

The 2024-2025 DRAFT Action Plan, which includes the proposed use of funds, is available during the period of April 10, 2024 through May 9, 2024 for citizens, public agencies and other interested parties to examine its contents and to submit comments. Comments will be received through May 9, 2024, 4:00 PM. Comments can be directed to lsibilia@springfieldcityhall.com.

An in person public hearing on the DRAFT Action Plan will be held on **Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the Richard E. Neal Municipal Operations Center, 70 Tapley Street.**

For those interested, a zoom link will also be available.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83578951799?pwd=SXFibEF5T1hITkN5R0hCeEc4MFMNJZz09>

Contingency Provision: Because the federal budgeting process was later this year than normal, the planning and discussion of this Action Plan largely took place prior to HUD's announcement of allocations. Those discussions include a contingency that if the actual allocation is marginally higher or lower than the estimated budget being used for planning purposes, the budgets will be proportionally increased or decreased from the estimated funding levels to match actual allocation amounts.

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Springfield receives allocations of funding from the U.S. Department of Housing Urban Development (HUD) every year to assist with economic and community development, develop and preserve affordable housing, and respond to homelessness. The City receives allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) grant programs. The HUD funds must benefit low- and moderate-income residents in Springfield (with the exception of HOPWA funds, which serve a broader geography). Springfield's annual allocations are based on a formulas that use a number of community development factors, including population, poverty, overcrowding, pre-1940's housing stock, and population growth. Springfield may spend the CDBG, HOME and ESG funds in all areas of the City, within the eligible designated areas. The City may spend HOPWA funds in the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA), which is made up of Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin Counties.

The City completes a Consolidated Plan every five years that guides its spending of these grant funds. The Consolidated Plan includes an assessment of housing, homelessness, and community development needs in the community and outlines a strategy to address those needs. The City incorporates input from community residents and stakeholders as it develops goals and strategies for the five-year plan. The Consolidated Plan outlines the ways the City will allocate CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA funding to address the identified needs.

Annually, the City updates the Consolidated Plan with a one-year Action Plan. The Action Plan outlines the projects and the one-year funding allocation towards meeting the goals of the Consolidated Plan. At the conclusion of each program year, the City of Springfield provides a final report, called the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), which reports the accomplishments of the prior year and the City's progress towards the Consolidated Plan goals.

This document is the Fifth Year Action Plan for the City of Springfield for program year 2024-2025. Springfield's program year begins July 1st and ends June 30th. The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan covers the period from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2025.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The goals for the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan focus on three main priorities: fostering an inclusive economy, strengthening neighborhoods, and providing healthy and affordable housing.

To foster an inclusive economy, the City will focus on economic development and supporting the local workforce. The goals under this priority area are:

- Support small businesses with façade improvements
- Support small businesses by creating or retaining jobs that target low- and moderate-income individuals
- Job training and placement with preference given to programs that focus on the hard to serve population, especially individuals who are out of the educational system and or workforce
- Fund supportive services that reduce barriers for low to moderate-income households seeking employment or who are employed, reducing the risk of the “cliff effect”
- Fund efforts around public art and growth of the creative economy, to foster elimination of blight, job creation, and create sense of place

To strengthen neighborhoods, the City will fund projects that support local assets. Funding will go towards historic preservation, social services, clean-up of contaminated sites, public facility improvements, and neighborhood capacity building. The goals under this priority are:

- Public Facilities/Improvements - work to improve the physical environment through enhancement of streets, parks, streetscapes, bikeways, and open space
- Public Facilities/Improvements – design and implement projects which will increase the City’s resilience to natural disasters
- Public Facilities/Improvements – capital improvements to facilities owned and operated by non-profits
- Support public services for low and moderate income families
- Clean-up of unsafe sites and structures
- Support housing inspectors who enforce local housing codes
- Restore and rehabilitate historic housing and buildings to promote historic preservation, smart growth, and creation of new housing and commercial units
- Work with neighborhood councils and stakeholder groups to advance neighborhood planning and design work for future improvement projects and to build capacity throughout the neighborhoods

To provide healthy and affordable housing, the City will fund the entire continuum of housing, from addressing the needs of homeless neighbors to helping families buy their first homes. The goals associated with this priority are:

- New affordable housing through rehabilitation, new construction, and acquisition for households with incomes at or below 80% AMI, creating affordable rental and homeownership units
- Assist households with income at or below 80% AMI to become homeowners
- Improve the city's housing stock by funding repairs to owner occupied homes
- Provide rental assistance to low- and extremely low-income households
- Prevent homelessness and rapidly rehouse people experiencing homelessness
- Provide housing assistance to persons with HIV/AIDS and their families
- Advocate and promote fair housing through federally funded housing projects and programs

Since the City's current Consolidated Plan was completed in 2020, Springfield's housing market has shifted. The market for both rental and homeownership has tightened, and prices have increased. These increases have been associated with a decrease in vacant and abandoned housing, and a shortage of affordable units.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Springfield set 14 goals as part of its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. According to its 5th year CAPER, 11 of the goals had been met or exceeded by the City and its partner providers. Goals that addressed code enforcement, supported a public service or provided housing for the homeless were exceeded by large margins. Even with meeting these goals, stakeholder and public input continue to reinforce the need to continue these same strategies. Accomplishments from the five years of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan include:

- Rental housing renovated – 56 units renovated
- Homeowner housing created - 5 units built
- Homeowner housing renovated – 133 units renovated
- Direct financial assistance to homebuyers - 491 homebuyers assisted Provided rental assistance in the form of Rapid Re-Housing - 908 households assisted Support economic development initiatives – 107 jobs created or retained Support economic development initiatives – 126 businesses assisted Facade improvements for businesses - 10 businesses assisted Provided homelessness prevention services – 2,285 persons assisted Support services provided by homelessness shelters – 253 people served Support public services for those in need – 42,315 people served Demolished unsafe buildings or structures - 30 buildings demolished

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The Annual Action Plan process consists of: public notice published in the *Republican, LaVoz and Metro Record* newspapers; posting of public hearing dates, request for comments and draft plan on the City's website, and two public hearings. This year the public hearings were held on January 17, 2024 at Rebecca Johnson School and February 1, 2024 at the Richard E. Neal Municipal Operations Center. A zoom link was available for the February 1st hearing. Interested parties were invited to submit written comments concerning the Action Plan process to cbuono@springfieldcityhall.com by 4:00 PM February 9, 2024.

The Annual Action Plan DRAFT was available for public review and 30 day comment period from April 10, 2024 through May 9, 2024. A public hearing was held on April 24, 2024. Copies of the DRAFT Plan were available for public review on line at <https://www.springfield-ma.gov/comm-dev/>. Interested parties could also call 413-750-2241 to request a copy.

Interested parties were also invited to submit written comments concerning the DRAFT Action Plan document by 4:00 PM on May 9, 2024. Questions or comments could be directed to Lori Santaniello, Office of Community, 1600 East Columbus Ave, Springfield, MA 01103 or to lsibilia@springfieldcityhall.com.

5. Summary of public comments

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

Citizen Participation and comments are made part of this document; AD-26.

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

Minutes of the public hearing held on February 1, 2024 are recorded. The City accepted all comments during the planning process. All comments received are made part of this document; AD-26.

7. Summary

The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan examines the needs of the community and reviews established plans in the community, combining all the information together with public and stakeholder input to guide the City's goals and strategies for the next five years. It provides a blueprint for the City as it utilizes CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA funding, as well as for other funding related to community and economic development.

In winter and spring 2020, Springfield coordinated with the cities of Holyoke, Chicopee and Westfield to create a Four City Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI). The cities engaged the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, the Donohue Institute at UMass Amherst, and the Mass Fair Housing Center to compile and analyze data, undertake a public participation process, and make recommendations to overcome identified impediments. The recommendations have been incorporated into Springfield's Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

The City of Springfield is the Unified Funding Agency and lead for the Springfield-Hampden County Continuum of Care (CoC). The CoC engages in its own analysis and planning to respond to homelessness throughout all of Hampden County. The City's Consolidated Plan and the CoC's Plan are closely coordinated and include the same goals and strategies to make homelessness rare, as short as possible, and non-recurring.

