

CITY AND PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND STRATEGY YEAR 2018 ACTION PLAN DRAFT



Submitted By:

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DUNS#:071948301



Annual Action Plan
2018

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

In August of 2016, catastrophic flooding inundated thousands of homes and businesses in the City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish. In the two years that followed, local, state, federal, philanthropic and volunteer resources deployed to assist hard-hit residents. At the Mayor's Office of Community Development (OCD), the Declared Disaster Recovery Fund has provided \$11,065,556 in assistance for disaster impacted homeowners, renters and homeless services to assist in its recovery from the August 2016 flood events. In order to maximize scant federal funding and leverage local partnerships, the 2018 Action Plan Notice of Funding Availability and Requests for Proposals continues to emphasize flood recovery.

In order to facilitate continuity in its programs, while promoting an environment which encourages citizen participations and invites contributions from myriad entities within its jurisdiction, HUD requires that the Office of Community Development (OCD) to submit a Consolidated Plan and Strategy (CPS) for approval. Consistent with these requirements, outlined in HUD regulations (24 CFR part 91), in 2015, OCD developed the CPS in collaboration with City-Parish citizens, non- profit and for-profit organizations, and public agencies. OCD serves as the lead agency for the development of the CPS. The goal of the development process was to establish a unified vision for community development actions that will help meet three statutory goals of the entitlement grants: 1) decent housing, 2) a suitable living environment, and 3) expanded economic opportunities for City-Parish citizens.

This annual Action Plan is designed to advance these goals and expand the stock of affordable housing, improve infrastructure, promote fair housing choice, advance the livability of all neighborhoods while protecting the environment, enhancing civic design, and expanding economic opportunities, particularly for low and moderate-income persons.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The projects and activities outlined in this plan are intended to benefit low to moderate income residents, improve distressed and blighted neighborhoods, affirmatively further fair housing, and positively impact the City and Parish. These strategies will be addressed with other federal and state grant programs and local initiatives to meet the objectives outlined in the Plan. The 2018 Annual Action Plan focuses on goals established in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and Strategy (CPS).

Priority areas of need determined through public input and research for the Consolidated Plan include:

1. Increased availability and accessibility of affordable rental and owner housing units through new housing development, the rehabilitation of existing housing, and direct housing assistance through homebuyer and tenant-based rental assistance.
2. Flood recovery, and the needs of residents across Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge parish to be able to return to adequate housing.
3. Health Services including primary and secondary services to low income people,

addressing both physical and mental health issues as well as feeding programs for elderly, disabled and low-income people and families.

4. Workforce Development through job training and placement programs and services.
5. Homeless Prevention Services including the provision of emergency shelter, rapid rehousing and transitional housing programs for individuals and families as well as services targeted to special population groups such as veterans, battered spouses, persons with HIV/AIDS and the youth.
6. Public Facilities and Infrastructure in low income areas including demolitions and the expansion of facilities which provide community services were seen as a priority to provide a framework to encourage private investment and community improvement.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects. Each year OCD prepares a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to measure OCD's progress in reaching its Consolidated Plan goals. Project reports attached to the CAPER illustrate achievements made towards those goals. As outlined in the most recent CAPER (2016), OCD made progress on every goal and objective in the 2016 Action Plan except for Homeless Prevention/Rental Housing Assistance with HOME funds. Those funds were redistributed via Substantial Amendment to the FY16 Action Plan to provide additional resources for long term HOME funded housing assistance.

OCD is working to dramatically reform its internal practices, to improve service delivery for residents and partners across the City and Parish. While the City-Parish has made progress in addressing priority needs, more is yet to be accomplished. Many of the activities performed contribute to stabilizing the city's lower income neighborhoods and improving living conditions for low income families. Improvements to housing and public infrastructure enhance the appearance of neighborhoods and create a more aesthetically appealing environment. The demolition of blighted and deteriorated properties and drainage improvements prepare sites for redevelopment and contribute to neighborhood stabilization by decreasing crime rates, increasing property values and improving the overall quality of life for its residents. New housing development and homeownership programs promote pride in ownership and long-term resident stability.

Renovations to non-profit facilities serving the homeless and other eligible residents and neighborhoods help improve the quality, and often, the quantity of services. Renovations are accomplished on owner-occupied and rental housing by City- Parish projects and its partner non-profit agencies. The scope of renovations varies depending on the program and households needs, with improvements ranging from health and safety upgrades to complete renovations. As in prior years, OCD has continued to place special emphasis on roofing projects to prevent further building deterioration.

Increasing homeownership opportunities for low to moderate income persons remain a priority for the City-Parish, however, because of economic conditions, and the implementation of new HOME rule regulations, the number of loans processed continues to be down for the Homebuyer Loan program.

Housing, supportive services, and case management were provided to homeless persons through several of the City-Parish sub-recipients. Additionally, emergency, transitional and permanent support was provided based on client need. Past performance evaluations and reporting can be found in Comprehensive Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPERs) on the City-Parish OCD website

at <http://brgov.com/dept/ocd/>. These reports provide both summaries and details of resources, distribution and accomplishments for CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA funded programs.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Two public meetings were held from April 2018 consult the citizens of East Baton Rouge Parish on the 2018 HUD Action Plan. In addition to the public meetings, there will be a public hearing on July 25, 2018. Written comments are accepted at any time, but to be considered in the Action Plan for Program Year 2018, the comments must have been received no later than 4 p.m. on July 25, 2018.

Comments are also accepted via e-mail at OCD@brgov.com. Provisions were made for persons requiring special assistance or accommodations at the public hearings and for receipt of comments through voice and TDD Phone support. The OCD also solicited public input to the CPS through a community needs survey posted on the City-Parish web site during the planning phase of its CPS 2015-2019. The entire citizen participation plan has been made part of the CPS as Appendix C. In 2013, HUD New Orleans Field Office selected the City of Baton Rouge to conduct an in-depth Community Needs Assessment as a part of HUD's effort to institutionalize best practices in achieving HUD's Strategic Goals. Community partners, citizens, and stakeholder including non-profits, for-profit, and elected officials participated in a series of community roundtable discussions and cluster meetings in 2013, 2014, and 2015. This process was used to identify specific issues and needs, to identify resources to address issues, and finally, to identify gaps in needs and resources. The community identified four top priorities: Education, Housing, Workforce Development, and Health.

5. Summary of public comments

Two public hearings were held during the development of the Action Plan 2018 to solicit public comment on community needs. The public hearings were held in April of 2018. The OCD and EBRRA held a public hearing at Carver Branch Library at 6:00pm on Monday, April 9, 2018 to solicit inform residents of the Action Plan priorities and receive feedback from the community. The event was attended by 26 individuals. Public comment at this meeting highlighted the continued need for three priority areas identified in the Consolidated Plan: (1) increased availability and accessibility of affordable housing, (2) flood recovery, specifically housing, and (3) homeless prevention services. Attendees commented on a perceived increase in unsheltered homeless, particularly under the overpass and in Spanish Town. Councilmembers noted higher call volumes from constituents reporting congregations of homeless persons at Siegen Lane, Bluebonnet, Jones Creek, and College Ave. Attendees voiced concern over increasing rents and affordability issues for low and moderate-income persons. Concern was also voiced for flood survivors living in incomplete homes, as well as those denied aid and still in need of housing repair, and those in need of alternate housing while repairs are being completed.

A second public hearing was held at the Scotlandville Branch Library at 6:00pm on Monday, April 24, 2018. The meeting was attended by 35 individuals. Participants voiced needs that reflect the aforementioned priority areas, as well as the remaining three priority areas: (4) health services, including mental health and nutritional assistance, (5) workforce development, and (6) public facilities and infrastructure, including demolitions. Community members voiced need for elderly assisted living facilities, better use of adjudicated properties, soft second homeownership programs, grants or loans to enable landlord to make vital repairs to occupied rental housing, neighborhood landlord programs and volunteer repair programs, transitional housing for victims of domestic violence, and improved

habitability for tenants in substandard rental housing. They also expressed need for reentry to be made a priority, expanded homeless initiatives, funding for homeless outreach, and a vital need for permanent housing. Additionally, they voiced need for state highway and Airline Road improvements, specifically drainage and lighting, bike lanes, blight reduction, and public facilities for minority-owned businesses. Needs for behavioral health clinics and hospitals on the north side, improved coordination among HOPWA project sponsors and Continuum of Care, and healthy food initiatives were also expressed.

The third and final public hearing will be held in conjunction with the City Parish Council meeting and vote on July 25, 2018. Provisions were made for persons requiring special assistance or accommodations at the public hearings and for receipt of comments through voice and TDD Phone support. Comments were also accepted via e-mail at OCD@brgov.com. A complete list of comments received with responses is attached to this plan.

