during power outages.
4	Goal Name	Citywide Accessibility Improvements
	Goal Description	This project will provide funding for the design and construction of citywide accessibility improvements at City public facilities, including City Hall.
5	Goal Name	Housing
	Goal Description	To support the creation and preservation of housing opportunities for people who earn very low-, low- and moderate-incomes and to support the ability of people with disabilities to remain in their homes.
6	Goal Name	Non Profit Planning and Programs
	Goal Description	To improve infrastructure in areas where a majority of residents earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes with the objective of improving safety and aesthetics; and to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.
7	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	To support public service agencies that provide services important to the health of people who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

In FY 2015-2016, the CDBG program plans to make progress on an number of high priorities including public facilities upgrades to address accessibility needs and needs of the senior population; assistance to non-profit partners with public facilities improvements, as well as continuing long standing programs in support of homeowners in need.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Program Administration
2	Senior Center Upgrade
3	Operation Blessing Emergency Power Source Installation
4	Citywide Accessibility Upgrades
5	Housing Rehab Loan Program
6	Residential Accessibility Program
7	HomeTown
8	Portsmouth Non-Profit Loan Program
9	City Hall Accessibility Improvements
10	Non-Profit Planning and Programs

Table 56 – Project Information

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

This year the CDBG Consolidated Plan does not allocate resources based on geographic areas or targeting assistance. All programs and projects are intended to benefit residents earning low and moderate incomes accessing services as well as ensuring access for people with disabilities throughout the City.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Program Administration
	Target Area	City-Wide Former Doble Army Reserve Base City Hall Operation Blessing Center
	Goals Supported	Program Administration City Senior Center Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation Citywide Accessibility Improvements Housing Non Profit Planning and Programs Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Program Administration
	Funding	CDBG: \$110,463
	Description	General program administration of the CDBG Program.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Program administration.
	Location Description	Portsmouth
	Planned Activities	General program administration of the CDBG Program.
2	Project Name	Senior Center Upgrade
	Target Area	Former Doble Army Reserve Base
	Goals Supported	City Senior Center
	Needs Addressed	Accessibility and Infrastructure Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,000 General Fund: \$500,000
	Description	The City will begin construction of a new Senior Center to serve City residents at the site of the former Paul Doble Army Reserve Center.
	Target Date	6/29/2018

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is anticipated that senior citizens and the families will be served at the senior center. This includes approximately 200 seniors who visit the current temporary senior center on an annual basis. This number is anticipated to grow as the facility will meet more programming needs and expectations.
	Location Description	On the site of the former Paul Doble Army Reserve Center.
	Planned Activities	Design and construction of improvements to renovate an existing building into a senior center.
3	Project Name	Operation Blessing Emergency Power Source Installation
	Target Area	Operation Blessing Center
	Goals Supported	Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation
	Needs Addressed	Accessibility and Infrastructure Public Services Homeless and HIV/AIDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$35,000
	Description	A new emergency power generator will be installed at Operation Blessing in order to allow them to prevent the spoilage of perishable goods in their food-bank during power outages.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Operation Blessing serves thousands of families per year, and the proposed project will allow the organization to significantly cut back on perishable food losses due to power outages.
	Location Description	Operation Blessing Center at 600A Lafayette Rd. Portsmouth, NH.
	Planned Activities	Installation of emergency power generator and infrastructure to connect to the Operation Blessing food pantry.
4	Project Name	Citywide Accessibility Upgrades
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Citywide Accessibility Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Accessibility and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$149,491
	Description	The City will undertake accessibility upgrades to locations throughout the City, including the municipal complex and the Gundalow Docks at Prescott Park.

	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	50 low-moderate income persons will be assisted.
	Location Description	Strawbery Banke; Sheafe Warehouse dock; Portsmouth citywide.
	Planned Activities	The City will undertake improvements to sites throughout the City in order to remove architectural barriers and improve accessibility for residents and visitors
5	Project Name	Housing Rehab Loan Program
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$157,779
	Description	Provides loans for low and moderate income households to rehabilitate their homes in order to prevent the risk of falling into homelessness.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The loan program plans to benefit 4 households annually in both rental and owned units.
	Location Description	Portsmouth
	Planned Activities	Issuance of loans in order for residents to conduct home improvements to address housing code deficiencies.
6	Project Name	Residential Accessibility Program
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Housing Non Profit Planning and Programs
	Needs Addressed	Housing Accessibility and Infrastructure Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$34,000