In its planning, the City also considered the strategies and missions of other private and public funding resources and initiatives in the community when developing its Consolidated Plan goals. Examples of these considerations include, but are not limited to, Live Well Springfield, Springfield Climate Justice Initiative, Massachusetts Fair Housing Center, MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board, the United Way of Pioneer Valley, and the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce. While some of the initiatives were not items that directly result in the development of housing units or serve people, they offer guidance to the types of projects that the City should prioritize. Some of these priorities include:

- Support organizations and programs with diverse or inclusive Boards of Directors and staff
- Support programs and projects that help low- and moderate-income households address changing demands of climate change as it relates to housing efficiency, disaster preparation or other needs
- Support programs and projects that help low- and moderate-income individuals who are less likely to access services but may need assistance
- Support fair housing choice through advocacy, education and testing, as well as increasing opportunity within racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty
- Support programs that improve access to education and job training opportunities, as well as improving access to broadband internet services
- Support the development of green infrastructure where it is financially feasible as part of neighborhood revitalization

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	SPRINGFIELD	Office of Community Development
HOPWA Administrator	SPRINGFIELD	Office of Housing
HOME Administrator	SPRINGFIELD	Office of Housing
ESG Administrator	SPRINGFIELD	Office of Housing

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Springfield Development Services Division is the lead agency, responsible for administering the programs covered by the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and any other HUD-related planning documents. This Division is made up of the following departments: Community Development (OCD), Planning and Economic Development (OPED), Housing, Disaster Recovery, Code Enforcement, and Neighborhood Services. The Division administers funds provided to other City Departments to carry out the plan, including Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Capital Assets, Elder Affairs, and Health and Human Services. The Division also contracts and oversees grant funding to various agencies and nonprofit organizations.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Cathy Buono, Chief Administration & Financial Officer, is the public contact for all HUD related documents for the City of Springfield; cbuono@springfieldcityhall.com.

DRAFT

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

1. Introduction

The City encourages broad participation in the process of developing, amending and implementing the Consolidated Plan, including local and regional institutions, the Continuum of Care, and other organizations, including businesses, developers, nonprofit organizations, philanthropic organizations, community-based organizations, and faith-based organizations. The City also encourages the participation of the City's low- and moderate-income residents, residents of public and assisted housing developments located within the City and residents of the targeted Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) in which funded programs and projects are located.

For the 5-year Consolidated Plan created in 2020, the City hosted five public meetings for residents, business owners and nonprofit agencies. The City notified the public of the meetings through mailings, City website, social media posts and an email was sent to the City's extensive Community Development listserv. Four of the meetings focused on different topics: housing, homelessness, public services and economic development. People were also encouraged to fill out a survey. The City used input at these meetings, along with the survey results, to develop its five year priorities and goals.

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

Springfield works to increase coordination among agencies from multiple sectors in a number of efforts. Key efforts which enhance coordination between housing providers and other agencies include:

- 1. Green and Healthy Homes Initiative** - A collaboration of health providers, housing rehabilitation providers, weatherization providers, and contractors working together to increase understanding of the connection between housing conditions and health risks and to intervene to address housing conditions that contribute to poor health (such as asthma triggers, lead paint and other toxins, and trip/fall hazards).
- 2. Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness** - The Network sponsors, in coordination with the Springfield-Hampden County Continuum of Care, four monthly meetings that bring together housing, shelter and social service providers to coordinate the housing response to homelessness among Individuals, Families, Unaccompanied Youth, and Veterans.
- 3. C3 community/public safety initiatives in the North End, South End, Mason Square, and lower Forest Park**, which include weekly problem-solving meetings attended by residents, police, landlords, business owners, social service agencies and others to respond to neighborhood needs, as well as enhanced community-oriented policing.

Other coordination activities that the City leads or participates in include Live Well Springfield, the Springfield Climate Justice Coalition, and the BUILD Health Challenge.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City of Springfield Office of Housing is the Collaborative Applicant and grant administrator for the Springfield-Hampden County Continuum of Care, and is also the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead for the CoC. City and CoC efforts are closely aligned and coordinated.

Chronic Homelessness Springfield is committed to ending chronic homelessness, and is part of the national Built for Zero campaign sponsored by Community Solutions, which incorporates best practices, data-driven strategies, and peer learning to help communities design and implement the systems necessary for ending chronic and veteran homelessness. The City leads regular case conferencing meetings among multiple providers to match chronically homeless individuals to available housing opportunities. The City has dedicated staff and HOME funds, and coordinates with the Springfield Housing Authority, in order to increase resources available for housing chronically homeless individuals.

Veteran Homelessness Springfield has joined the Mayor's Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness, as well as the Built for Zero campaign. City staff coordinate a homeless veteran by-name list and regular case conferencing meetings to connect homeless veterans with housing opportunities.

Homeless Unaccompanied Youth The CoC was designated a Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) community in 2019, and conducted a community planning process in 2019-2020, which produced a coordinated community plan to prevent and end youth and young adult homelessness. The plan was accepted by HUD in spring 2020, and the CoC began receiving HUD funds to implement the plan July 1, 2020. The CoC has created a youth-specific consolidated entry and navigation project, with a dedicated phone number for youth to call for help, as well as 49 new units of housing dedicated to this population. This project works closely with the Springfield Housing Authority to make Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers available to eligible youth.

Homeless Families with Children The Commonwealth of Massachusetts provides diversion assistance and emergency shelter for families in a closed system. Springfield participates in a Family Services committee that meets monthly to coordinate local resources with the state system.

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's response to homelessness and the Continuum of Care are both operated by the City's Office of Housing, which ensures that City and CoC closely coordinate strategies.

For the ESG program, the Office of Housing seeks information from CoC members regarding funding priorities and performance standards, and creates draft priorities and standards, which are reviewed again with the CoC. Individual ESG programs are selected for funding using a request for proposals (RFP) process, and CoC members are part of the review committee.

The CoC includes a Data and Performance Committee, which has set performance standards for ESG and CoC programs. The standards are reviewed annually and adjusted when warranted. Performance results are used as part of the annual process of deciding which programs will receive funding.

The City's Office of Housing is the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead. The CoC has an HMIS Governance Agreement which identifies the City as the lead, and determines roles and responsibilities. The CoC, working with the CoC HMIS Committee, created HMIS Policies and Procedures, which have been reviewed and voted on by the CoC Board of Directors.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF SPRINGFIELD
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Economic Development 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?	Attended focus groups and provided answers to questions directly in the Consolidated Plan.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	New England American African Community Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Action Plan hearing, February 1, 2024

3	Agency/Group/Organization	Criminal Justice Organization of Hampden County (CJO)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - County Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Revitalize CDC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Civic Leaders Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Participation in coordinating Healthy Homes initiative; provided input regarding home rehabilitation and development of housing for homeownership.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Springfield Preservation Trust
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Civic Leaders Neighborhood Organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Historic Preservation
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Facebook Live Hearing
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Springfield 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 Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group and provided answers to questions directly in the Consolidated Plan.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Small Business Administration
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Other government - Federal
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Public Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting

8	Agency/Group/Organization	Arise for Social Justice
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Social Services

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
10	Agency/Group/Organization	SQUARE ONE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Public Health Institute of Western MA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Social Services

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Wellspring Coop
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting
13	Agency/Group/Organization	make it Springfield
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Wayfinder
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy 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?	Attended a focus group meeting
15	Agency/Group/Organization	RIVER VALLEY COUNSELING CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Health Agency Child Welfare Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy 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?	Attended a focus group meeting

16	Agency/Group/Organization	MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Clinical & Support Options
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Social Services

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Mercy Hospital
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy 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?	Attended a focus group meeting
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Revival Time Evangelistic Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Civic Leaders Faith Based

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus group meeting
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Gandara Mental Health Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Health Services- Substance Abuse
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy 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?	Attended focus group meeting
21	Agency/Group/Organization	SPRINGFIELD BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Civic Leaders

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Art for the Soul
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting
23	Agency/Group/Organization	Central City Boxing & Barbell
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting

24	Agency/Group/Organization	Christina's House
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Center for Human Development
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health Health Agency Mental Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting

26	Agency/Group/Organization	Springfield Partners for Community Action
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Service-Fair Housing Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group
27	Agency/Group/Organization	East Africa Cultural Center, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity, Inc
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group
29	Agency/Group/Organization	Hill Homes Housing Cooperative
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting.
30	Agency/Group/Organization	Mutual Support Consulting
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Mental Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting
31	Agency/Group/Organization	Commonwealth Care Alliance
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Health Agency

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy 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?	Attended a focus group meeting
32	Agency/Group/Organization	Bilingual Veterans Outreach
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Civic Leaders Services-Veterans
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy 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?	Attended a focus group meeting
33	Agency/Group/Organization	New North Citizens Council
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended a focus group meeting
34	Agency/Group/Organization	Viability
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy 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?	Attended a focus group meeting
35	Agency/Group/Organization	OPEN PANTRY COMMUNITY SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
36	Agency/Group/Organization	Baystate Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Health Agency Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
37	Agency/Group/Organization	NAI Plotkin
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
38	Agency/Group/Organization	SilverBrick Square
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
39	Agency/Group/Organization	Springfield Museums
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	attended a focus group meeting
40	Agency/Group/Organization	NEBA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting

41	Agency/Group/Organization	AFFILIATED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Regional organization Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended focus group meeting
42	Agency/Group/Organization	SPRINGFIELD NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Social Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attend focus group meeting
43	Agency/Group/Organization	MassHire
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

During the Consolidated Plan process, the City of Springfield strived to meet with as many organizations as possible. The City offered organizations five different times in which they could attend a focus group meeting, to discuss the needs of the community. Organizations that could not attend a meeting were called at a different time to solicit their input.