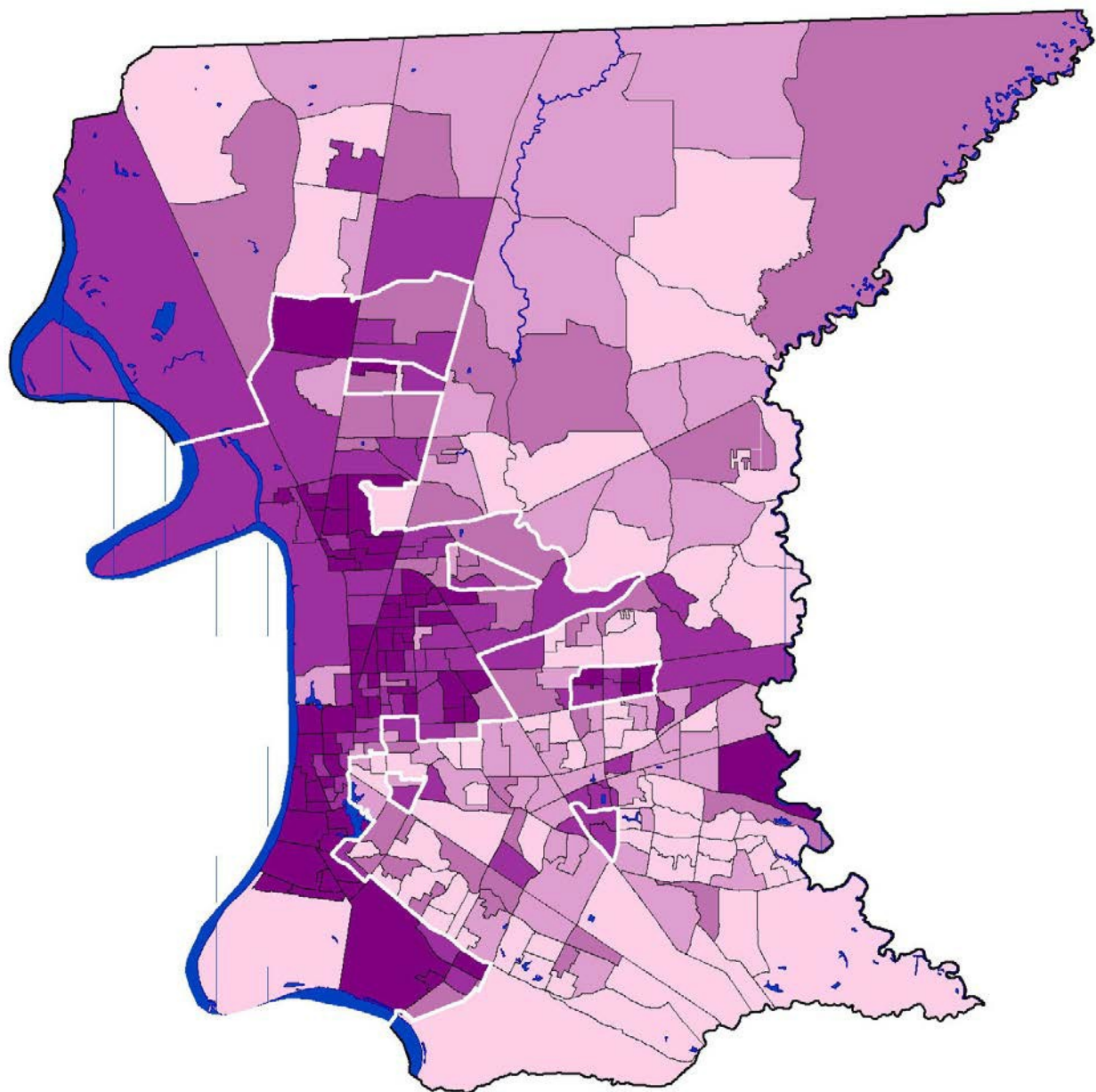
6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

All comments or views received during the comment period were considered in the development of this plan.

7. Summary

The jurisdictional area eligible to participate in activities funded under the CDBG, HOME, and ESG entitlement grants includes the City of Baton Rouge and unincorporated areas of East Baton Rouge Parish. The incorporated cities of Baker, Zachary and Central are separately eligible for the competitive State and Small Cities CDBG Program administered by the State of Louisiana.

The HOPWA grant funds, although it is administered by the City-Parish OCD, serves clients in the nine (9) parish Baton Rouge Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes: East Baton Rouge, Livingston, Ascension, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, West Feliciana and St. Helena.



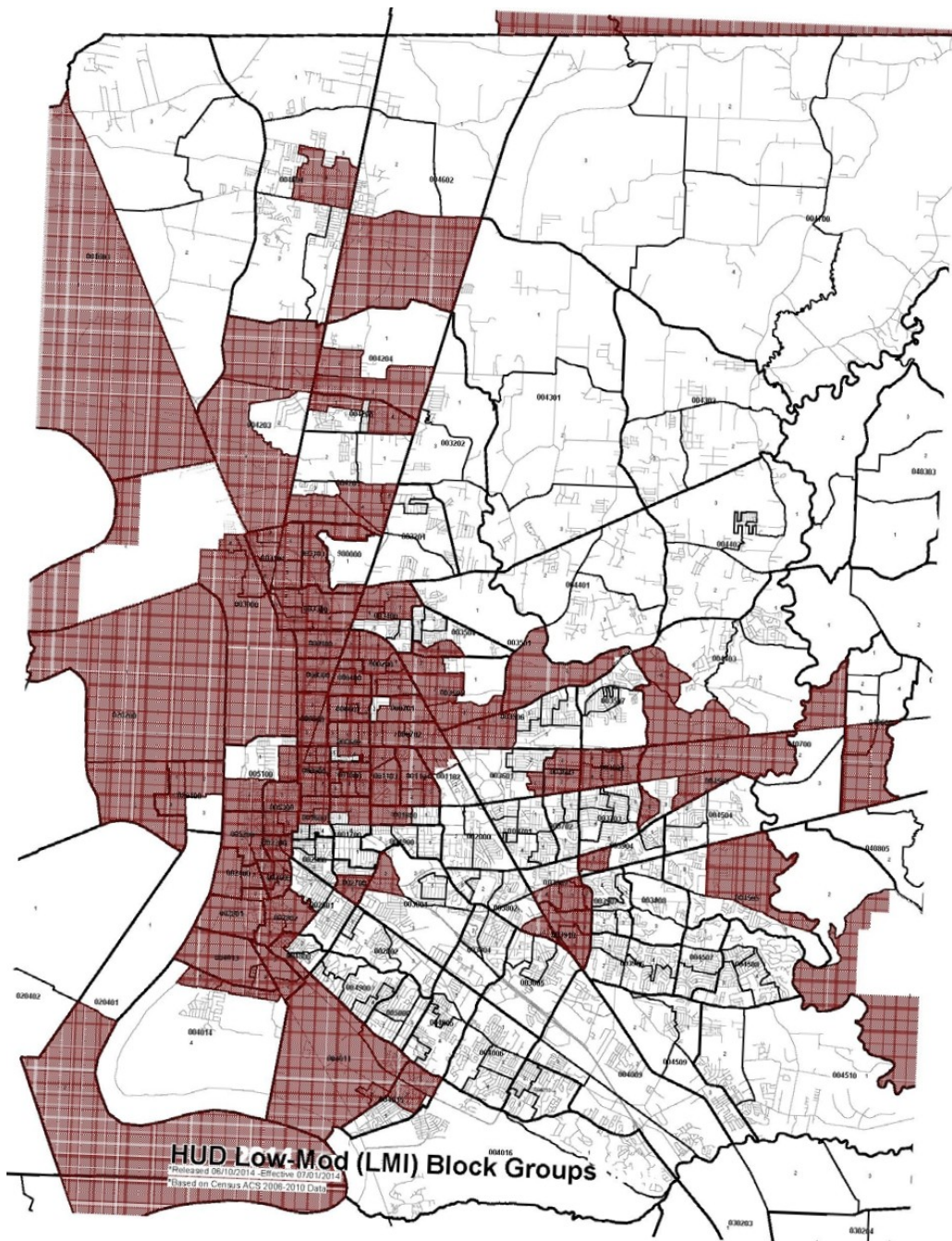
Percent (%) HUD Low-Moderate Income Households by Census Block Group

74 to 100 (64)
 50 to 74 (73)
 40 to 50 (44)
 22 to 40 (56)
 0 to 22 (66)