	Description	Provides funding for households to afford accessibility improvements so that residents can remain in their own homes.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City estimates a maximum of 3 households will apply annually.
	Location Description	Portsmouth
	Planned Activities	The City provides grants for qualified applicants with a disability to undertake renovations to their homes to remove architectural barriers. Projects include widening doorways, installing ramps, or accessible bathrooms.
7	Project Name	HomeTown
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing
	Funding	:
	Description	HomeTown supports first time home buyers with loans to assist in purchasing a home.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 4 families will apply annually.
	Location Description	Portsmouth
	Planned Activities	The program assists first-time home buyers with closing costs and down payments.
8	Project Name	Portsmouth Non-Profit Grant Program
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Accessibility and Infrastructure Public Services Youth Programs Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services Homeless and HIV/AIDS

	Funding	CDBG: \$77,000
	Description	The City provides grants to local Non-Profit organizations.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 100 families will benefit from the organizations that this project supports.
	Location Description	Portsmouth
	Planned Activities	Organizations apply for a grant and are assessed on an individual basis.
9	Project Name	City Hall Accessibility Improvements
	Target Area	City Hall
	Goals Supported	Citywide Accessibility Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Accessibility and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$195,000
	Description	Improvements to City Hall to make it more accessible for those with disabilities.
	Target Date	6/29/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project is estimated to benefit 200 individuals with greater accessibility to City Hall.
	Location Description	1 Junkins Ave., Portsmouth, NH
	Planned Activities	Removal of architectural barriers in the Municipal Complex.
10	Project Name	Non-Profit Planning and Programs
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Citywide Accessibility Improvements Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Accessibility and Infrastructure Public Services Youth Programs Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services Homeless and HIV/AIDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$132,212

Description	Funds benefiting a wide range of service agencies based in the City.
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at least 100 families will benefit from the non profit agencies supported with funds for accessibility and infrastructure improvements.
Location Description	Portsmouth
Planned Activities	Public facilities support for nonprofit agencies providing services to low-moderate income individuals and families.

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 citizen participation process, community needs, and available funding drive the geographical allocation of investments in the community. In this five-year Consolidated Plan investment of community development resources are planned for throughout the jurisdiction.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-Wide	100

Table 57 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Specifically, the Housing Rehabilitation Program and the Residential Accessibility Grant Program are undertaken without regard to geography, but instead, are based on income of the property owners. Public service agencies that receive CDBG grant funds are scattered through the City and public facilities projects occur in locations that directly benefit those who earn low or moderate incomes or those who are presumed to earn low or moderate incomes. The City of Portsmouth has three Census block groups where a majority of residents earn low or moderate incomes. Projects in these areas are undertaken based on project eligibility and funding availability. For at least the most recent two Consolidated Plans the City has identified significant public infrastructure needs, in CDBG eligible neighborhoods. This five-year Plan does not identify any geographic concentration of resources.

Discussion:

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

While wages in the Seacoast area are on par with state averages overall, average housing purchase and rental costs are the most expensive in New Hampshire by considerable margins. Unfortunately it seems that the gap in affordability is growing again; from 2000-2012 the average increase in housing rental and purchase price was 36-38%, but the average wage increase was only 31%. A diverse workforce is vital to a thriving regional economy and if the Seacoast region continues to become more expensive to live in, the lack of affordable housing will increase commuting distance, making it more difficult for employers to recruit workers and more costly to retain them.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	300
Non-Homeless	260
Special-Needs	357
Total	917

Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	40
The Production of New Units	20
Rehab of Existing Units	3
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	63

Table 59 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion:

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Portsmouth Housing Authority works to serve the housing needs of individuals and families who have very low, low, and moderate incomes. The Housing Authority manages several residential complexes serving the elderly, families with children, and families with disabilities. In addition, the Authority manages a tenant-based section 8 program and waiting list. The Housing Authority has also worked with local public safety providers to ensure effective screening policies, strict lease enforcement and the maintenance of healthy and safe neighborhoods. The Housing Authority also provides employment and education incentives to tenants, as well as youth risk prevention services. The City of Portsmouth and the Portsmouth Housing Authority have worked closely to address the need for public housing, including on retention, renovation and development of housing units as well as improvements to livability and access to services by residents.