The City held two public hearings during the planning process of the Fifth Year Action Plan 2024-2025.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Springfield-Hampden County Continuum of Care	Ending Veteran and chronic homelessness. Creating a youth centric system to respond to youth under 25 experiencing housing instability.
Regional Housing Plan	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	Strategic Plan included strategies regarding neighborhood revitalization which are consistent with the Regional Housing Plan.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (2020)	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	Strategic plan incorporates strategies to overcome identified impediments.
Climate Action and Resilience Plan	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	Strategic plan incorporates development of complete streets, energy-efficient construction, and improved communication between government and City residents.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

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AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The City's Participation Plan is designed to encourage citizens to participate in the development of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan and Performance Reports (CAPER). As described in the plan, the City encourages the input of low/moderate income residents by 1) outreach to the public through mailings, 2) conducting a series of public hearings at various stages of the planning process, 3) creating a system to accept and respond to written comments from the citizens.

To ensure participation among low and moderate income residents the public hearings are held in areas where funds are mostly to be spent and to public housing residents.

The City makes information available and accessible to all interested parties. At a minimum, the City provides information concerning proposed activities, including amount of assistance, range of activities to be undertaken and the amount that will benefit low/moderate income persons. All information is provided in English and Spanish.

The City relied on input received from the public in establishing its priorities and goals for its Consolidated Plan, 2020-2024.

The City held two public hearings during the planning process of the Fifth Year Action Plan 2024-2025.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Hearing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing City of Springfield residents	Public Hearing #1; January 17, 2024 held at Rebecca Johnson School, 5:00 PM; no one was in attendance.	2 comments received during the planning process.	All comments have been accepted	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Public Hearing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing City of Springfield residents	Public Hearing #2; February 1, 2024 held at 70 Tapley Street. This was also available by zoom; 1 was in attendance; 4 were on zoom.	2 comments received during the planning process.	All comments have been accepted	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84585858853?pwd=Wl9lVlRlGMFRzMnJUa0FHVzVNVE8zdz09

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Mailing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing City of Springfield Residents	The OCD has an extensive mailing list. The list includes residents of the City of Springfield, neighborhood councils, City Councilors, businesses and public service agencies. Flyers are sent with dates of public hearings, the release of any RFP's and when the DRAFT Action Plan will be available for public comment/	review and date of the hearing. All comments received during the DRAFT comment period are made part of this document, AD-26	All comments have been accepted Annual Action Plan 2024	37

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Internet Outreach	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing City of Springfield Residents	The Metro Record posts a web banner for 30 days during the Action Plan process in January and for 30 days in April when the DRAFT Plan is available for public comment/review. The banner includes dates of hearings, DRAFT availability and how to submit public comments.	----- comments were received during the AP process; 2024-2025. Comments are made part of this document AD-26	All comments have been accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Public Hearing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing City of Springfield Residents	DRAFT AP public hearing for comments; April 24, 2024 held at 70 Tapley Street, 5:30 PM. ---- was in attendance; - ---- were on zoom.	---- comments were received during the AP process; 2024-2025. Comments are made part of this document AD-26	All comments have been accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

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Expected Resources

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

Introduction

In 2024-2025 the City of Springfield estimates it will receive the following allocations \$3,752,266.00 of CDBG funding, \$1,509,092.00 of HOME funding, \$331,925.00 of ESG funding and \$850,659.00 of HOPWA funding. The amounts listed in this section do not include any allocations City will receive as a part of the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act or the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Anticipated Resources

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	3,752,266	250,000	400,000	4,402,266	280,160	CDBG is used to assist low- and moderate-income individuals or households through a variety of activities, including housing development, public services, planning, economic development, and public facility improvements.

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	1,509,092	2,000	0	1,511,092	0	The HOME Investment Partnerships Program is used for a variety of affordable housing activities, including first time homebuyer program, new construction of housing and rental assistance

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: \$		
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	850,659	0	0	850,659	0	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program was established to provide housing assistance and related supportive services for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families

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	331,925	0	0	331,925	38,666	ESG funds may be used for five program components: street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, and HMIS; as well as administrative activities.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

Sources of Leveraged Funds include:

- Continuum of Care - US Dept. of HUD -\$6,923,576 federal funds (funding for permanent supportive and rapid rehousing housing for persons experiencing homelessness), plus 25% match contributed by subrecipients
- Health Care for the Homeless - \$2,025,366 (funding for health services for person experiencing homelessness)
- Heartwap - State of MA - \$655,000 (funding for heating system repair and maintenance)
- Chapter 90 Funds - \$1,750,000 (funding for roads/sidewalks)

- City ARPA Funds - 123,000,000
- CDBG-DR - US Dept. of HUD - \$21,896,000 (disaster recovery funds - to be used for projects in the tornado path) NDR - US Dept. of HUD - \$17,056,880 (National Disaster Resilience Grant funds to be used for approved resilience projects)
- Commonwealth of MA Homeless Youth Program - \$776,589 per year
- Multiple sources for rehabilitation of Gemini Project: \$14,002,900- MassHousing Commonwealth Builders Grant - \$12,763,240; City of Springfield - \$900,000; MassSave Rebate - \$155,000; CPA Funds - \$420,000; Mass DEP Grant - \$200,000; Federal ARPA funds - \$1,000,000.; CEDAC Loan - \$400,000; Investor loan - New Valley - \$4,650,000

Match for ESG is provided by the subrecipient agencies, which identify the amount and source of match in their application to the City, and verify the match after each grant award. ESG administrative funds are matched by the City of Springfield using CDBG funds

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

Springfield owns vacant lots and some residential buildings that it has acquired through foreclosure of properties for nonpayment of property taxes. The City frequently makes residential vacant lots or distressed residential buildings available for development or redevelopment as new housing. In some instances, the City makes vacant lots available simultaneously with federal or state funds dedicated to new construction, for the purpose of creating quality affordable homeownership opportunities.

Discussion

Springfield will invest multiple resources in projects to maximize the impact of the federal funds in the community. The City's planning for federal HUD funds took into consideration other funding sources available to address community needs. Springfield's Consolidated Plan uses all available resources in a coordinated and leveraged way, working towards and achieving the best possible outcomes.

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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	Public Services - General	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Strengthen Neighborhoods	CDBG: \$705,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10000 Persons Assisted
2	Improve Housing Stock	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Strengthen Neighborhoods	CDBG: \$649,816	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 335 Household Housing Unit
3	Clean up of Sites	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Strengthen Neighborhoods	CDBG: \$107,000	Buildings Demolished: 1 Buildings Other: 200 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Capacity Building	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Strengthen Neighborhoods	CDBG: \$50,000	Other: 10 Other
5	Creative Economy	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Foster an Inclusive Economy	CDBG: \$100,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted
6	Street Sweeps	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Strengthen Neighborhoods	CDBG: \$35,000	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 500 Household Housing Unit
7	Public Facilities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Strengthen Neighborhoods	CDBG: \$1,090,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9000 Persons Assisted
8	Public Facilities - Non Profit	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Strengthen Neighborhoods	CDBG: \$200,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Support Small Businesses	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Foster an Inclusive Economy	CDBG: \$575,000	Businesses assisted: 15 Businesses Assisted
10	Down Payment	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$90,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 25 Households Assisted
11	New Affordable Housing - Owner	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing	HOME: \$831,983	Homeowner Housing Added: 6 Household Housing Unit
12	Renovate Affordable Housing - Rental	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing	HOME: \$50,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 4 Household Housing Unit
13	Rental Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing	HOME: \$478,000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 37 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
14	Homelessness Prevention	2020	2024	Homeless	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing	ESG: \$331,925	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 238 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 14 Persons Assisted Other: 80 Other
15	HOPWA	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing	HOPWA: \$850,659	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 43 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 66 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Public Services - General
	Goal Description	Public Service activities other than low/mod housing; provide services to homeless, recovery support, youth services, ESOL, job training and other public service activities to low moderate income persons.
2	Goal Name	Improve Housing Stock
	Goal Description	Existing homeowner rehab; HEARTWAP; Revitalize CDC