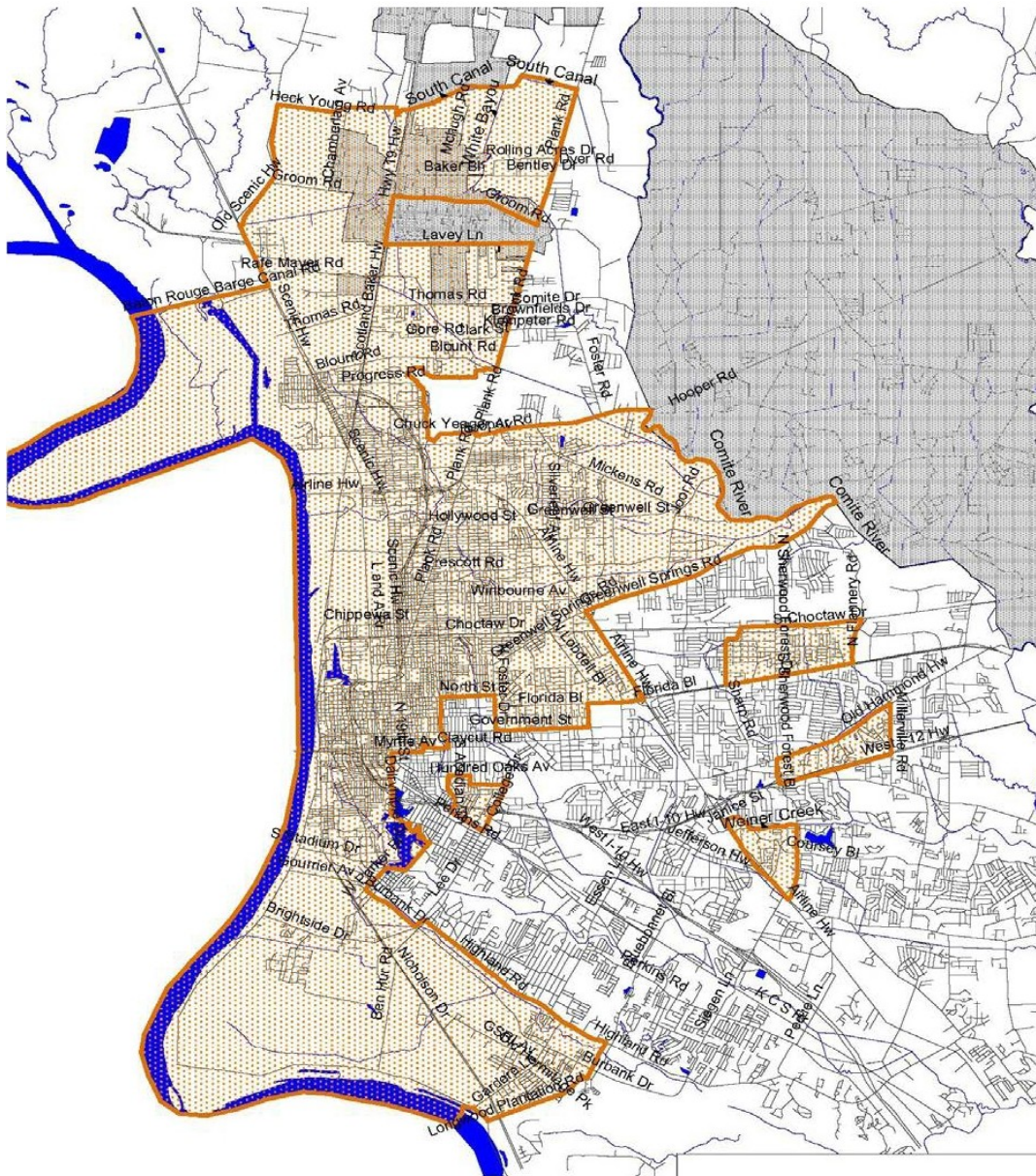


HUD Low/Mod Income Census

Low - Moderate Household Income Concentrations



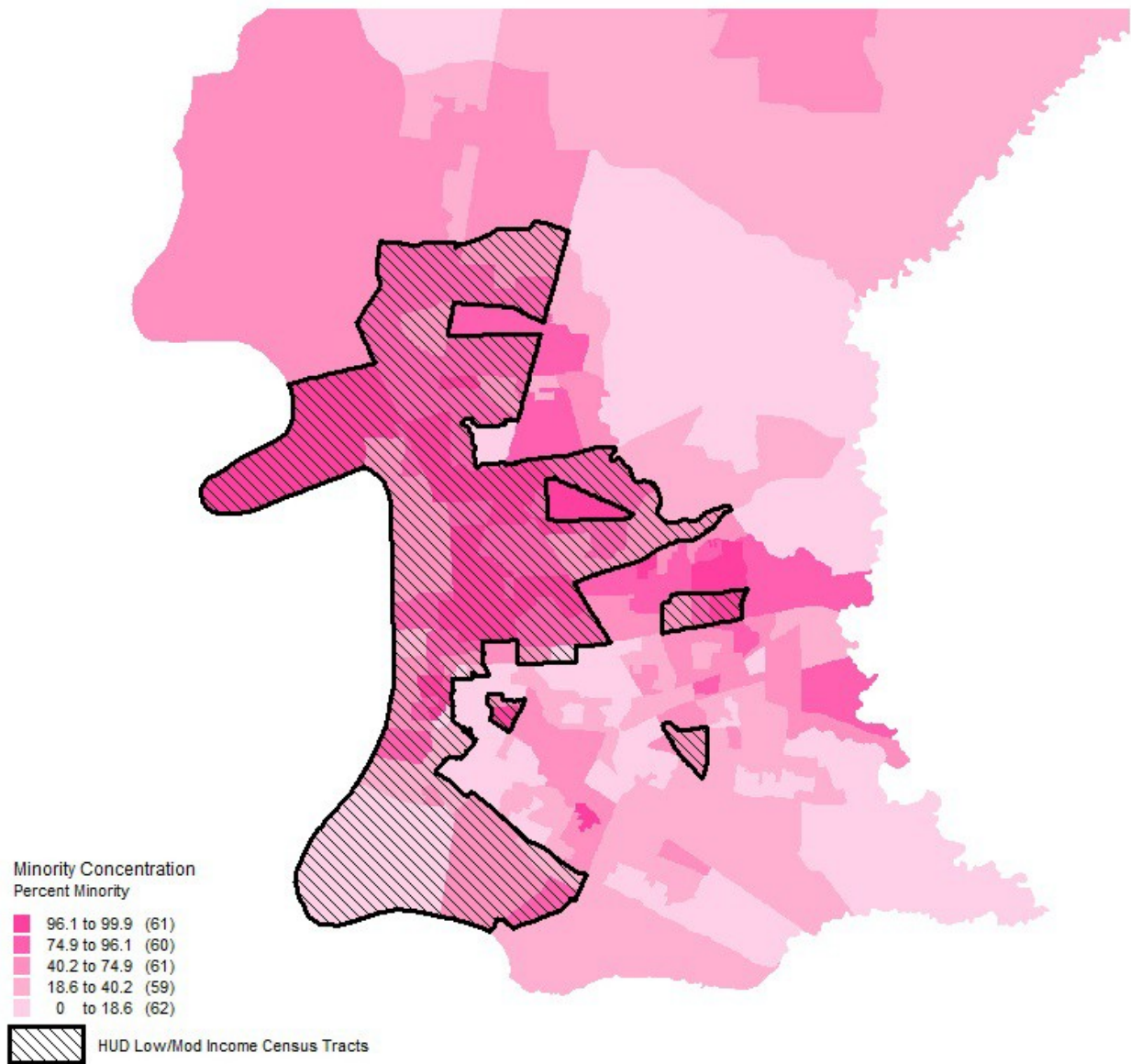
HUD Low-Moderate Income Block Groups



OCD Program Year 2018 Homebuyer Target Area

Indigible Incorporated Areas

rm OCD PY2018 Homebuyer Target Area



Minority Concentration

**2008-2012 Census - American Community Survey*

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

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

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

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	BATON ROUGE	Office of Community Development
HOPWA Administrator	BATON ROUGE	Office of Community Development
HOME Administrator	BATON ROUGE	Office of Community Development
ESG Administrator	BATON ROUGE	Office of Community Development

Narrative (optional)

The Consolidated Plan and Action Plan 2018 is the result of a collaborative planning effort, developed with input from many local and regional agencies and organizations, including private, non-profit and for-profit entities as well as direct input from the public through a series of public hearings and through representatives of neighborhood organizations.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information:

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

1. Introduction

The City of Baton Rouge and unincorporated East Baton Rouge Parish apply as one jurisdiction for entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). The City-Parish Office of Community Development is the lead agency for overseeing the development of the Consolidated Plan and Strategy (CPS), and subsequent implementation and monitoring of the activities funded by the annual action plans. OCD directly administers the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) entitlement grants, which include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment and Partnership Act (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for People with Aids (HOPWA). In conjunction with the entitlement grants, OCD provides additional services through other programs such as the Continuum of Care (CoC), and Section 8 assisted housing.

During the development of the Consolidated Plan, OCD conducted a survey with City-Parish residents to identify and prioritize various community needs. The results of the survey are included in section NA-05, “Needs Assessment Overview” of the 5-year CPS. Furthermore, OCD consulted with local public and private service providers to assess the community needs of low to moderate income households and “special needs” households. OCD met with the East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority, the City-Parish Department of Public Works, Head Start, and the Council on Aging (COA), the Mayor’s Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Task Force, and the Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless (CAAH).

In the aftermath of the floods of 2016, the Mayor’s Office of Community Development hosted an additional series of public participation meetings and presented at in-district Council meetings in order to share information on flood recovery resources and receive feedback on the highest priority 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(l))

The OCD in corporation with HUD’s New Orleans field office also held a series of cluster meetings in program years 2013 and 2014 to assist in establishing the community needs assessment for the CPS. Roundtable discussions addressing community needs were held by various community stakeholders including those from non-profits, for-profits, and elected officials. Break out cluster meetings were held by attendees based on need category. These meetings served to develop a concise prioritized list of community needs and enhance community partnerships.

