



City of Biloxi 2017 Action Plan Draft for its Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program

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

1. Introduction

The City of Biloxi's 2017 One-Year Action Plan is a component of its 2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and serves as the City's application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for entitlement grants. During Program Year 2017, which begins October 1, 2017 and ends September 30, 2018, the City of Biloxi received an allocation of \$443,429 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from HUD and anticipates receiving CDBG Program Income in the amount of \$171,691. On June 15, 2017, the City was notified by HUD that it would receive \$31,498 in 2016 Entitlement funds being redistributed within its Gulfport-Biloxi-Pascagoula Metropolitan Statistical Area. Based on HUD's guidance, these reallocated funds are included in Biloxi's 2017 One-Year Action Plan, bringing total CDBG funds anticipated to be available for Program Year 2017 activities to \$646,618.

The City of Biloxi is not a formula entitlement recipient under HUD's HOME, Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) or HOME Programs.

Activities included in the Biloxi 2017 One-Year Action Plan are intended to principally benefit low- to moderate-income residents by meeting their housing and nonhousing community development needs. This document identifies the sources of funds and other resources available to plan and implement specific activities during Program Year 2017 as well as the steps to be taken to accomplish proposed goals.

Through its citizen-based public participation process described in the Action Plan, the City of Biloxi identified the community's housing and community development needs and priorities for Program Year 2017 and for the five-year period of Biloxi's current Consolidated Plan. Through input provided by citizens, citizen groups and nonprofit organizations, in particular those agencies structured to deliver housing and supportive services to Biloxi's low- and moderate-income residents, the City developed priorities that focus on:

- 1) providing a suitable living environment by improving the quality of life for residents in areas where the majority of households qualify as low- to moderate-income; and
- 2) supporting affordable public services providing by nonprofit agencies and organizations for very low, low and moderate-income families, victims of domestic violence and qualified residents with special needs such as the disabled.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

Activities included in the Biloxi 2017 Action Plan are intended to principally benefit low- to moderate-income residents through eligible uses of CDBG funds. Program Year 2017 CDBG funds in the amount of \$516,618 are budgeted for first-phase activities required for the comprehensive rehabilitation of the Saenger Theatre and Community Center, which is located in a low- to moderate-income area of East Biloxi that also is a designated slum and blighted area. The Saenger Theatre and Community Center serves the project area as a neighborhood facility in which ward meetings and other neighborhood meetings are held. Residents in the project area and all senior citizens residing in Biloxi are provided discounted access to all activities, programs and performances conducted at the facility.

Phase 1 of the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Project was initiated in PY2015 and involved an environmental assessment; in PY2016 a detailed assessment/rehabilitation plan was prepared, funded by the City and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH). PY2017 CDBG funds will assist in funding the critically-needed exterior repairs identified in the assessment/rehabilitation plan to secure the building from collapse. Rehabilitation activities to bring public access to the building into full ADA-compliance also will be undertaken. PY2017 CDBG funds helped leverage a Mississippi Landmark grant from MDAH to implement this component of Phase 1. As additional funds become available, the City will rehabilitate the facility's interior to support its continued use as a public facility that supports neighborhood and community meetings, school performances, educational programs and a wide variety of other community performances and productions.

In the Public Services category, 2017 CDBG funds are budgeted for programs to address the following unmet community needs: expanded access to quality, affordable early childcare education and daycare services for eligible families, including children who are victims of domestic violence; and improving housing affordability to primarily assist homeless veterans and families with children through tenant-based rent and utility assistance and security deposit assistance.

Through the investment of 2017 CDBG funds as budgeted, the City will improve the quality of life for low- to moderate-income residents through enhanced community engagement; expanded access to quality, affordable early childhood education programs; and affordable housing assistance to homeless veterans and families with children.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Input through its citizen participation process; awareness of CDBG regulations and policies; and attention to scheduling to insure timely implementation of projects guide identification of CDBG goals and projects. As identified in its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the goal for use of its CDBG resources is primarily to meet the unmet needs of its low- to moderate-income residents and those with special needs to improve their standard of living.