3	Goal Name	Clean up of Sites
	Goal Description	Buildings demolished; graffiti removal and dispose of properties
4	Goal Name	Capacity Building
	Goal Description	Work with neighborhood councils to build capacity.
5	Goal Name	Creative Economy
	Goal Description	Fund efforts around public art and growth of the creative economy to foster elimination of blight, job creation and create a sense of place.
6	Goal Name	Street Sweeps
	Goal Description	Support housing inspectors and staff who enforce local housing.
7	Goal Name	Public Facilities
	Goal Description	Public facilities/improvements, work to improve the physical environment through enhancement of streets, parks, streetscapes, bikeways and open space; include the Neighborhood Plan Implementation.
8	Goal Name	Public Facilities - Non Profit
	Goal Description	Capital improvements to non-profits.
9	Goal Name	Support Small Businesses
	Goal Description	Program provides technical assistance to businesses. The grants will be for operating expenses, equipment; grants for facades.
10	Goal Name	Down Payment
	Goal Description	Program Delivery; FTHB assistance to eligible households.

11	Goal Name	New Affordable Housing - Owner
	Goal Description	Provide affordable homeownership opportunities through new construction for households with incomes below 80% of AMI; CHDO and Non-CHDO
12	Goal Name	Renovate Affordable Housing - Rental
	Goal Description	Renovate affordable housing- Rental Van der Hayden- 4 units
13	Goal Name	Rental Assistance
	Goal Description	TBRA
14	Goal Name	Homelessness Prevention
	Goal Description	Emergency Solutions Grant programs to assist households at-risk of or experiencing homelessness. Assistance includes homelessness prevention, street outreach, and housing relocation services for people in emergency shelter.
15	Goal Name	HOPWA
	Goal Description	Provide housing assistance with persons with aids/rental assistance and supportive services.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

In 2024, the City of Springfield will receive \$3,752,266.00 of CDBG funding, \$1,810,898.00 of HOME funding, \$331,925.00 of ESG funding, and \$833,980.00 of HOPWA funding. The amounts listed in this section do not include any allocations the City will receive as a part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act or the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

This section and the next section (Project Summary) are a listing of projects the City of Springfield will undertake with this funding. Projects can begin July 1, 2024 and are scheduled to end on June 30, 2025.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Planning & Administration
2	Public Service-Exempt
3	Public Service -Non Exempt
4	Homeowner Rehab-Emergency Repair and Program Delivery
5	HEARTWAP
6	Revitalize CDC
7	Clearance & Demo Program Delivery
8	Capacity Building
9	Cultural Art Program
10	Disposition Program Delivery
11	Code Enforcement-Street Sweeps
12	Public Infrastructure/Sidewalks
13	Park Reconstruction
14	Graffiti
15	Rehabilitation for Non Profit Organizations
16	Small Business Program
17	Economic Development Program Delivery
18	HOME Planning & Administration
19	Project Based Homeownership- Owner
20	Rental Redevelopment
21	Tenant Based Rental Assistance- TBRA
22	ESG24 City of Springfield
23	2023-2025 City of SpringfieldMA22F002 (SPFLD)

#	Project Name
24	2023-2025 Cooley Dickinson MA22F002 (SPFLD)
25	2023-2025 River Valley MA22F002 (SPFLD)
26	2023-2023 New North MA22F002 (SPFLD)
27	First Time Homebuyer Program Delivery

Table 7 - Project Information

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

Springfield's investment of CDBG funds is based on whether the activity falls within a City funding priority, whether the service is an eligible activity, and whether the service or need meets a national objective. In addition, the activity must meet one of the following CDBG objectives: (1) provide a suitable living environment; (2) provide decent housing; and (3) provide economic opportunity.

CDBG and HOME resources are allocated to maximize the benefits within target areas. While public infrastructure, parks, open space and public facility type projects are exclusively within targeted areas, other strategic investments are made for the benefit of low-moderate income residents throughout the City. In order to meet high priority needs of the community such as job creation and economic development, it may be necessary to invest outside low/moderate census tracts.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding is dedicated to meet the needs of homeless or at-risk households, wherever they are located. Shelter operation funds go to the geographic location of the eligible shelters. After the CoC and the City determine priorities, specific funding allocations are made through a request for proposal process (RFP).

HOPWA funds are allocated throughout the EMSA which includes Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin counties. HOPWA funds are allocated primarily to alleviate the housing cost burden and provide supportive services for eligible households.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

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1	Project Name	Planning & Administration
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Support Small Businesses Creative Economy Public Facilities Public Facilities - Non Profit Public Services - General Clean up of Sites Street Sweeps Capacity Building Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Foster an Inclusive Economy Strengthen Neighborhoods Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$800,450
	Description	Funding for planning & execution of the CDBG Program; including general management and oversight, fiscal and compliance; includes funding \$70,000 for Neighborhood Councils; Fair Housing is included
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	N/A
2	Project Name	Public Service-Exempt
	Target Area	NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Public Services - General
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$110,000

	Description	CDBG funds will be used to provide homeless services, recovery support, youth services, ESOL, job training and other public service activities to low moderate-income persons. Funding will be awarded to agencies that are exempt from the public service cap. Decisions on specific agencies/programs to be funded will be made after July 1, 2024.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	600 low income persons
	Location Description	NRSA neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Youth Services; including after school programs, summer programs, education, employment training, adult learning, elderly services, child care, substance abuse, and other eligible public service activities.
3	Project Name	Public Service -Non Exempt
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Public Services - General
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$595,000
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to provide services to low- and moderate-income persons. Services include job training, employment training, education programs, youth services, substance abuse, childcare, disability services, veteran services, homeless services, fair housing and other public service activities. Decisions on the specific agencies/programs to be funded will be made after July 1, 2024.
	Target Date	12/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	9000 low income persons
	Location Description	CDBG eligible neighborhoods and NRSA neighborhoods

	Planned Activities	Youth services, including after school programs and summer programs, employment training and education programs, elderly services, adult learning, disability services, veteran services, child care and other eligible public service activities.
4	Project Name	Homeowner Rehab-Emergency Repair and Program Delivery
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$421,816
	Description	The Office of Housing will offer a 0% deferred interest forgivable loan to income eligible homeowners to complete emergency repairs or modifications to accommodate mobility limitation to homeowners. Funding includes rehabilitation loans and program costs associated with the housing rehabilitation program. rehab-\$350,000 and \$71,816 program delivery
	Target Date	5/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Housing rehabilitation for 30 households; program will serve low and moderate income homeowners
	Location Description	Income eligible households; City of Springfield, MA
	Planned Activities	Emergency rehab costs for 30 households and program delivery; \$350,000 rehab and \$71,816 Program Delivery
5	Project Name	HEARTWAP
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$193,000
	Description	The Office of Housing will staff to operate a state funded heating system repair and replacement program for income eligible households. Some of the funding will be set aside to pay direct costs that exceed the programmatic limits for system repairs and replacement

	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	300
	Location Description	Citywide-Springfield, MA
	Planned Activities	Energy replacement improvements
6	Project Name	Revitalize CDC
	Target Area	NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$35,000
	Description	Revitalize CDC will target homes in the North End-Memorial Square neighborhoods. Homes will be repaired, modified or rehabilitated after a comprehensive home assessment is completed. This program also works to increase the overall curb appeal of the properties it works on as well as the entire neighborhood.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 households
	Location Description	North End
	Planned Activities	Repairs to homes that will increase homes energy efficiency, health and safety.
7	Project Name	Clearance & Demo Program Delivery
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Clean up of Sites
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$32,000

	Description	Clearance & Demo Program will fund program costs associated with clearance & demolition of blighted properties. The program administered through the Office of Housing.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5 properties
	Location Description	CDBG Target areas and NRSA neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Clearance & Demo of blighted properties
8	Project Name	Capacity Building
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Capacity Building
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	Funds will be allocated for staffing costs associated with building capacity within existing neighborhood organizations to undertake neighborhood revitalization projects.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 neighborhood organizations
	Location Description	CDBG eligible neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Work with neighborhood councils to build capacity in neighborhoods
9	Project Name	Cultural Art Program
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Creative Economy
	Needs Addressed	Foster an Inclusive Economy
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000