The Mayor’s Transition Team further pulled together community leaders, non-profit and for-profit housing providers, service providers and other housing agencies to discuss streamlining resources and deepening partnerships after her election in 2016. The resulting report has been used as the basis for improving coordination and shared resources among multiple providers and partners. The City-Parish continues to consult with its partners and service providers, many of whom use multiple funding streams to serve 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 jurisdiction and the Continuum of Care (CoC) are working to improve the new Centralized Assessment for Homeless Service Providers. Service providers housed at the CoC's One Stop Homeless Services Center in conjunction with a HMIS vendor in place to guide this process. A common intake form has been designed that incorporates the required data elements and client-specific data that will allow for an appropriate referral to member agencies across the Continuum. All ESG-funded programs within the Continuum of Care's area are required to use the assessment system. Victim service providers may choose not to use the coordinated system; however, they must have a comparable client level database.

It is imperative that Baton Rouge as a larger community can effectively leverage limited federal resources. Yet, Federal regulatory changes outlining planning, monitoring, and local governance structures have created a path for administration of the Continuum independent of City-Parish government. In order to streamline these processes, best serve the increased community needs and ensure that homeless individuals and the community partners that serve them—can access the services they need, the City-Parish has relinquished the Continuum of Care grants so that these grantees can become direct recipients of HUD.

The Continuum of Care's membership organizations span 42 organizations that collectively provide a wide array of services, including support services for those at risk of homelessness, families with children, the elderly, individuals with HIV/AIDS, those in need of mental health services, and domestic abuse survivors.

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

The City-Parish OCD consulted with the executive director of the CoC/HMIS lead agency, Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless (CAAH), to discuss the agency's involvement in the development of performance standards, policies, and procedures that would be used as guidance in administering Emergency Solutions Grants Program funds during the CPS. It was determined that the most effective way to solicit the involvement of the CoC board and member agencies was via survey. The ESG CoC survey assessed elements such as priority level funding, goals and strategies for the application of ESG funding towards eligible program components, performance standards, and outcome evaluations. The City and the CoC have plans to further the coordination efforts by participating in the CoC's monthly membership meetings.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Capitol Area Alliance for the Homeless
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Capitol Area Alliance for the Homeless (CAAH) was consulted to identify resources available to address the needs of the homeless. Member agencies that include providers that discharge persons into homelessness were included in this consultation.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	EBR Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority was consulted to establish how resources address low income housing needs.

3	Agency/Group/Organization	HIV/AIDS ALLIANCE FOR REGION TWO (HAART)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	HAART was consulted to discuss resources and gap analysis in the provision of housing and services for persons with HIV/AIDS and their families.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	DHDS OFFICE OF SOCIAL SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The East Baton Rouge Department of Human Development and Services was consulted to evaluate and coordinate resources.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	EBR Department of Public Works
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Regional organization Public Facilities -General Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City-Parish Department of Public Works was consulted to review public facility needs and resources available to address established needs.

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

The City-Parish OCD consulted several agencies that would be impacted by the goals and activities in the Action Plan.

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

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	BR MSA Continuum of Care	The City-Parish Office of Community Development (OCD) works with the BR MSA Continuum of Care (CoC) to coordinate resources to address the needs of the Homeless in implementing the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homeless, "Opening Doors". OCD utilizes the CoC's "Point-in-Time" survey data in establishing homelessness priorities.
EBR Public Housing Plan	East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority	The East Baton Rouge Public Housing Authority (EBRPHA) mission is to provide and develop quality affordable housing opportunities for individuals and families while promoting self-sufficiency and neighborhood revitalization. Its mission is consistent with that of the City-Parish's Consolidated Plan. Accordingly, the EBRPHA and the City-Parish OCD have partnered and continue to partner and combine resources in the undertaking of projects that address housing needs for our low-income population.
State of Louisiana Consolidated Plan and Strategy	Louisiana Division of Administration	The City-Parish routinely consults with the State Office of Community Development and the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) to coordinate planning efforts and program effectiveness. The LHC administers the State's HOME program funds and commissioned a Statewide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (including a module detailing City-Parish impediments) which OCD staff contributed. The LHC also administers federal Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program funds which are granted locally. The State OCD sub-grants HESG funds locally as well. State and local coordination of planning and implementation efforts are essential to effective and efficient program administration.
FuturEBR	East Baton Rouge Parish Planning Commission	FuturEBR is the comprehensive development plan for the City-Parish. Its goal is to guide development in housing, economic development, transportation, land use, the environment, urban design and other areas through a strategic and comprehensive decision-making processes. The City-Parish Office of Community Development and the Planning Commission work closely to insure the goals of the CPS are incorporated into the decision-making process as well.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

Three Public Hearings will be held in conjunction with the Action Plan 2018, including two public hearings in April and a final public hearing in June. Written comments are accepted at any time, but to be considered in the CPS comments must have been received no later than 4 p.m. on July 25, 2018. Comments are also accepted via e-mail at OCD@brgov.com. Provisions were made for persons requiring special assistance or accommodations at the public hearings and for receipt of comments through voice and TDD Phone support.

The citizen participation plan establishes the Citizen Advisory Council (CAC) to channel grassroots input into the consolidated planning process, and to review ongoing Consolidated Plan activities. Meetings of the CAC are held quarterly.

Copies of the Draft Action Plan were made available for public review at all local libraries and on OCD website at <http://brgov.com/dept/ocd> for a period of 30 days. Comments received during the citizen participation process are noted and considered when addressing our community's needs and prioritizing resources.

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
1	Newspaper Ad	Non- targeted/broad community	Not applicable to this outreach activity. Two separate public notices were posted in the "Advocate", the newspaper of greatest circulation in the area. The first, notifying the public of the public hearings related to the CPS and the second including a summary statement of proposed activities.	Not applicable to this outreach activity.	Not applicable to this outreach activity.
2	Public Hearings	Non- targeted/broad community Low Income Area.	Two public hearings were held during the development of the Action Plan 2018. 26 individuals attended the April 9 th meeting and 35 individuals attended the April 24 th meeting. The third and final public hearing will be held in conjunction with the City Parish Council meeting on July 25, 2018.	Comments received at public hearings are summarized in part 5 of the Executive Summary section of this plan.	No comments received were not accepted.

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	During the development of the Action Plan 2018 two public notices were posted on the City-Parish website notifying the public of the public hearings held in conjunction with the plans development. The draft of the plan was also posted on the City-Parish website and made available for public download for a minimum of 30 days with along with a summary statement of anticipated resources and proposed projects to be undertaken. Public notice of the City-Parish's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and Request for Proposals related	A summary of public comments received during the development of the Action Plan 2018 are attached to this report.	No comments received were not accepted.
4	Libraries	Non-targeted/broad community	Public notices were posted at all 15 branches of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library and draft copies of the Action Plan 2018 were made available for public review at each branch location.	A summary of public comments received during the development of the Action Plan 2018 are attached to this report.	No comments received were not accepted.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

Program year 2018 summary of federal resources expected to be available including program year 2018 entitlement grant funds, expected program income to be received, and prior year funds to be reallocated due to projects being completed under budget or from those which did not go forward.

Anticipated Resources

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder 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	3,145,425	160,000	0	3,305,425	0	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	Public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,457,679	800,000	0	2,257,679	0	
HOPWA	Public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	2,557,040	0	0	2,557,040	0	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	Public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	256,333	0	0	256,333	0	

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

CDBG funds used for public facilities and public improvements leverage local general funds in the provision of facilities and improvements to low income areas. Some projects implemented utilize volunteers, in the form of sweat equity. Use of such labor lowers labor costs, allowing more funds to be spent on projects, rather than their delivery. All of the public services activities supported in this Action Plan leverage private and other state and local funds, to increase the ability organization to provide services to those in need. These leveraged funds are sometimes received in the form of in-kind contributions, such as donated food and clothing. HOME funds used for homebuyer loans leverage private mortgage financing to make owner housing more affordable. ESG subrecipients are required to provide matching funds equal to their ESG grant award from a non-ESG source for eligible ESG activities.

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

The East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority (RDA) administers adjudicated properties within the jurisdiction. The RDA identifies properties suitable for development and works with local government and non-profits to clear and place parcels back into the housing market for development.

Currently, OCD manages twenty-four (24) affordable single-family housing units, acquired through foreclosure, and is in the process of developing twenty-eight (28) recently acquired vacant parcels into new affordable housing. Plans are currently underway to donate a total of seventeen (17) vacant lots to Habitat for Humanity in conjunction with a sub-recipient loan agreement to development new single-family homeowner housing units. The transfer of thirteen (13) has been completed and construction is expected to begin soon.