Throughout each program year, the City of Biloxi monitors its performance in terms of spending CDBG funds and meeting program goals through the expenditure of said funds. The City annually assesses its performance as detailed in its CAPER and conducts a public hearing to share information with the public about its progress in completing CDBG-funded activities and achieving program goals to primarily benefit low- to moderate-income residents.

By monitoring expenditures throughout implementation of each activity, the staff is able to insure timeliness of expenditures and to administer each CDBG-funded activity for maximum public benefit and cost-efficiency while complying with HUD regulations, procedures and policies.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The City of Biloxi encouraged citizen participation throughout development of the 2017 One-Year Action Plan. As thoroughly identified and detailed in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, specific measures are taken to provide opportunities for citizens, particularly those of low- to moderate-income, to participate in establishing priorities and identifying activities to be funded. To encourage citizen participation specifically into development of the 2017 Action Plan, the City did the following:

- Published a Notice of Availability of Information Regarding the City of Biloxi's 2017 One-Year Action Plan;
- Published a Notice of Public Hearing for the 2017 One-Year Action Plan;
- Mailed letters to supportive service agencies, civic organizations and neighborhood associations to encourage attendance at the public hearing and to make them aware of the availability of information regarding the 2017 One-Year Action Plan;
- Posted notices, in English, Spanish and Vietnamese, regarding the public hearing and availability of information about the 2017 One-Year Action Plan on the City's website, as well as at City Hall, the four branches of the Biloxi Public Library and delivered notices to various social service

agencies that assist and/or represent nonEnglish-speaking residents, including Catholic Community and Social Services, El Pueblo, and Boat People USA;

- Conducted a public hearing to provide citizens with an opportunity to comment orally and in writing about the housing and non-housing community development needs of the City and about the proposed use of CDBG funds during the 2017 Program Year;
- Published a Notice of Availability of a Draft of the 2017 One-Year Action Plan for a 30-day comment period; and
- Posted notices and made the Draft 2017 One-Year Action Plan available for public review at City Hall, the Biloxi Public Libraries, the Biloxi Housing Authority, and on the City's website.

Summary of Citizens Comments

A public hearing to discuss the City of Biloxi's 2017 One-Year Action Plan was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Biloxi Community Development Department Auditorium. Minutes from the meeting, as well as copies of the attendance roster, agenda, CDBG Fact Sheet, the official notice published in the local newspaper to advertise the hearing, and written comments received will be attached to the final 2017 Action Plan. All oral and written comments are considered by the City.

5. Summary of public comments

A public hearing to discuss the City of Biloxi's 2017 One-Year Action Plan was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Biloxi Community Development Department Auditorium. Minutes from the meeting, as well as copies of the attendance roster, agenda, CDBG Fact Sheet, the official notice published in the local newspaper to advertise the hearing, and any written comments received will be attached to the final 2017 Action Plan.

All oral comments are considered by the City. No written comments were formally submitted at the public hearing, _____ were submitted during the subsequent 30-day comment period.

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

No written comments were formally submitted during the June 21, 2017 public hearing; _____ were submitted during the 30-day comment period. All oral comments, as detailed in the public hearing minutes, and the written comments presented during the public hearing were considered by the City in developing the 2017 Action Plan. The City budgeted its limited CDBG resources to improving the living environment of primarily benefit low- to moderate-income residents.

7. Summary

Biloxi's 2017 Action Plan allocates CDBG funding to address some of the unmet community needs to improve the quality of life of its residents, primarily those who reside in low- to moderate-income households.