	Description	The Office of Planning & Economic Development will procure public art pieces for public display in CDBG eligible areas. The program will seek to purchase art from local artists to display in public areas.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2000 low and moderate income persons
	Location Description	City of Springfield, CDBG eligible neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	RFP process; selection of artists and installation of art work
10	Project Name	Disposition Program Delivery
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Clean up of Sites
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$35,000
	Description	Funds are used to provide staff costs associated with the disposition of properties. The program is designed to effect redevelopment.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 properties
	Location Description	CDBG target areas and NRSA neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Clearance & Demo of blighted properties
11	Project Name	Code Enforcement-Street Sweeps
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Clean up of Sites
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$35,000

	Description	The Code Enforcement Program is dedicated to the improvement of the quality of life of the citizens of Springfield. Funds will be used to conduct proactive street sweeps on weekends. They will be performed on a house-house/street/street basis. All are located within CDBG target neighborhoods and NRSA neighborhoods.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	500 housing units
	Location Description	CDBG eligible areas and NRSA neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Saturday street sweeps
12	Project Name	Public Infrastructure/Sidewalks
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$400,000
	Description	Funding will be used to improve pedestrian and bicycle circulation and safety, bike share and wayfinding infrastructure; lighting, physical repairs and the reconstruction of sidewalks and streets that will improve the infrastructure system within the CDBG eligible neighborhoods. These infrastructure improvements will be targeted to compliment other projects funded with HUD grants and planning initiatives
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5000 low and moderate income persons
	Location Description	CDBG eligible areas and NRSA neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Physical repairs and reconstruction of sidewalks; design for improvements of major corridor for vehicular and pedestrian circulation
13	Project Name	Park Reconstruction

	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$690,000
	Description	CDBG funds will be allocated to provide upgrades and improvements to the parks, splash pads and pools in target and NRSA neighborhoods. The Office of Community Development will work with the Park Department and Capital Assets Department to complete park projects.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4000 low and moderate income persons
	Location Description	parks TBD
	Planned Activities	Upgrades to parks and splashpad improvements.
14	Project Name	Graffiti
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Clean up of Sites
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	Program costs associated with the removal of graffiti from privately owned buildings. The program will be administered through the Office of Housing.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 buildings
	Location Description	CDBG eligible target areas and NRSA neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Removal of graffiti to privately owned building

15	Project Name	Rehabilitation for Non Profit Organizations
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities - Non Profit
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000
	Description	The City will fund nonprofit organizations for capital improvements to their facilities.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8 Nonprofit Organizations
	Location Description	Nonprofit Organizations throughout the City of Springfield that serve low income residents of Springfield
Planned Activities	Rehab of non-profit organizations	
16	Project Name	Small Business Program
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Support Small Businesses
	Needs Addressed	Foster an Inclusive Economy
	Funding	CDBG: \$500,000
	Description	The Business Support Program is administered through the Office of Planning & Economic Development. The Program will provide financial assistance to businesses within CDBG target areas in Springfield. The program will offer grants for operating expenses and equipment to eligible businesses. The program will also offer facades to eligible applicants.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 businesses
	Location Description	CDBG target neighborhoods and NRSA neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Provide business support to 10 businesses.
17	Project Name	Economic Development Program Delivery
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Support Small Businesses
	Needs Addressed	Foster an Inclusive Economy
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,000
	Description	Economic Development Program will fund program costs. The program is administered through the Office of Planning & Economic Development.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2 businesses assisted
	Location Description	CDBG Target areas
	Planned Activities	
18	Project Name	HOME Planning & Administration
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Renovate Affordable Housing - Rental New Affordable Housing - Owner Down Payment Rental Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Strengthen Neighborhoods Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$151,109

	Description	The Office of Housing will use these funds for the planning & execution of the HOME Program including general management and oversight of the program.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	N/A
19	Project Name	Project Based Homeownership- Owner
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	New Affordable Housing - Owner
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$831,983
	Description	Funds for developers to acquire and rehabilitate and/construct housing for resale to income eligible households.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6 units
	Location Description	CDBG eligible areas
	Planned Activities	Funds for developers to acquire, rehabilitate, and or construct housing for resale to income eligible households.
20	Project Name	Rental Redevelopment
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Renovate Affordable Housing - Rental
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$50,000

	Description	Funds for the preservation or development of affordable rental housing. The program will be operated by the Office of Housing. Funds will be loaned to for profit and nonprofit developers. Rental Multi Family- Van Der Hayden- 4 units
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 rental housing units for low and moderate income households.
	Location Description	City of Springfield target areas
	Planned Activities	rehab/creation of affordable rental housing
21	Project Name	Tenant Based Rental Assistance- TBRA
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Rental Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$478,000
	Description	Rental assistance will be provided to homeless households. Ongoing rental assistance is provided to 37 households, with subsidies linked with supportive services. The program provides a preference to households experiencing chronic homelessness. A second rental assistance program will provide short-term rental assistance to homeless people exiting a medical respite program.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	43 households
	Location Description	City of Springfield
	Planned Activities	Rental assistance and security deposit assistance
22	Project Name	ESG24 City of Springfield
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal

	Goals Supported	Homelessness Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	ESG: \$331,925
	Description	The Office of Housing will use these funds for the planning & execution of the ESG Program; including the general management and oversight and will be provided to subrecipients to prevent homelessness, provide street outreach, and provide housing relocation services to people in shelters. The program will fund financial assistance and social services.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	332 persons assisted- prevention assistance (14), street outreach (80), and housing search assistance (238)
	Location Description	Springfield, MA
	Planned Activities	Planning & Administration, Shelter operations, Homelessness Outreach, Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing
23	Project Name	2023-2025 City of SpringfieldMA22F002 (SPFLD)
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	HOPWA
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOPWA: \$25,519
	Description	Salaries for Administration of the HOPWA Grant through the Office of Housing
	Target Date	12/30/2029
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	EMSA-Hamden, Hampshire and Franklin Counties
	Planned Activities	N/A
24	Project Name	2023-2025 Cooley Dickinson MA22F002 (SPFLD)

	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	HOPWA
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOPWA: \$260,000
	Description	A positive Place HOPWA Grant- Cooley Dickinson; TBRA and supportive services
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	28 individuals-20 TBRA and 8 STRMU
	Location Description	EMSA-Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin counties
	Planned Activities	Funding for Cooley Dickinson's A Positive Place program to provide supportive services and TBRA to households impacted by HIV/AIDS
25	Project Name	2023-2025 River Valley MA22F002 (SPFLD)
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	HOPWA
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOPWA: \$385,000
	Description	River Valley Counseling Center HOPWA Grant; TBRA and supportive services
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	23 households (TBRA)
	Location Description	EMSA- Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin counties
	Planned Activities	Funding for River Valley Counseling Center to provide rental assistance and supportive services to persons with HIV/AIDS and their families
26	Project Name	2023-2023 New North MA22F002 (SPFLD)

	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	HOPWA
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOPWA: \$180,140
	Description	NNCC HOPWA program-STRMU and rental setup
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	58 individuals with HIV/AIDS and their families
	Location Description	EMSA Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin Counties
	Planned Activities	Funding to provide supportive services, STRMU and housing placement to households impacted by HIV/AIDS
27	Project Name	First Time Homebuyer Program Delivery
	Target Area	Local Target Area NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal
	Goals Supported	Down Payment
	Needs Addressed	Provide Healthy and Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$90,000
	Description	The FT HB and financial assistance funds eligible households with down payment and closing costs of \$4,000 per household at the time of the closing. Funding includes individual homebuyer assistance and program costs are related to the FT HB program. The program is administered through the Office of Housing.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 eligible households
	Location Description	Income eligible households
	Planned Activities	FT HB activities; homeowner financial assistance