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	Single-Family Owner-Occupied Housing Repair	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area	AH -Rehabilitation of Existing Housing	CDBG: \$1,752,526	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 45 Household Housing Unit
2	Volunteer Housing Repairs	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area	AH -Rehabilitation of Existing Housing	CDBG: \$0	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 0 Household Housing Unit
3	Demolitions	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	HUD 2014 Low/Mod Census Tracks	AH -New Housing Development Public Facilities and Infrastructure	CDBG: \$170,000	Buildings Demolished: 35 Buildings
4	Health Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area	PS -Health Services PS - Public Services - General	CDBG: \$311,814	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 6,067 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Flood Drainage Improvements	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area	Public Facilities and Infrastructure	CDBG: \$250,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 24,550 Persons Assisted
6	Home Ownership Services	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area	PS -Education Services AH -Home Buyer Assistance	CDBG: \$45,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Households Assisted
7	Youth Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area	PS -Education Services PS - Public Services - General	CDBG: \$115,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 300 Persons Assisted
8	Planning and Administration	2015	2019	Planning and Administration	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area Baton Rouge MSA	Planning and Administration	CDBG: \$661,085 HOPWA: \$77,311 HOME: \$225,768 ESG: \$19,225	N/A
9	Home buyer Loans	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area Home Buyer Target Area	AH -Home Buyer Assistance	HOME: \$0	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 0 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
10	Affordable Housing Development	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area Home Buyer Target Area	AH -New Housing Development	HOME: \$1,984,027	Rental Housing Assistance: 58 Housing Units Production of New Units: 78 Housing Units Rehab of Existing Units: 50 Housing Units
11	Emergency Shelter Provision	2015	2019	Homeless	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area	Homeless Prevention	ESG: \$256,333	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 6,314 Persons Assisted
12	Homeless Prevention	2015	2019	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	Parish-Wide CDBG- HOME- HESG Jurisdictional Area Baton Rouge MSA	Homeless Prevention AH -Rental Assistance	HOPWA: \$2,405,142	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 535 Households Assisted Permanent housing placement: 25 Households Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

1	Goal Name	Single-Family Owner-Occupied Housing Repair
	Goal Description	Repairs and rehabilitation activities to Single-Family Owner-Occupied Low-Income Households Housing Units.
2	Goal Name	Volunteer Housing Repairs
	Goal Description	Painting and minor repairs to Single-Family Owner-Occupied Low-Income Households Housing Units undertaken through community / neighborhood volunteerism.
3	Goal Name	Demolitions
	Goal Description	Demolition of vacant, condemned and irreparable properties to address public safety and infrastructure improvement needs.
4	Goal Name	Health Services
	Goal Description	Health services including the provision of food to low income persons.
5	Goal Name	Flood Drainage Improvements
	Goal Description	Storm drainage improvements in low income areas of the jurisdiction.
6	Goal Name	Home Ownership Services
	Goal Description	Homebuyer training.
7	Goal Name	Youth Services
	Goal Description	Youth development services.
8	Goal Name	Planning and Administration
	Goal Description	Planning and administration activities.
9	Goal Name	Home buyer Loans
	Goal Description	Homebuyer loans.
10	Goal Name	Affordable Housing Development
	Goal Description	Affordable housing developed by Community Housing and Development organizations.
11	Goal Name	Emergency Shelter Provision
	Goal Description	The provision of emergency shelter to homeless persons.
12	Goal Name	Homeless Prevention
	Goal Description	Activities to prevent homelessness.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Program year 2018 projects were selected following a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and Request for Proposals (RFP) process which began with a public notice in the "Advocate" on 04/05/2018 and postings on the City Parish website. Proposal application packages were made available for download with instructions by proposal type. A pre-submittal workshop was held at the Main Branch Library to answer questions regarding the application and submittal process on 05/01/2018. Projects were scored and ranked based on several criteria outlined in each RFP application instruction package. Projects selected to be undertaken in program year 2018 are listed below.

Table 7 - Project Information

#	Project Name
1	Planning and Administration 2018
2	Single Family Owner-Occupied Repair 2018
3	Health Services 2018
4	Flood Drainage Improvements 2018
5	Youth Services 2018
6	Affordable Housing Development 2018
7	Emergency Shelter Provision 2018
8	Homeless Prevention 2018
9	Homeowner Service 2018

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

Priorities identified in this plan were developed through a community needs analysis process undertaken during the development of the Consolidated Plan and Strategy. Public input was solicited and received during a series of public hearings. Public comments on community needs were also accepted via e-mail, voicemail and through a community needs survey posted on the City-Parish web site. Non-profits, for-profits, community representatives, elected officials joined OCD and HUD staff in a series of community roundtable discussions and cluster meetings in

2013, 2014, and 2015 to identify specific issues, community needs and resources available to identify gaps in needs and resources and obstacles to addressing underserved needs. Many obstacles to meeting community needs were identified. In general, barriers to non-housing community needs included the lack of youth services and after school programs, employment opportunities, a poorly trained workforce, inadequate transportation services, lack of access to health services and general lack of access to goods and services in low income areas. Barriers to affordable housing included: local zoning barriers, increasing housing values, lack of existing affordable housing, escalating interest rates on loans, unwillingness of property owners to accept Section 8 subsidies, rising rental costs, an insufficient number of rental units and development regulations.

Four top priorities were identified: Education, Housing, Workforce Development, and Health Services. Projects were selected for funding through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process in program year 2018. Proposals received were scored and ranked on a number of categories including whether they addressed those needs identified. Further, funding availability remains a limiting factor because many eligible project proposals are denied due to limits of available resources and entitlement funding allocations.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 8 - Project Descriptions

1	Project Name	Planning and Administration 2018
	Target Area	Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional Area Baton Rouge MSA
	Goals Supported	Planning and Administration
	Needs Addressed	Planning and Administration
	Funding	CDBG: \$661,085 HOPWA: \$77,311 HOME: \$225,768 ESG: \$19,225
	Description	Costs include reasonable costs of program management, coordination, monitoring and evaluation; providing information to citizens and local officials, preparing budgets, preparing performance reports, and resolving audit and monitoring findings. The project is eligible under 24 CFR 570.205-206, 576.21(a)(5), 574.300(b)(10), and 92.207.
	Target Date	9/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
2	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	Planning and administration of HUD entitlement grant programs.
	Project Name	SF OO Housing Repair Program 2018
	Target Area	Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional Area
	Goals Supported	Single-Family Owner-Occupied Housing Repair
	Needs Addressed	AH -Rehabilitation of Existing Housing

	Funding	CDBG: \$1,752,526
	Description	Single-Family Owner-Occupied (SF OO) Housing repairs.
	Target Date	9/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that the SF OO Housing Repair program will provide for repairs or rehabilitation to 45 Single-Family Owner-Occupied (SF OO) low to moderate income households.
	Location Description	Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional Area
	Planned Activities	Repairs and rehabilitation activities to single-family owner-occupied low-income household housing units. Includes housing program operational costs: application processing, inspections, procurement, monitoring, etc.
3	Project Name	Health Services Program 2018
	Target Area	Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional Area
	Goals Supported	Health Services
	Needs Addressed	PS -Health Services PS -Public Services -General
	Funding	CDBG: \$311,814
	Description	This program addresses the City's Consolidated Plans high priority goal of providing Health Services to prioritized populations, including low-income individuals and families with children, elderly, homeless, mentally ill, substance abusers, and persons with HIV/AIDS.
	Target Date	9/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6,067 low to moderate income persons.
	Location Description	Low-income areas within the jurisdictional area.

	Planned Activities	Providing nutritious meals, prescription medications, and other healthcare services for low to moderate-income persons.
4	Project Name	Flood Drainage Improvements Program 2018
	Goals Supported	Flood Drainage Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,000
	Description	Funds set-a-side for storm drainage improvement projects in low-income areas. Specific sites and activities will be determined following City-Parish Department of Public Works review and selection criteria.
	Target Date	9/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Population residing in flood-prone low to moderate income areas; approximately 24,550 persons.
	Location Description	See Target Area.
	Planned Activities	Maintenance and improvements designed to improve storm drainage in the low-moderate income areas
5	Project Name	Youth Services Program 2018
	Target Area	Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional Area
	Goals Supported	Youth Services
	Needs Addressed	PS -Education Services PS -Public Services -General
	Funding	CDBG: \$115,000
	Description	Funds will be targeted towards investment in workforce development, education, and extracurricular activities for young adults from predominantly low-moderate income families.
	Target Date	9/30/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	300 young adults from predominantly low-moderate income families.
	Location Description	Locations to be decided within the Target Area.
	Planned Activities	Workforce development and educational programs for young adults.
6	Project Name	Affordable Housing Development Program 2018
	Target Area	Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional Area HUD 2014 Low/Mod Census Tracts
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Development
	Needs Addressed	AH -Rehabilitation of Existing Housing AH -New Housing Development
	Funding	HOME: \$2,031,910
	Description	Funds will provide for rental assistance, and construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing.
	Target Date	9/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	186 low-moderate income families.
	Location Description	Parish-wide HOME jurisdictional area.
	Planned Activities	Affordable homeowner and/or rental housing development.
7	Project Name	Emergency Shelter Provision Program 2018
	Target Area	Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional Area