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

The PHA has made great strides in the past several years in areas including security, accessibility, and partnerships with the community. Challenges to address in the future include the increasing number of non-elderly disabled persons being served, and expanding housing opportunities. Recently the PHA has been required to house greater numbers of non-seniors with physical and/or mental disabilities in traditionally senior housing buildings; this creates a difficult situation to manage but one in which the PHA is confident it can continue to serve both populations through new administrative strategies and community partnerships. With over 500 families on the PHA's waiting list and sustained lack of affordable housing for the Seacoast's workforce, the PHA is looking for new opportunities to increase housing units through acquisition or new construction. While this process can take years, opportunities for potential projects are currently being developed. The PHA has also committed to increase collaboration between other regional or statewide Housing Authorities and non-profit developers. This includes cooperating on issues like policy development, purchasing, back office operations and wait lists in order to decrease costs and improve customer service, with the long-term goal of creating a stronger and more disciplined organization.

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

The PHA is committed to encouraging resident participation in all of its neighborhoods in order to improve social outcomes, reduce crime, foster greater civic engagement, and assure more caring and compassionate communities. Besides working to add more programs and services for tenants, the PHA encourages residents to seek leadership roles and actively engage with the future of the community by joining Resident Advisory Boards.

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

provided or other assistance

Not applicable.

Discussion

The Portsmouth Housing Authority is seen as an invaluable partner in addressing housing needs in Portsmouth. Through its five-year plan the PHA is engaged on the issue of creating additional units, preserving existing units, and ensuring high quality services and linking with other resources in the community.

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

Introduction

The City already has a robust Continuum of Care and continues to work with regional organizations such as the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness to improve coordination between service providers and develop and implement strategies to expand and refine services.

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

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

The City will promote the availability of Public Service Grants to shelters, healthcare and public welfare agencies in order to strengthen the already robust continuum of care.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City will conduct certifications of consistency for new proposals, as well as providing support through the Portsmouth Non-Profit Loan Program and funding for public facilities projects. The City will also encourage close cooperation and participation in the Continuum of Care.

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

The City will continue providing Public Service Grants for agencies providing supportive services and will support the increase of transitional and permanent-supportive housing.

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

The City will help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless through working with organizations such as the Rockingham County Community Action Program, the Portsmouth Special

Needs Fund, NH legal Assistance, and Operation Blessing in order to provide financial and legal support for individuals and families at-risk of becoming homeless. The City will also work with organizations such as Southeastern New Hampshire Services, Seacoast Mental Health Center, One Sky Community Services, and Area Home Care to support those with disabilities or substance abuse issues.

Discussion:

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

Introduction:

As the downtown area of the city continues to expand, opportunities to address the lack of affordable housing are beginning to come to light through increased potential for development of previously underutilized and underdeveloped sites.

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

Areas that have stagnated in recent years such as the former Frank Jones Center and Gary's Beverages Deer St. lot are coming under the attention of the city and being considered for large development projects which include the potential for a number of affordable workforce housing units. While the units themselves would not significantly defray the overall costs of, for example, the city's proposal for a new parking garage on Deer St, they would pay for themselves. Workforce housing in most circumstances is only going to be able to be affordable for developers and residents when undertaken on a large scale or as part of a larger development project. The city is also working to encourage workforce housing developments in the last sections of the City's undeveloped developable land (mainly in the Gateway District). Development of workforce housing will largely be incentivized by allowing zoning easements on setbacks, height, and yard frontage in exchange for developers designating a certain as yet to be determined percentage of units as affordable workforce housing with the goal of increasing densities and promoting more reasonable rates.

Discussion:

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

This year the CDBG Consolidated Plan does not allocate resources based on geographic areas or targeting assistance. All programs and projects are intended to benefit residents earning low and moderate incomes accessing services as well as ensuring access for people with disabilities throughout the City.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City's plan to foster and maintain affordable housing is discussed in AP-55, AP-75, SP-45, SP-55. See also NA-10, MA-10, SP-25.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

These actions are discussed in SP-65.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

These actions are discussed in SP-70.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Portsmouth and the Community Development Department monitor and participate in regional discussions about issues impacting residents earning low to moderate incomes and special populations. The City is actively involved in supporting efforts to address substance misuse and homelessness prevention efforts through regional dialogues and resulting interventions and programs. The City will continue to be engaged in order to have an impact in these areas.

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

The City of Portsmouth and its residents benefit from a good network of social services and public and privately-assisted housing. For its size, Portsmouth benefits from a wide range of social service providers to assist those in need in Portsmouth. This is due in part to Portsmouth's role as an economic, cultural, and social hub of the region. Many larger non-profits are located in Portsmouth but have service areas beyond the City's borders. In addition, the leading agency in Portsmouth for housing issues, the Portsmouth Housing Authority, is heavily involved in the constellation of non-profit service providers and participates extensively in regional efforts to address substance misuse and homelessness

issues. Most all of the City's publicly and privately assisted housing developments are served by regional transportation.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

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

Discussion:

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

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