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

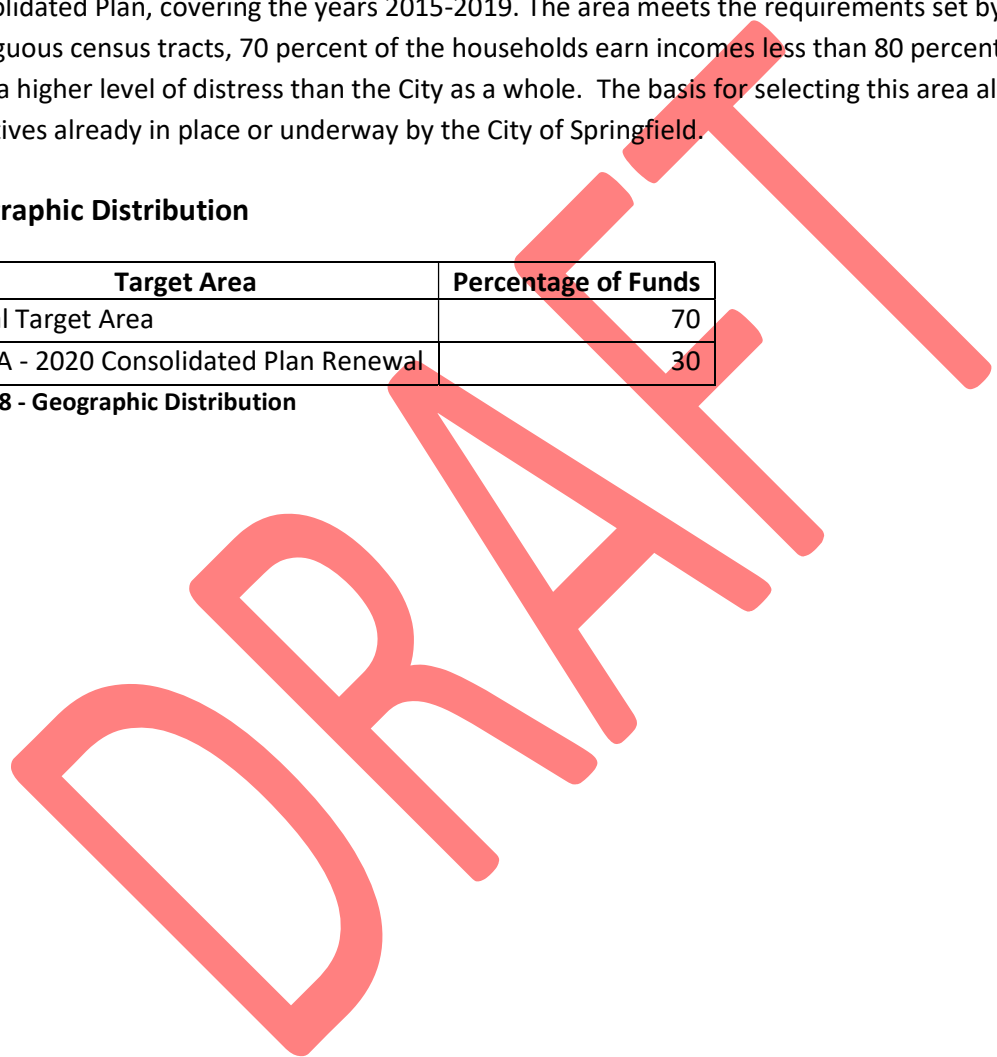
Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The City of Springfield will continue to focus efforts in a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) on the north side of the City. This area is the same as the NRSA as certified in the previous Consolidated Plan, covering the years 2015-2019. The area meets the requirements set by HUD, having contiguous census tracts, 70 percent of the households earn incomes less than 80 percent HAMFI and have a higher level of distress than the City as a whole. The basis for selecting this area also includes initiatives already in place or underway by the City of Springfield.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Local Target Area	70
NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	30

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution



Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Springfield's investment of CDBG funds is based on whether the activity falls within a City funding priority, whether the service is an eligible activity, and whether the service or need meets a national objective. In addition, the activity must meet one of the following CDBG objectives: (1) provide a suitable living environment; (2) provide decent housing; and (3) provide economic opportunity.

Resources are allocated to maximize the benefits to residents within target areas. While public infrastructure, parks, open space, and public facility type projects are exclusively within targeted areas, other strategic investments are made for the benefit of low- and moderate-income residents throughout the City. In order to meet high priority needs of the community such as job creation and economic development, it may be necessary to invest outside low/moderate census tracts.

HOME Investment Partnership Funds (HOME) will be used to produce affordable rental housing, produce affordable homeownership units, directly assist homebuyers, and provide tenant-based rental assistance.

ESG and HOPWA funds are targeted to meet the identified needs of the eligible populations within the geographic area. For ESG, the service area is the City of Springfield. Investments are made in accordance with relative priority and statutory spending caps. HOPWA funds are allocated throughout the EMSA which includes Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin counties. HOPWA funds are allocated primarily to alleviate the housing cost burden and provide supportive services for eligible households.

Discussion

In making funding decisions, the City of Springfield will give priority to activities that:

- Meet a goal or priority of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan
- Meet an eligibility criterion of the federal funding resources
- Leverage other resources
- Affirmatively further fair housing
- Support, complement or are consistent with other current local unit of government plans
- Address underserved populations with the greatest needs including the elderly, disabled, victims of domestic violence and the disenfranchised such as the homeless and the near homeless
- Are sustainable over time
- Have demonstrated cooperation and collaboration among government, private nonprofit agencies and the private sector to maximize impacts and reduce administrative costs
- Do not have a more appropriate source of funds

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City will fund and undertake multiple housing projects to improve the quality of the City's housing stock. The City will preserve and expand housing options for residents to access safe, sanitary, and affordable homes. In addition, the City will target many of its affordable housing projects in the local Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) to revitalize its most distressed neighborhoods.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	37
Non-Homeless	69
Special-Needs	43
Total	149

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	80
The Production of New Units	6
Rehab of Existing Units	38
Acquisition of Existing Units	25
Total	149

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

Discussion

Planned New Projects

Production of Affordable Homeownership

- Development of affordable homeownership units - 6 homeowner unit (HOME, \$831,983))

Rehabilitation of Existing Units –

- Rehabilitation of Van der Hayden Apartments, 4 units, affordable rental (HOME, \$50,000)
- Homeowner Emergency Repair Program, 30 units (CDBG, \$421,816)
- Revitalize CDC, 4 units (CDBG, \$35,000)

Acquisition of Existing Units –

- The City's HOME-funded first-time homebuyers assistance program will provide funding for down payment and closing costs for 25 income-eligible households. The program serves eligible households on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications are available on-line and in person at the Office of Housing. (CDBG, \$100,000)

Rental Assistance –

- HOME-funded Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program will provide rental assistance to 31 households. This program is operated by the Mental Health Association and by the City and provides supportive housing to people with disabilities who have been homeless. A new TBRA program is being added this year which will provide time-limited TBRA to homeless households exiting medical respite, and will serve 6 households. The total number of households to receive TBRA is 37. (HOME - \$478,000)
- The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS ((HOPWA) program will provide tenant-based rental assistance to 43 HIV positive people and their families. This program is operated by River Valley Counseling Center and A Positive Place (Cooley Dickinson), and serves people throughout Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin Counties. (HOPWA)

The City of Springfield will assist 149 households, through rental assistance, down payment assistance, creation of new affordable housing units, and rehabilitation of affordable housing. Of those 149 households estimated to benefit from Springfield's affordable housing projects, 37 households will be homeless and 43 will be special needs households.

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AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Springfield Housing Authority (SHA) is the public housing agency for the City of Springfield. SHA provides a total of 1,809 public housing units in 19 different developments. In addition, SHA administers 2,574 Housing Choice Vouchers, 306 Family Unification Vouchers, and 295 NED vouchers (vouchers for non-elderly, disabled households). SHA provides additional housing through 115 Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) tenant-based subsidies.

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

The City will provide CDBG funding to support SHA's Duggan Youth Program, an after-school program for youth in the Duggan Park family public housing complex.

SHA will continue current partnerships and seek new partners to provide services for its residents.

- For Families - An ongoing need for SHA families is the availability of skills training to enhance employment opportunities.
- For seniors - Staff will continue to work with community resources to provide services that assist seniors in aging in place.

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

SHA refers families to community resources, including financial literacy and home ownership opportunities. SHA works with community partners to deliver services to public housing residents and housing choice voucher holders.

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

The SHA does not have a troubled status designation.

Discussion

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

Introduction

The response to homelessness in Springfield is coordinated by the Springfield-Hampden County Continuum of Care (CoC), a collaboration of municipalities, service providers and other stakeholders working to prevent and end homelessness. The CoC annually applies for and receives federal and state funds on behalf of multiple agencies that provide housing and services for people experiencing homelessness. The CoC grant for the 2024-2025 year is \$7,534,592, and funds multiple programs in Springfield.

The City is using ESG funds to address the greatest gaps in services for the homeless and at-risk population--specifically: homelessness prevention for DV survivors, homeless street outreach and housing search assistance. The City is using HOME funds to provide rapid rehousing assistance to chronically homeless and other high-need homeless individuals to exit homelessness. HOPWA funds, which support the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS, also support households to prevent homelessness or to move from homelessness to stable housing.