	Goals Supported	Homeless Prevention Emergency Shelter Provision
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Prevention AH -Rental Assistance
	Funding	ESG: \$237,108
	Description	Providing outreach to persons living on the streets, operational cost of shelters, utility assistance, emergency rental assistance to prevent homelessness, rapid rehousing, program administration and HMIS reporting.
	Target Date	9/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6,314 homeless individuals
	Location Description	City-Parish ESG jurisdictional area.
	Planned Activities	The provision of emergency shelter, street outreach, homeless prevention, rapid rehousing, HMIS reporting, and program administration activities.
8	Project Name	Homeless Prevention Program 2018
	Target Area	Baton Rouge MSA
	Goals Supported	Emergency Shelter Provision Homeless Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Prevention
	Funding	HOPWA: \$2,327,831
	Description	Providing resources to meet the housing and housing-related support needs of low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
	Target Date	9/30/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	626 low-moderate income individuals living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
	Location Description	Nine parish Baton Rouge MSA (Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana).
	Planned Activities	Housing and case management assistance (including TBRA) for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
9	Project Name	Homeowner Service Program 2018
	Target Area	Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional Area
	Goals Supported	Homeowner Services
	Needs Addressed	PS – Public Services General
	Funding	CDBG: \$45,000
	Description	Providing homeownership education services to qualified participants.
	Target Date	9/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	250 Households
	Location Description	City-Parish ESG jurisdictional area.
	Planned Activities	Providing homeownership education services to qualified participants.

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

All areas of the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge are under the jurisdiction of the Grantee except the incorporated areas of the Cities of Baker, Zackary, and Central. Those areas fall under the umbrella of the Louisiana State grantee's jurisdiction.

The Baton Rouge area owes its geographical importance to its site upon the Istrouma Bluff, the first natural bluff upriver from the Mississippi River Delta. In the 1950s and 1960s the region experienced a boom in the petrochemical industry, causing the city to expand away from the original center. In recent years, government and business have begun a move back to the central district. A building boom that began in the 1990s continues today, with many downtown improvement projects being completed recently.

The age of the city is reflected in the aging housing stock. Areas of the greatest concentrations of poverty are typically mirrored by areas of aging housing and minority concentration. These are the areas of greatest need. Refer to the "Maps" section for a detailed view of these relationships.

Geographic Distribution

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Parish-Wide CDBG-HOME-HESG Jurisdictional	100%
HUD 2014 Low/Mod Census Tracts	
Baton Rouge MSA	
Home Buyer Target Area	

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The basis for allocating investment geographically is to meet the needs of the lowest income residents, particularly in areas of low income concentration. As a general rule, program activities and resources are made available parish-wide, except for the incorporated areas of the cities of Baker, Zachary and

Central.

As coordination with nonprofit and neighborhood organizations is expanded, it is anticipated that each organization will develop a specific geographic or target population for affordable housing. The City- Parish Office of Community Development (OCD) intends to support and promote such capacity building as an opportunity to expand upon resources and service delivery.

Discussion

While it is planned that a portion of housing resources will remain available parish-wide in order to provide diversity of housing choices, it is also anticipated that incentives and preferences will be provided to encourage high impact neighborhood-based revitalization efforts and redevelopment of abandoned property or vacant land within lower income neighborhoods. Such policies are integral to the City-Parish smart growth philosophy.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The affordable housing objectives for the Consolidated Plan are based on a five-year time frame. The jurisdiction proposes to use the available housing funds for programs that will provide decent housing for persons with cost burdens and substandard housing. Some of the programs are restricted to the 0-30% MFI households; some are restricted to the under 50% MFI households, and some are available to households with incomes up to 80% MFI. All programs are designed with the intent to: 1) improve and preserve the existing stock of affordable housing, 2) to increase the stock of available affordable housing, and 3) to increase the ability of persons to afford standard housing.

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	103
Special-Needs	560
Total	663

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	560
The Production of New Units	78
Rehab of Existing Units	25
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	663

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority (EBRPHA) provides housing and rental assistance through public housing and assisted housing programs. The organization drafted a 5 Year Strategic Plan in FY2014 that guides the organization and established the following strategic objectives:

- Reposition aging real estate assets
- Pursue entrepreneurial opportunities
- Promote self sufficiency
- Strengthen partnerships
- Enhance administrative infrastructure

These objectives will continue to inform development priorities, resident involvement, and overall operations.

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

As EBRPHA pursues entrepreneurial opportunities, the development arm of the organization, Partners Southeast, has secured financing to develop Cypress River Lofts. The development will feature three-story, walk-up style townhome units with a contemporary architectural design which will include 12 one-bedroom and three three-bedroom units for households below 80% AMI.

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

Public Housing is directly managed, including maintenance services, by the PHA. The EBRPHA has policies in place that govern agency operations. Policies include: The Public Housing Admissions and Occupancy Policy (ACOP) including a rent policy, pet policy, community service policy, banning policy, debt repayment policy, VAWA policy, and transfer and reasonable accommodations policy. The EBR Housing Authority is improving the management of public housing by implementing a new information system, and by converting to a project-based management and finance system. It is seeking to stretch decreasing funds to meet the need for housing and housing related services for the low income and extremely low-income populations. It is pursuing a strategy of selective demolition of obsolete and dilapidated public housing and the acquisition and rehabilitation of apartments and construction of low density scattered site housing. Both the EBRPHA and the City of Baton Rouge operate a Section 8 Voucher Home Ownership Program. To date there are twenty-two (22) home owner participants.

In its Notice of Funding Availability, the EBR Office of Community Development encouraged multi-layered project applications, including support for Section 8 homeownership.

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

Neither the EBRPHA nor OCD is listed as "Troubled" by HUD.

Discussion

OCD has continued to make tremendous progress in maintaining a high monthly PIC scores with the timely administration of Housing Choice Voucher (HCVP) participant's list. Various training/workshops have increased the staff's capacity to administer the program more effectively and efficiency.

New software is being used to address timely recertification's and Housing Quality Standards (HQS) inspections. The staff has worked tirelessly to improve the PIC performance scores.

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

Introduction

OCD makes ESG funds available to local non-for-profits and local social services districts for street outreach, shelter, rapid rehousing and homelessness prevention services. The goal of this funding is to assist individuals and families to prevent the eviction process, remain in or obtain permanent housing, and/or to assist them with supportive services during their experience of homelessness, while waiting to obtain permanent housing.

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

Nonprofit organizations were awarded street outreach funds under the Emergency Solutions Grant to have case managers to perform street outreach activities throughout the East Baton Rouge Parish. The case managers will build relationships with homeless individuals and families living on the streets and perform assessments for homeless persons in the field and link them to shelter and services to meet their needs.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Case Management is an integral part of the delivery of services to the homeless. These services are very instrumental in the provision of the total “continuum of care” required to assist homeless persons with the transition from emergency or transitional shelter to permanent housing and independent living. Case Management includes the provision of job training, counseling, adult education, job development, health services, transportation, daily living skills, and child care. The OCD focuses on the extent to which basic shelter is coordinated with services and delivery capacity and to which it integrates short-term with longer-term self-sufficiency goals as its method of setting priorities for its homeless activities.

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 process of transitioning to independent living is seen as generally a 3-step mechanism: 1) address the immediate shelter needs of homeless 2) initiate services to address the causes of the homelessness in coordination with non-shelter transitional housing, and 3) transition to independent permanent housing) living as the person or household establishes a satisfactory level of self-sufficiency through case management.

The OCD has embraced the Housing First model, which has three (3) components: 1) crisis intervention,

emergency services, screening and needs assessment 2) permanent housing services and 3) case management services. Several of the homeless providers have implemented this model within their shelter, transitional and permanent housing programs.

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.

Health Care - The One Stop Homeless Services Center has developed a relationship with several hospitals that includes appropriate referral for services to persons discharged from hospitals who were homeless prior to admission. The CoC has adopted the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals discharge plan and is working with local hospitals for its full implementation. Social work staff at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center and the Baton Rouge General Regional Medical Center coordinates with the patient, any families/friends, and service provider agencies to identify appropriate low-income and special needs housing for the patient in order to not discharge to the street or a place not meant for human habitation. If a patient has Medicaid and the placement is warranted, they go to nursing homes or other short-term placements for housing needs.

Mental Health - CoC agencies work with mental health facility social workers to ensure patients are not routinely discharged into homelessness. The One Stop Homeless Services Center has developed a relationship with several facilities that include appropriate referral for services to persons discharged who were homeless prior to admission. The One Stop Homeless Services Center routinely fields calls for housing options and directs mental health workers to appropriate resources. Mental Health facilities work with the patients, family members, mental health treatment programs, and private psychiatrists to ensure patients discharged from publicly funded mental health facilities are not discharged into homelessness. Patients are routinely discharged to licensed facilities or mental health housing programs. The largest provider of non-McKinney-Vento funded mental health housing is Options Foundation (which does have one McKinney-Vento program).