The City does not receive HOME, ESG or HOPWA allocations to address needs funded through these programs. Because it does not currently operate an emergency shelter, the City is not eligible to apply for 2017 ESG funds through the State. The City will continue to work with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition and other local nonprofit agencies that serve Biloxi's low- to moderate-income residents and the homeless, by supporting their applications for federal and state assistance when the programs proposed to be funded are consistent with Biloxi's current Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The Mayor reserves the right to designate qualified subrecipients to assist in the City's on-going efforts to address unmet community needs through specific, HUD-eligible public service activities, subject to the approval of the Biloxi City Council and in compliance with HUD's annual budget limits on public service activities.

DRAFT

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 | BILOXI | Engineering Department, Federal Programs |

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Susan Pickich, Federal Programs Manager

City of Biloxi, Engineering Department

spickich@biloxi.ms.us

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

1. Introduction

The City enjoys a good working relationship with local and regional nonprofit agencies and service organizations that work collaboratively to provide services and programs to address residents' unmet needs. The City actively participates as a member of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care and maintains ongoing communication with the Biloxi Housing Authority, Back Bay Mission, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, the Mississippi Center for Justice, Moore Community House, the Biloxi Public School District, Steps Coalition and others to share public information, consult about residents' needs and service delivery.

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))

During Program Year 2017, the City will continue to work with and support the ongoing efforts of the many social service organizations and public agencies that provide social services, including housing assistance programs, to residents of Biloxi. These include the Biloxi Housing Authority, Salvation Army, LIFE, Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Catholic Community and Social Services, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, Back Bay Mission, Moore Community House, Gulf Coast Rescue Mission, the Mississippi Center for Justice and several others.

The City of Biloxi is an active participant in the Gulf Coast Continuum of Care (administered by the Open Doors Homeless Coalition), a multi-county, multi-agency effort to address the full continuum of care for the homeless. The City will continue to participate and will actively support efforts of the CoC to obtain HUD and other funding to broaden the spectrum of services available to the homeless and increase and improve current levels of services.

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 Biloxi is an active participant in the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care, a multi-county, multi-agency effort to address the full continuum of care for the homeless on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The City will continue to participate and will actively support efforts to obtain HUD and other funding to broaden the spectrum of services available to the homeless and increase and improve current levels of services. Specifically during Program Year 2017, the City will continue to support efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition to assess and address the needs of the chronically homeless, especially veterans and families with children, and to obtain grant funding to assist those on the verge of becoming homeless.

In PY2017, Biloxi has budgeted \$20,000 in CDBG funds for a public service program to directly assist in ongoing efforts to address homelessness by providing tenant-based rent, utilities and security deposit assistance, with priority given to homeless families with children, veterans and persons at risk of homelessness.

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 has a good working relationship with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, the Mississippi Coast's designated Continuum of Care. The City provides input about the needs of the community to support the efforts of the Continuum of Care, including projects and activities assisted with ESG funds. The City does not receive or administer any ESG funds.

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

(See charts on the following page)