The CoC collaborates closely with mainstream service systems to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including chronically homeless individuals and families, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth.

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

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

The City is funding street outreach for 80 individuals. For a number of years Springfield had a relatively small unsheltered population and did not fund street outreach. The system was able to rely on the outreach provided by the local PATH program, Eliot Community Human Services. In the last two years, the unsheltered population has grown rapidly, from a total of 16 counted in the 2021 count to 74 counted during both the 2023 and 2024 point-in-time counts held in January each year. The small existing PATH program is insufficient to meet the need, and many unsheltered people were receive no outreach when we relied on that program alone. Springfield began using ESG funds to support street outreach for the fiscal 2023-2024 year, and is continuing this support for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The state provides emergency shelter to eligible families in a comprehensive system that shelters families in apartment units and hotel rooms and continues the shelter placement until the family identifies feasible alternative housing. Massachusetts provides funding to the Center for Human

Development and Wayfinders Inc. to provide approximately 600 family shelter units in Springfield. At the 2024 point-in-time count, these units were serving 1423 people. This system is supplemented by an 18-unit transitional housing program for pregnant and parenting youth aged 18-24 (Gandara SHINE program for young families.)

The state of Massachusetts funds a 175-bed emergency shelter for men and women (Clinical and Support Options - Friends of the Homeless shelter), and a small 6-bed shelter for youth aged 18-24 (Gandara - Brighter Futures shelter). The state also funds an 8-unit Medical Respite program operated by the Mental Health Association, which provides shelter to individual being released from a hospital setting.

Massachusetts funds a domestic violence shelter and transitional housing program (the YWCA) that provides 58 emergency shelter and 51 transitional housing beds. The emergency shelter and transitional housing programs serve families and individuals.

In addition to the state-funded programs, Springfield's shelter resources include privately-supported programs. The Springfield Rescue Mission operates a 32-bed emergency shelter for men.

Springfield is not using Action Plan funds to support emergency shelter this year because this is an activity that is supported by other resources.

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

In its role as lead for the Continuum of Care, Springfield coordinates multiple efforts to assist homeless individuals and families to make the transition to stable and permanent housing. City staff lead case conferencing meetings which bring together outreach, shelter, rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing providers on a regular basis to ensure that those who are homeless are connected to housing navigators. Case managers, are making progress toward housing (by, for example, getting IDs), and are being matched to available housing opportunities. This work happens at population-specific meetings, with different providers attending meetings focused on families, individuals, youth aged 18-24, and domestic violence survivors.

The City is using ESG funds to support housing relocation services provided at the City's primary shelter for homeless individuals.

The City has focused housing resources on those who have the longest histories of homelessness and

the highest needs for supportive services. It is using HOME funds to provide tenant-based rental assistance to 42 individuals who were chronically homeless. In addition, in 2024-2025, it is funding a new TBRA program which will provide medium-term rental assistance to 6 individuals exiting a new Medical Respite shelter program, which provides assistance to homeless people being released from a hospital setting.

The City will use HOPWA funds to provide housing to homeless persons who have HIV/AIDS. Springfield will assist 43 HIV+ households with TBRA. HOPWA funds will also support provision of rental start-up funds (first, last, security deposit) for 15 households that include an HIV+ member.

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

The CoC coordinates with publicly-funded institutions of care via its coordinated entry system to plan for housing needs after people are dismissed from care. This coordination includes hospital emergency rooms and the local system for people involuntarily committed for treatment for a life-threatening level of substance use. The CoC collaborates with the MA Department of Children and Families (DCF) to identify and provide housing and other assistance to young adults aging out of foster care who are at high risk of homelessness. The CoC also collaborates with the Springfield Housing Authority to provide Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers to young adults existing foster care.

The state of Massachusetts RAFT program provides up to \$7000 per household to assist families to prevent homelessness--funds may be used for rent, mortgage, utilities or moving costs. The benefit is available for households with income up to 50% of the area median income (60% for DV survivors.)

Springfield is funding specialized homeless prevention programs for specific populations. The YWCA will provide homelessness prevention resources to 14 households using ESG funds. New North Citizens Council and Cooley Dickinson- A Positive Place will provide short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance (STRMU) to 66 households in which a household member is HIV+.

Discussion

AP-70 HOPWA Goals– 91.220 (I)(3)

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	66
Tenant-based rental assistance	43
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Total	109

DRAFT

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

Introduction:

Springfield zoning, land use, and public financing policies have made it attractive for development of affordable housing. Zoning ordinances allow for the creation of multi-family structures in four different zoning areas. These areas comprise more than a third of all residential zoned parcels in the City and include parts of all 17 City neighborhoods.

The City uses its tax title program and federal funds to develop affordable homeownership opportunities. The City maximizes federal and state funding to preserve and redevelop existing affordable housing, and it funds development of new rental and homeownership affordable housing. The City provides down-payment assistance to expand affordable homeownership.

Since 2023, Springfield has participated in the MassHousing Neighborhood Hub program, a state initiative to revitalize neighborhoods in gateway cities. A part of its participation has provided our community access to technical support for emerging developers of color. Three developers in Springfield are receiving support from this program, with two of the developers actively advancing affordable housing development projects in the city.

Springfield's history of low barriers to development of affordable housing has resulted in a significant amount of restricted affordable housing within the City. According to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Housing and Community Development, Springfield ranks 5th in the State for the number of income-restricted housing units, with 17.4% of its housing stock dedicated to affordable housing. In addition, the 2014 Pioneer Valley Regional Housing Plan, completed as part of a HUD-funded Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Initiative, indicates that 60% of all housing choice voucher mobile households in the Springfield metropolitan area use their voucher assistance within the City.

The lack of barriers to affordable housing in Springfield, in contradiction to the existence of barriers in communities surrounding the City, has contributed to racial segregation in the region. Springfield's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI) notes how the concentration of affordable housing in Springfield, and the lack of affordable housing outside Springfield, are major contributors to regional segregation. Springfield is a minority-majority City, with overall low incomes, adjacent to higher-income suburban communities which are predominantly white. The AI identifies several factors related to housing policy which have contributed to segregation: concentration of public and subsidized rental housing in urban areas, exclusionary zoning in suburban communities, the history of redlining, and use of restrictive covenants.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning

ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

The City is focused on increasing opportunity within areas with high concentrations of affordable housing, as detailed throughout the Action Plan.

In 2024, the City is undertaking a planning process to create a comprehensive housing plan for the City.

Discussion:

DRAFT

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City uses its annual allocation to tackle emergency home repairs, to address blighted homes (rehabilitation/redevelopment, disposition of tax title properties, demolition, code enforcement) and to encourage homeownership in Springfield (down payment assistance). When existing homes are abandoned, the City boards and secures the home to keep property and the neighborhoods safe. Springfield also administers a "clean and lien" program where the City clears abandoned properties and places a lien to secure the cost.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

In 2024, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) will continue to provide significant federal resources to address community needs. The City has committed funds to multiple programs to address underserved needs, including:

- Housing repair and rehabilitation
- Development of affordable housing
- Neighborhood improvements
- Small business assistance
- New business assistance

The City has also provided funds to multiple nonprofit organizations to assist with their recovery and to provide additional services to City residents. Programs include homelessness and rental assistance, and assistance to upgrade multiple community recreation and service facilities.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Springfield's most prevalent housing problem is housing cost burden, driven by the community's high rate of extreme poverty. Previous sections of both the Consolidated Plan and the Action Plan have discussed initiatives that the City of Springfield with the annual allocations of CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA funding. Many of these projects will work to foster and maintain affordable housing. Specific initiatives and goals the City will take on in the next year will include:

- New affordable housing units through rehabilitation and new construction
- Assist households to become homeowners
- Improve the city's housing stock

Post-pandemic, Springfield's housing market has tightened considerably. In response, the City has placed a higher priority on the development of new units.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Specific actions the City will take to evaluate lead-paint hazards during the next year will include:

- Utilization of the City's Code Enforcement inspectors to evaluate potential hazards and to enforce remediation in compliance with Massachusetts lead laws. Federal and local funds are used to conduct inspections, which all include lead hazard evaluation
- Evaluation by Office of Housing staff inspectors of every property during the application/underwriting process for any housing assistance program
- Mandatory pre-rehabilitation lead testing including soil samples for all HOME-funded project-based homeownership and multi-family production programs
- Public education about the risks of lead-based paint and the danger of disturbing lead-based paint during home renovation projects

Specific actions to reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards will include:

- Mandatory remediation within rehabilitation specifications for all project-based and multi-family projects

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Springfield has a high concentration of poverty. The COVID pandemic has resulted in increased unemployment. The City is using COVID-CV funds to support local businesses and to maintain jobs in the community. As we look to continued recovery over the next year, the City has identified the need to provide employment training and to address the "cliff effect" to enable families to make the transition from receiving public assistance to becoming self-sufficient.