Foster Care- In the Foster Care system, the efforts to avoid discharge into homelessness for youth involves a continuum of care system which includes case workers, attorneys, CASA workers, Department of Children and Family Services, foster family and the judicial court. Youth Oasis has a youth shelter and transitional housing facility to assist youth in transitional to independent living. Youth Facilities - The effort to avoid discharge into homelessness includes the youth and their case manager, CASA workers, attorneys, Department of Children and Family Services, the Judicial Court, the fostering family, and parents/guardians working on a long-term plan. Louisiana also has a program for youth exiting at age 18 to continue working with foster care on a voluntary basis while they pursue education or vocational training. This program is available up to age 21. Youth Oasis, while operating a McKinney- Vento funded program also has funding to serve youth aging out of Foster Care.

Corrections - The Baton Rouge CoC works collaboratively with Capital Area Re-Entry Coalition (CAPARC) to ensure that ex-offenders are not routinely discharged into homelessness. CAPARC is a coalition of service providers who work with and mentor those exiting Corrections. Their efforts begin prior to release and continue with supports on the outside. CoC Housing Location providers supply information

about non-McKinney-Vento Housing to network. The CoC is also working with the Discharge Planning Group of the Louisiana Department of Corrections. Probation and Parole Community Resource Coordinator, Reception and Diagnostic Center personnel, Transition Specialist, offenders, family members, various courts, and the CAPARC Service Providers work together as stakeholders and/or collaborating agencies to ensure the offender being released is not discharged into homelessness.

AP-70 HOPWA Goals– 91.220 (l)(3)

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Number of Households Provided Housing Assistance through HOPWA

Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	420
Tenant-based rental assistance	115
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	25
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Total	560

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

Introduction:

Barriers to affordable housing are identified in the Market Analysis section of the five-year CPS including the negative effects of public policies on affordable housing and residential investment. Strategies to ameliorate barriers to affordable housing are outlined in section SP-55 of the plan.

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

Barriers to affordable housing are encountered by homeowners, renters, and developers as a result of several combating factors that are intensified by the growing number of low income households. For instance, Louisiana's minimum wage rate has remained the same since 2009 while the average cost of living in East Baton Rouge has risen. Some of the most common barriers to affordable housing identified include: local zoning barriers, increasing housing values, lack of existing affordable housing, escalating interest rates on loans, unwillingness of property owners to accept Section 8 subsidies, rising rental costs, an insufficient number of rental units and development regulations.

During the program year 2018 the OCD has a number of projects proposed to address identified barriers to affordable housing. The Homebuyer Loan Program will continue providing gap financing to homebuyers through the use of HOME program funds. The program reduces the cost of acquiring a home and makes homeownership feasible when otherwise it may not be. HOME funds will also be used to develop new affordable housing under the Housing Development Program and through funds that will be provided to Community Housing and Development Organizations (CHDO) for housing development projects. CDBG funds will be used for demolition activities in low income areas to raze vacant, deteriorated, and condemned housing which pose a threat to public health and safety and provide a haven for crime. The Demolition Program addresses the need for infrastructure improvements and readies properties for infill development in low income neighborhoods. CDBG funds will also be used for improvements to existing single-family owner-occupied properties making existing housing more sustainable.

The City-Parish is working with a consortium of non-profit, mission-based developers to draft and implement Housing First Baton Rouge, a 10-year housing plan modeled on those of New York City and New Orleans. In the post-disaster context, OCD believes such a plan is essential to data-driven decision making. Such a plan will also assist the City-Parish in better identifying public and private sector impediments to affordable housing, and strategies to overcome these impediments. The City-Parish will fund the plan through local, non-federal funds and in partnership with philanthropic entities.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The OCD will use available federal and state funding to provide residents with affordable housing, address homelessness, provide public services, assist individuals with HIV/AIDS, and continue to administer disaster recovery programs.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Although the City-Parish provides assistance to homeless shelters, shelter caseworkers say there are barriers hindering their efforts to move homeless individuals toward self-sufficiency. The lack of decent, low cost housing, single room occupancy units and adequate transportation are just a few barriers. Also, the requirement for credit references is often an obstacle to persons and families attempting to obtain rental housing after a period of homelessness. Furthermore, persons with a history of mental illness and who are homeless, often encounter difficulty obtaining rental housing. The needs of the community have consistently outnumbered the funds available for support.

The major obstacle to meeting underserved needs is a lack of sufficient CDBG funds to address all the non-housing needs. The demand for facilities and services continues to be greater than the resources available to provide them. This problem is illustrated by the large number of projects with high needs that cannot be funded due to lack of available funds. The Office of Community Development completed a request for proposals (RFP) process for its CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA funds during program year. Proposals went unfunded due to the lack of funding availability. In addition, the decline in local revenues and cut backs in State funding have increased the need for CDBG funds.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The Metropolitan Council's adoption and support of the program year 2018 Action Plan will facilitate the maintenance, development and provision of affordable housing in the City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge.

The City-Parish Office of Community Development currently provides a number of federally funded programs aimed at maintaining, improving and adding to the community's inventory of affordable housing. OCD's Homebuyer Assistance Program provides direct financial assistance to low income homebuyers. OCD provides grants to help low-income homeowners make everything from weatherization improvements and small emergency repairs to complete rehabilitations of their homes. OCD also offers Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Rental Assistance. In addition, OCD also provides loans to developers who build new affordable housing and rehabilitate existing structures. The lack of available low-income housing tax credits has been detrimental to the industry. The OCD has been working to address the needs of homeowners and renters impacted during the 2016 Louisiana Floods through the State OCD-DRU RESTORE program and the Baton Rouge ReBuilds developer program.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

EPA's Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Program rule (RRP: 40 CFR 745) required that beginning April 22, 2010 contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 must be certified and must follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. EPA requires that firms performing renovation, repair, and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in pre-1978 built homes, child care facilities and schools be certified by EPA- approved training providers to follow lead-safe practices.

The OCD maintains compliance with EPA's RRP with regard to the certification of in house carpentry crews and also by obtaining certification as a firm in accordance with program requirements. Likewise, all contractors performing work for OCD projects of target housing (older than 1978) are required to provide documentation of compliance with RRP program guidelines certification.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Baton Rouge – Parish of East Baton Rouge plans to fund the maximum amount allowed under public services to assist in reducing the number of poverty level families in the Baton Rouge and surrounding areas. CDBG Public Service funds will be used to assist low income families for access healthcare and food, job skills training, case management, financial literacy, and other support services. The City will continue to partner with public and private entities to produce affordable housing and related services for low income individuals and families.

The City of Baton Rouge plans to reduce the number of families in poverty through additional strategies such as: (1) continue funding for housing, community and economic development programs and services to low income residents (2) continue to support services to homeless families and families at risk of homelessness to increase housing options; (3) continued support of information and referral networks to allow easier access to community resources; (4) dissemination information about programs such as Head Start, Earn Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other programs (TANF, Food Stamps, Workforce Investment Administration and Medicaid); (6) Providing funding for community development projects to assist low income residents to obtain skills and jobs needed to become self-sufficient.

The City of Baton Rouge will continue its collaborative efforts to build the capacity of individuals, families and community organizations creating suitable living environments, reducing the growth of poverty and increasing economic development opportunities through continued support of public service programs.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The OCD will continue to communicate with agencies parish wide to ensure coordination and leverage limited funding. Building on communication with other agencies, OCD will continue to connect service providers and affordable housing developers in the region to provide high-quality care and resources, while strategically developing affordable housing.

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

The OCD will maintain communication with the agencies parish wide to ensure coordination and avoid duplication of services. Several public and private social services, mental health, youth, health care, and

other agencies operate within the parish, each typically providing services of a particular type and to particular populations. In carrying out affordable and supportive housing strategies, it is often necessary to coordinate housing assistance with other needs, particularly services that enable individuals to become and remain self-sufficient and which contribute to community stability and revitalization.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

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

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	200,000
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	200,000

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%

**HOME Investment Partnership Program
(HOME) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)**

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

Local funds may be used to supplement administration and staff salaries.

Some HOME funded projects have qualified for a local waiver of some aspects of the permitting process, at a cost savings of over \$5,000 per unit. These local contributions are captured in project and program files.

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

*Please see the Attached City-Parish of East Baton Rouge – Office of Community Development (OCD) Resale and Recapture Provisions

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

*Please see the Attached City-Parish of East Baton Rouge – Office of Community Development (OCD) Resale and Recapture Provisions. The City-Parish utilizes HUD's HOME affordable limits for homebuyer assistance, per the Homeownership Value Limits determined by HUD.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

No HOME funds are being used or planned to be used to refinance existing debt.