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Agency/Group/Organization | Biloxi Housing Authority |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | PHA |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs Lead-based Paint Strategy |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The City has an ongoing working relationship with the Biloxi Housing Authority and communicates via telephone and email with the staff on a regular basis. The BHA was contacted by a mailed letter to attend the 2017 Action Plan Public Hearing and to provide oral or written comments regarding proposed activities and use of funds. Additionally, the BHA Director met with the Biloxi Federal Programs Manager to plan PY2017 fair housing outreach activities. |
| 2 | Agency/Group/Organization | Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services-homeless 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 |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | <p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p> | <p>The CoC was invited by mail to attend the 2017 Action Plan Public Hearing and provide input orally or in writing. The City regularly attends the CoC meetings and participates in the Point of Time annual counts to maintain current information about local homelessness. Working together, the CoC, Biloxi and other nonprofits effectively ended veterans homelessness in Biloxi during 2015. The City and CoC are working together to develop a tenant-based public service program to provide security deposit assistance to help prevent and/or address homelessness, especially for the chronically homeless, families with children and veterans, through the investment of 2017 CDBG funds.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> | <p>BACK BAY MISSION</p> |
| | <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p> | <p>Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing</p> |
| | <p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p> | <p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</p> |
| | <p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p> | <p>The City contacted Back Bay Mission by phone and mail to encourage their input into development of the 2017 Action Plan and to encourage attendance at the public hearing. The City provides Back Bay Mission with general funds to support its housing rehabilitation program for the elderly and disabled.</p> |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 4 | Agency/Group/Organization | GULF COAST CENTER FOR NONVIOLENCE |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Regional organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The City encouraged attendance of the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence at the 2017 Action Plan public hearing by mail, email and phone conversation. The City is working with the Center to expand early childhood education services for qualified victims of domestic violence with 2017 CDBG funds. |
| 5 | Agency/Group/Organization | Moore Community House |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The City encouraged Moore Community House's attendance at the 2017 Action Plan public hearing by mail, email and phone conversation. The City and MCC are working together to expand access to an affordable, quality early childhood education and daycare program offered to income-eligible families. 2017 CDBG funds are budgeted to support expansion of the existing program. |

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

The City is not aware of any agency types that it did not consult with; several social service organizations attended the 2017 Action Plan public hearing, which was widely advertised, to provide input.

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 | Open Doors Homeless Coalition | The City's goals are similar in seeking to address the causes of homelessness to prevent homelessness. The City and CoC are working together during PY2017 to provide rent and utility assistance as well as security deposit assistance to assist veterans and families with children in their efforts to access affordable housing in Biloxi to prevent homelessness. |
| Biloxi Comprehensive Plan | City of Biloxi | Several goals and activities overlap that were identified by considerable citizen input during development of the Biloxi 2009 Comprehensive Plan. These include providing water, sewer and storm water system services to all residents, meeting affordable housing needs for all residents and expanding effective delivery of public services to improve residents' quality of life. |

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The City of Biloxi encouraged citizen participation throughout development of the 2017 One-Year Action Plan. As thoroughly identified and detailed in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, specific measures are taken to provide opportunities for citizens, particularly those of low- to moderate-income, to participate in establishing priorities and identifying activities to be funded. Specifically, the City did the following to broaden citizen participation into development of the 2017 Action Plan:

- Published a Notice of Availability of Information Regarding the City of Biloxi’s 2017 One-Year Action Plan;
- Published a Notice of Public Hearing for the 2017 One-Year Action Plan;
- Mailed letters to supportive service agencies, civic organizations and neighborhood associations to encourage attendance at the public hearing and to make them aware of the availability of information regarding the 2017 One-Year Action Plan;
- Posted notices, in English, Spanish and Vietnamese, regarding the public hearing and availability of information regarding the 2017 One-Year Action Plan on the City’s website, as well as at City Hall, the Biloxi Public Library and delivered notices to various supportive service agencies including Catholic Community and Social Services, El Pueblo, and Boat People USA;
- Conducted a public hearing to provide citizens with an opportunity to comment orally and in writing about the housing and non-housing community development needs of the City and about the proposed use of CDBG funds during the 2017 Program Year;
- Published a Notice of Availability of a Draft of the 2017 One-Year Action Plan for a 30-day comment period; and
- Posted notices and made the Draft 2017 One-Year Action Plan available for public review at City Hall, the Biloxi Public Libraries, the Biloxi Housing Authority, and on the City’s website.

Summary of Citizens Comments

A public hearing to discuss the City of Biloxi’s 2017 One-Year Action Plan was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Biloxi Community Development Department Auditorium. Minutes from the meeting, as well as copies of the attendance roster, agenda, CDBG Fact Sheet, the official notice published in the local newspaper to advertise the hearing, and written comments received will be attached to the final 2017 Action Plan.