The City has outlined a variety of one-year goals that include creating an inclusive economy. One-year initiatives include:

- Support small business, creating or retaining jobs that target low- and moderate-income individuals
- Fund efforts to grow the creative economy
- Support public services, including employment training, for low income individuals and families

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Through a cabinet of departments that includes Office of Community Development, Office of Housing, Office of Neighborhood Services, Office of Disaster Recovery, and the Office of Economic Development and Planning, the City continues to enhance the coordination of the delivery of services and in the development of low- and moderate-income areas regardless of project funding sources. The major

institutional focus is to increase coordination and communication among all involved parties from the initial concept through project completion.

Springfield will implement its consolidated plan strategy through private industry; non-profit organizations, including CBDOs and CHDOs; the Springfield Redevelopment Authority; the Springfield Housing Authority; and City departments. The utilization of a broad base of organizations will assist the City in addressing its community development, housing, homeless and special needs objectives. However, while the number and abilities of the organizations and departments involved are an institutional strength, the City will constantly work to coordinate the projects and programs.

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

The utilization of a broad base of organizations to implement this Action Plan enables the City to address its community development, economic development, housing, homeless and special needs objectives. The City works to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies through multi-disciplinary/multi-agency teams that focus on particular issues or neighborhoods. Some of these teams that will be active during 2024-2025 are: LiveWell Springfield; the Springfield Climate Justice Initiative; the Healthy Homes Collaborative; the Springfield Police Department’s C3 neighborhood initiatives; the Continuum of Care; and multiple youth providers working collaboratively as part of the CoC’s Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project. Our community will continue its partnership in implementation of 413Cares, an innovative online portal that links community members to the broad range of resources available in our community.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

AP-90 HOME and HOME Recapture Policies made as part of this document; AD-26; Appendices

AP-90 also includes a description of the City' selection of HOPWA sponsors.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

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

**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:

The City of Springfield will not use forms of investment for the HOME Program during this fiscal year other than those described in 92.205(b).

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:

The City of Springfield's HOME Program funds two types of homebuyer activities--1) Down Payment Assistance and 2) Project-Based Homeownership-Homeowner Subsidy. The City applies the same Recapture guidelines for both programs. However, the length of the affordability period differs, depending on the amount of assistance provided.

The City's Down Payment Assistance program does not provide more than \$4000 per recipient, and the affordability period is capped at 5 years. In the Project-Based Homeownership program, the period of affordability varies from 5 to 15 years, depending on the amount of the direct subsidy provided to the homebuyer (up to \$14,999 = 5 years; \$15,000-39,999 = 10 years; \$40,000 or over = 15 years). The amount of HOME assistance/HOME investment subject to recapture is the direct subsidy that enabled the homebuyer to purchase the property. The HOME subsidy is defined as the difference between the fair market value of the property at the date of purchase by the participating owner(s) and the affordable purchase price paid by the participating owner(s) on that date.

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:

The City of Springfield Resale / Recapture Policies have been included as part of the Appendix G. All subrecipients, grantees and CHDO's must follow the approved City policies regarding Resale / Recapture.

The City of Springfield requires all housing developed to be modest housing, as described in 24 CFR Part 92.254 (a). The City of Springfield utilizes the HUD affordable Homeownership Limit for new construction and existing housing. All CHDOs, recipients and subrecipients must follow these same limits for the sale of affordable housing units.

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:

The City does not use HOME funds for refinancing.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

The City's HOME TBRA assistance program uses a preference for people who meet the definition of chronically homeless. As defined at 24 CFR 578.3, a chronically homeless person is someone who is currently homeless, has a disabling condition, and has been homeless or a year or longer or 4 or more times in the last three years, adding up to 12 months of homelessness.

Referrals to the ongoing program are made by the Continuum of Care, which maintains an ongoing list of people who are chronically homeless and seeking housing, which is compiled and maintained by the CoC's consolidated entry process.

In 2024-2025, the City is providing TBRA to a new initiative, the Mental Health Association (MHA) Medical Respite Program. The state-funded Medical Respite Program provides up to six months of residential support to homeless people being discharged from hospital stays who have medical needs which make them inappropriate for discharge to emergency shelter. The program allows stays of up to six months, and by state mandate may not release participants to homelessness. The new TBRA initiative provides up to 24 months of bridge housing subsidy to participants being released from this program. Eligibility for the program is participation in the Medical Respite Program, and no further preferences are provided.

6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

In its HOME TBRA program, the City does not provide a preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness).

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

As detailed in the 2023 Action Plan, the City is providing HOME funds to Home City Development Inc. to support development of 11 HOME-funded rental units. These units will have a preference for people who meet the definition of chronically homeless (as defined at 24 CFR 578.3) and who are referred to the project by the Continuum of Care coordinated entry system. Residents of these units

will be offered non-mandatory supportive services to assist them to maintain housing stability.

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

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

The City of Springfield has included the written standards for providing ESG Assistance in Appendix H

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

The CoC has established a tiered coordinated assessment system for homeless and at-risk standardized assessment and referral, as well as a ranking of people eligible for permanent supportive housing (PSH) which prioritizes those who have the highest service need and longest lengths of stay in homelessness.

The tiered assessment tools used as part of the coordinated system are:

- Prevention Assessment Tool, used to prioritize households seeking prevention financial assistance
- Diversion Questionnaire, used to determine whether a household may be able to avoid shelter use by accessing another safe housing option
- Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VISPDAT), Transition-Age-Youth (TAY) VISPDAT and Family VISPDAT, used to prioritize among people eligible for permanent supportive housing (PSH)

The tools provide guidance to appropriate standard referrals. Information from the VISPDAT is entered into the online secure assessment tool, which is used at multi-agency case conferencing meetings to fill vacancies in PSH based on length of homelessness and level of service needs, and to refer people for RRH. Vacancies in CoC PSH units are filled solely through referral from the coordinated entry system.

There are two specialized parts of the coordinated entry system. The first is a Youth (age 18-24) System, which includes a 24/7 hotline and connection with housing navigators who are specifically trained to work with young adults. The second part is coordinated entry specifically for survivors of domestic violence; the DV CE system is operated by the two DV agencies in Hampden County, the YWCA and Alianza DV Services.

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's 2023-2024 allocation is \$331,925; the City will retain \$24,894 of that amount for administrative costs. The balance of \$307,031 is allocated to the agencies selected in spring 2024 using a Request for Proposals (RFP) process led by the Springfield Office of Housing. The RFP was advertised in the local newspaper, posted on the City's Office of Housing website (<https://www.springfield-ma.gov/housing/>), and sent by email to the members of the Continuum of Care. The selection committee will consist of City Staff, community members, and members of the CoC.

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.

The City of Springfield is unable to directly meet the requirement that it have a homeless or formerly homeless individual on its policy-making Board of Directors, because the City's policy is made by elected officials. The City meets its requirement to include homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering and making policies and decisions regarding ESG-funded facilities, services, or other assistance through extensive participation in and consultation with the Springfield Continuum of Care, an entity that includes formerly homeless individuals as members of the Board of Directors. The City also requires each subrecipient to meet the ESG homeless participation requirements.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

ESG performance standards vary by type of program as follows:

- Prevention - Utilization: 100%; Exit Data Captured: 90%; Remain in housing or move to other permanent housing: 95%; Missing data elements: no more than 3%.
- Emergency Shelter - Average length of stay: decrease by 5%; Exit data captured: 30%; Exits to PH: 20%; Missing data elements: no more than 5%.
- Rapid Rehousing - Utilization: 100%; Literally homeless at entry: 100%; Exit data captured: 90%; Received non-cash benefits: at least 90%; missing data elements: no more than 5%.

Project performance is considered during evaluation of project proposals for renewal.

The City selected the current HOPWA providers using a competitive process in 2023, which selected providers for a two-year period. The City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP), which was advertised in the *Springfield Republican*, the *Metro Record*, and *La Voz*. Notice of the RFP was also posted on the site of the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness, which reaches hundreds of providers throughout the three-county EMSA, and was sent by email to providers that work with the target population.

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