**Emergency Solutions Grant
(ESG) Reference 91.220(l)(4)**

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)
 - a. Standard policies and procedures for evaluating individuals' and families' eligibility for assistance under ESG. -Each household shall receive an initial consultation and eligibility assessment with a case manager or like representative who can determine eligibility for homelessness prevention assistance; Individuals/families must be at imminent risk of homelessness according to HUD's definition of homelessness, Individuals/families must have an annual income at or below 30% of AMI, Individuals/families must lack sufficient resources and support networks to retain housing without ESG assistance.
 - b. Policies and procedures for coordination among emergency shelter providers, essential services providers, homelessness prevention providers and rapid re-housing assistance providers, other homeless assistance providers, and mainstream service and housing providers. -The City of Baton Rouge in collaboration with the CoC has established a process for coordination among homeless service providers through the CoC One Stop Center. The One Stop Center is the city's centralized intake and referral hub whereby consumers may obtain resource information and linkages to mainstream service and housing providers. The One Stop Center receives and issues referrals from a variety of non-homeless service providers such as Louisiana 211, East Baton Rouge Parish School System, East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority, Office of Family Support, and the Louisiana Workforce Commission. Coordinated intake and referral efforts are being further developed through HMIS. The CoC coordinates with two local universities as well as various faith-based groups to expand outreach and accessibility in acquiring prevention and re-housing services. Louisiana State University plans to open a Homeless Law clinic at the One Stop Center for students to serve clients. The students will assist in expanding the number of homeless clients who receive representation at the SSI/SSDI application phase.
 - c. Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible families and individuals will receive homelessness prevention assistance. -Individuals/families must meet the general eligibility criteria as stated above in section (a) in addition to the following additional risk factors: must be at imminent risk of homelessness (within 7-14 days), possess an eviction/foreclosure notice from an accredited property owner or housing provider, and household income is below 30% of Area Median Income due to a sudden and significant loss of income due to loss of employment or federal financial benefits.
 - d. Standards for determining the share of rent and utilities costs that each program participant must pay, if any, while receiving homelessness prevention assistance. -ESG providers are encouraged to utilize various kinds of financial assistance subsidy types (sliding scale, percentage of income, etc.) to help encourage the participant to become independent and increase long-term housing stability. Individual assistance may be determined on a case-by-case basis.
 - e. Standards for determining the length of rental assistance and whether and how the assistance will be adjusted over time. -The provision of emergency financial assistance to help Individuals or families to quickly stabilize their housing situation shall include: Rental Assistance (6-month maximum, up to 3 months arrears and/or 3 months rental assistance); Rental Deposits; Utility Assistance (6-month maximum, up to 3 months arrears and/or 3 months utility assistance); and, Utility Deposits. It is

anticipated that most clients will receive 3 months of ongoing assistance; however, individual assistance will be determined case-by-case.

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

The CoC is working to implement a pilot Centralized Assessment for Homeless Service Providers. Service providers housed at the continuum's new One Stop Homeless Services Center in conjunction with our HMIS vendor guide this process. A common intake form has been designed that incorporates the required data elements and client specific data that will allow for appropriate referral to member agencies across the Continuum. All ESG-funded programs within the Continuum of Care's area are required to use the assessment system. Victim service providers may choose not to use the coordinated system; however, they must have a comparable client level database.

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

The City of Baton Rouge uses the competitive request for proposal process to solicit eligible nonprofit organizations or units of local government interested in ESG funding. The competitive process entails the City advertising a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) requesting proposals from nonprofit organizations. In addition, all known current and past sub-grantees, as well as member organizations of the Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless (Baton Rouge CoC) are provided a written notice of funding availability and proposal submission packages. The City hosts a pre-submission conference for prospective applicants in which staff addresses any questions or concerns regarding the application package. After the pre-submission conference is complete, and the submission deadline has ended, an evaluation committee will rate/score the proposals according to a checklist of pre-determined criteria in addition to an evaluation of past performance outcomes. Staff forwards the recommendations through OCD administrators to the Mayor-President's Office.

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

In compliance with Section 576.406(a) of the Interim Rule, the City of Baton Rouge requires all of its sub-recipients to provide for the participation of at least one homeless or formerly homeless person on the Board of Directors or similar entity that considers and sets policy or makes decisions for the recipient agency. In instances where sub-recipients are unable to meet this requirement, the subrecipient agrees to consult with homeless or formerly homeless persons in making policy or decisions. In addition, this involvement includes the participants' employment or volunteering in project activities such as construction, renovation maintenance, and general operations of the facility such as staffing the reception desk.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

Performance standards for ESG sub-recipients have been developed in consultation with the Continuum of Care and in accordance with Section 427 of the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by the HEARTH Act. The purpose of these performance standards is to provide a measure for the City and the Continuum of Care to evaluate each ESG sub-recipient's effectiveness based on outcomes. The City proposes the following performance objectives under the Emergency Solutions Grant.

- Targeting homelessness prevention resources toward those in most need
- Reducing the number of persons/households exiting to the streets or emergency shelters
- Increasing housing stability through linkages with jobs and income growth

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) will be used to track outcomes associated with the above objectives. The capacity to collect and enter data into HMIS is an essential component within the local continuum.

NOFA and RFP submissions and selection process

As part of the City-Parish Action Plan 2018 planning process, a large ad serving as the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for program year 2018 funds and a Request for Proposals (RFP) was placed in the newspaper of greatest circulation, The Advocate. In addition, the public notice schedule was placed on the OCD Web site and through email notices to non-profit and for-profit service providers and members within the housing industry. Metro Council members were notified of the process and timeline so that they could convey the information to their constituents. All public hearings are held in conjunction with the Citizens Advisory Council's (CAC) meetings, which is part of the OCD citizen participation plan. Information on the RFP process for 2018 grant funds (CDBG, HOME, HESG, state ESG & HOPWA) was presented at the first two public hearings related to the AP 2018 including activity eligibility requirements, funding categories and thresholds. Lastly, contact information was gathered at the hearings to add to the ongoing database of contact information from those interested in receiving a RFP package. OCD held a pre-submission workshop to address questions related to the NOFA and RFP on 05/01/2018. In all, 31 proposals were received. Proposals were scored and ranked, and projects were selected for program year 2018 funding based on criteria which were made available to applicants in the RFP packages.

Attachments

Attachment A

Public Comments Received Related to the Development of the CITY OF BATON ROUGE & PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE ACTION PLAN 2018

Introduction: The OCD solicited public input to the CPS 2015-2019 through a community needs survey posted on the City-Parish website during the planning phase. The entire citizen participation plan¹ has been made public as part of the CPS. In 2013, HUD New Orleans Field Office assisted the City of Baton Rouge by conducting an in-depth Community Needs Assessment as a part of HUD's effort to Institutionalize best practices in achieving HUD's Strategic Goals. Community partners, citizens, and stakeholder including non-profits, for-profit, and elected officials participated in a series of community roundtable discussions and cluster meetings in 2013, 2014, and 2015. This process helped identify specific issues and needs, resources to address issues, and finally to identify gaps in needs and resources. The four top priorities identified were: Education, Housing, Workforce Development, and Health.

Two public hearings have been held during the development of the Action Plan 2018. Two were held on April 3rd, and April 24th, 2018. The third and final public hearing will be held in conjunction with the City Parish Council meeting and vote on July 25, 2018. Provisions were made for persons requiring special assistance or accommodations at the public hearings and for receipt of comments through voice and TOO Phone support. Comments were also accepted via e-mail at OCD@brgov.com.

Written comments are accepted at any time, but in order to be considered in the Action Plan for Program Year 2018, the comments must have been received no later than 4 p.m. on July 25, 2018.

The first two public hearings were opened by explaining that the purpose of the hearing was to seek public input on what our community's needs are and how best to allocate HUD entitlement grant dollars. Those in attendance were reminded that although three public hearings will be held related to the Action Plan 2018, questions and comments can be submitted to OCD at any time by emailing our office. Questions, comments and responses received during the public hearings and the development of this plan are listed below.

The first public meeting was attended by 26 community members. Public comment at this meeting highlighted the continued need for three priority areas identified in the Consolidated Plan: (1) increased availability and accessibility of affordable housing, (2) flood recovery, specifically housing, and (3) homeless prevention services. Attendees commented on a perceived increase in unsheltered homeless, particularly under the overpass and in Spanish Town. Councilmembers noted higher call volumes from constituents reporting congregations of homeless persons at Siegen Lane, Bluebonnet, Jones Creek, and College Ave. Attendees voiced concern over increasing rents and affordability issues for low and moderate-income persons. Concern was also voiced for flood survivors living in incomplete homes, as well as those denied aid and still in need of housing repair, and those in need of alternate housing while repairs are being completed.

The second public meeting was attended by 35 community members. Participants voiced needs that reflect the aforementioned priority areas, as well as the remaining three priority areas: (4) health services, including mental health and nutritional assistance, (5) workforce development, and (6) public facilities and infrastructure, including demolitions. Community members voiced need for elderly assisted living facilities,

better use of adjudicated properties, soft second homeownership programs, grants or loans to enable landlord to make vital repairs to occupied rental housing, neighborhood landlord programs and volunteer repair programs, transitional housing for victims of domestic violence, and improved habitability for tenants in substandard rental housing. They also expressed need for reentry to be made a priority, expanded homeless initiatives, funding for homeless outreach, and a vital need for permanent housing. Additionally, they voiced need for state highway and Airline Road improvements, specifically drainage and lighting, bike lanes, blight reduction, and public facilities for minority-owned businesses. Needs for behavioral health clinics and hospitals on the north side, improved coordination among HOPWA project sponsors and Continuum of Care, and healthy food initiatives were also expressed.