Based on citizen input provided during development of its Five-Year Consolidated Plan and 2017 One-Year Action Plan and consultation with local housing and social service agencies, the City identified Program Year 2017 CDBG-funded activities and programs.

Citizen Participation Outreach

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons | URL (If applicable) |
|------------|------------------|--|--|--|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Public Hearing | <p>Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish & Vietnamese</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p> | Two people, in addition to staff, attended the public hearing. | The minutes of the public hearing and a copy of written comments submitted will be attached to the final document. | Not applicable; all comments were considered. | |

| 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 | Internet Outreach | Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish & Vietnamese - Persons with disabilities - Non-targeted/broad community - Residents of Public and Assisted Housing | Cannot determine (public hearing notices also were published and posted). | _____ written comment was received. | Not applicable; all comments were considered. | |
| 3 | Flyers were posted throughout the City. | Minorities -Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish & Vietnamese -Persons with disabilities -Residents of Public and Assisted Housing | Not known because other forms of advertising were used to encourage citizen input at the public hearing and through written comments. | Will be attached to the final document | Not applicable; all comments were considered. | |

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City has been notified that HUD has allocated \$443,429 to the City of Biloxi for PY2017. The City anticipates generating \$171,691 in program income during the 2017 Program Year. On June 15, 2017, the City was notified by HUD that it would receive \$31,498 in 2016 Entitlement funds being redistributed within its Gulfport-Biloxi-Pascagoula Metropolitan Statistical Area. Based on HUD’s guidance, these reallocated funds are included in Biloxi’s 2017 One-Year Action Plan, bringing total CDBG funds anticipated to be available for Program Year 2017 activities to \$646,618.

These funds are budgeted to primarily benefit low- to moderate-income residents through various activities and programs identified as high priorities during the citizen participation process.

Priority Table

| Program | Source of Funds | Uses of Funds | Expected Amount Available Year 3 | | | | Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan | Narrative Description |
|---------|------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------|---|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| | | | Annual Allocation: | Program Income: | Prior Year Resources : (redistribution) | Total: | | |
| CDBG | public - federal | Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services | \$443,429 | \$171,691 | \$31,498 | \$646,618 | The City's 2017 CDBG allocation is a \$25,586 increase over its PY2016 allocation. | |

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

The CDBG Program does not require matching funds.

However, PY2017 CDBG funds are leveraging additional resources from private, state and local sources to fully-fund critically-needed exterior repairs to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center, as identified in a detailed facility assessment. Repairs also will include improving access to the building so that it is ADA-compliant. The building is located in a primarily low- to moderate-income area in east Biloxi that, incidentally, is a designated slum and blighted area. The Saenger serves as a neighborhood community center and theatre.

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

The Saenger Theatre and Community Center is a City-owned building where project area neighborhood meetings are held, including ward meetings, in addition to educational and cultural programs, performances, and other public activities. By securing this building, which also is located in a principally low- to moderate-income area, low- to moderate-income residents will benefit from improved access to a neighborhood facility, increased community and economic activity that will stimulate redevelopment in a designated slum and blighted area and expanded employment opportunities, addressing several community needs identified in the Biloxi Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

Discussion

The City of Biloxi budgeted its limited 2017 CDBG resources to improve the living environment for all its citizens, but primarily to improve the quality of life of its low- to moderate-income residents with unmet community needs. The City will continue to seek additional federal, state and private resources to leverage its annual CDBG allocation from HUD.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

| Sort Order | Goal Name | Start Year | End Year | Category | Geographic Area | Needs Addressed | Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|------------|---------------------------|------------|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| 1 | Public Safety and Welfare | 2017 | 2018 | Non-Housing Community Development | | | CDBG: \$516,618 | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 685 Persons Assisted |
| 2 | Public Services | 2015 | 2019 | Non-Housing Community Development | | | CDBG: \$55,000 | Benefit: Number of Persons to be determined |

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | Goal Name | Public Safety and Welfare |
| | Goal Description | The City will implement critically-needed exterior repairs to secure the Saenger Theatre and Community Center to benefit a primarily low- to moderate-income area in East Biloxi. Rehabilitation also will include public access improvements to bring the building into ADA-compliance. |

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| 2 | Goal Name | Public Services |
| | Goal Description | The City is budgeting \$55,000 in PY2017 for public service activities, less than the 15% limit set by HUD. \$25,000 is budgeted to expand access to quality early childhood educational and daycare services for low- to moderate-income residents provided by Moore Community House; \$20,000 is budgeted to assist the local Continuum of Care meet the affordable housing needs of homeless veterans and families with children through rental and utility assistance, including security deposits; and \$10,000 is budgeted to support quality early childhood educational and daycare services for victims of domestic violence. |

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):

The City has not budgeted CDBG or other funds to provide affordable housing during Program Year 2017 as it does not receive HOME, ESG or HOPWA funding.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

This section provides specific information about Program Year 2017 projects to be funded through Biloxi's CDBG Entitlement Program. In addition to funding a portion of CDBG Program staff costs, publication fees and legal services through its Program Administration activity, this category includes funding to implement the fair housing educational outreach recommendations in Biloxi's current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, which includes publishing information and conducting a variety of workshops in partnership with the Biloxi Housing Authority, the Mississippi Center for Justice, the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care among others.

| # | Project Name |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Administration |
| 2 | Saenger Theatre and Community Center |
| 3 | Public Services |

Table 8 – Project Information

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

To meet underserved and unmet community needs identified during development of the 2017 Action Plan and the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City has allocated \$55,000 in PY2017 CDBG funds for public service activities. This level of support for public service activities funding is in compliance with HUD's public service category cap.

Allocation of funds to one public facilities project also was based on public input and anticipated benefit.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 9 – Project Summary

| | | |
|----------|--|--|
| 1 | Project Name | Administration |
| | Target Area | Not Applicable |
| | Goals Supported | NA |
| | Needs Addressed | NA |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$75,000 |
| | Description | PY2017 CDBG funds in the amount of \$75,000 are budgeted for eligible costs associated with administering the entitlement program, including a portion of staff costs, publication of required notices and legal services. Funding also supports implementation of the City's fair housing educational outreach activities identified in its current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2018 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | NA |
| | Location Description | Biloxi Federal Programs Division 214-A Delauney Street Biloxi, MS 39530 |
| | Planned Activities | Activities to be funded through Administration include a portion of staff costs, publication of required notices and legal services. Funding also supports implementation of the City's fair housing educational outreach activities identified in its current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 2 | Project Name | Saenger Theatre and Community Center |
| | Target Area | |
| | Goals Supported | Public Safety and Welfare |
| | Needs Addressed | Repairs to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center will address project area residents' need for a meeting place to support continued community engagement. Implementation of the project will allow the building to remain in public use for neighborhood meetings, cultural and educational programs, performances and other activities. Public access improvements will be made so that the Saenger is ADA compliant. |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$516,618 |
| | Description | Public facility project to implement critically-needed exterior repairs to secure the Saenger Theatre and Community Center to benefit a primarily low- to moderate-income area in East Biloxi. Handicap access improvements also will be implemented during this first phase of comprehensive facility rehabilitation. |
| | Target Date | 9/30/2018 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | An estimated 685 project area residents will benefit from this activity, of whom 66.4% qualify as low- to moderate-income. The project also is located within a City-designated slum and blighted area. |
| | Location Description | 170 Reynoir Street in East Biloxi |
| | Planned Activities | Planned activities are critically-needed exterior repairs, identified through a comprehensive assessment of this City-owned facility, as well as ADA-required access improvements. |
| 3 | Project Name | Public Services |
| | Target Area | Citywide |
| | Goals Supported | Public Service Activities |

| | |
|--|--|
| Needs Addressed | Public service activities other than low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit and public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit |
| Funding | CDBG: \$55,000 |
| Description | Three public service projects are planned for implementation during PY2017: Moore Community House - affordable quality, early childhood learning program \$25,000; Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence - affordable childhood education program \$10,000; and Open Doors Homeless Coalition - tenant-based rent and utility assistance and security deposit grants to improve access to affordable housing for qualified near-homeless and homeless veterans and families with children \$20,000. |
| Target Date | 9/30/2018 |
| Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | An estimate of the number of persons who will benefit from this activity is not available at this time, but 100% will qualify as low- to moderate-income. |
| Location Description | Citywide |
| Planned Activities | Assist in the provision of affordable early childhood educational programs for qualified children and assist in improving access to affordable housing in Biloxi for near-homeless and homeless veterans and families with children. |

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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 does not allocate funds by geographic priorities, as detailed in its Five-Year Consolidated Plan. While most activities to be undertaken during Program Year 2017 will benefit residents on a citywide basis, one project will principally serve low-to moderate-income residents in a specific project area. Maps are attached that identify the low-to moderate-income areas in the City, minority concentration areas and the location of 2017 Program Year activities.

Each of the public service activities will provide citywide benefit. These activities will be funded with a total of \$55,000 in PY2017 CDBG funds, in compliance with HUD's public service cap. The activities include providing up to \$20,000 for tenant-based housing assistance to improve affordability through rental and utility assistance and security deposit grants (priority given to homeless families with children and homeless veterans); \$25,000 for expansion of early childhood development and education programs for qualified, eligible families; and \$10,000 to assist in providing quality, education programs for eligible children who are victims of domestic violence.

Geographic Distribution

| Target Area | Percentage of Funds |
|--|---------------------|
| Central Biloxi Drainage Improvements Project | 0 |
| Petit Bois Drainage Improvements Project | 0 |
| Central Biloxi Infrastructure Improvements Project (Greater Biloxi Subdivision area) | 0 |
| Hiller Park Recreational Enhancement Project | 0 |
| Central Biloxi/Lee Chinn Fire Station ladder truck acquisition | 0 |
| East Biloxi/Howard Avenue Streetscape Improvements | 0 |
| East Biloxi/Division Street Neighborhood Facility | 0 |
| Central Biloxi/Pass Road and Hiller Park Area Sidewalk and Street Improvements Project | 0 |
| East Biloxi/Division Street | 0 |
| Central Biloxi/Pass Road | 0 |
| East Biloxi Police Substation and Meeting Room | 0 |

Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City does not allocate funds by geographic priorities, as detailed in its Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The City's goal for use of limited CDBG resources is to improve the living environment of its low- to moderate-income residents through investment of funds in activities that improve their quality of life and maximize public benefits. Consideration also is given to activities that leverage the investment of other private, local, state and federal funding. One PY2017 public facilities project will improve residents' quality of life in a primarily low- to moderate-income area in East Biloxi through implementation of critically-needed repairs for the Saenger Theatre and Community Center to secure the building so it may continue to serve as a community resource for neighborhood meetings, educational and cultural programs, public performances and other activities. Rehabilitation will include public access improvements to bring the building into ADA compliance. It is located in a designated slum and blighted area.

Discussion

In its Administration budget category, PY2017 CDBG funds are budgeted to implement recommendations in its fair housing educational outreach plan, adopted as part of the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. Implementation of the outreach plan will benefit all residents of the City by informing the public of its rights under the Fair Housing Act and educating lenders, realtors, landlords and others of their responsibilities under the Act.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Biloxi does not receive HOME, ESG or HOPWA funding. However, the City has budgeted \$20,000 of PY2017 CDBG funds for a Public Service activity to assist veterans and families with children in avoiding homelessness through provision of tenant-based housing assistance in the form of rental and utility assistance and security deposit assistance to improve access to affordable housing in Biloxi. The City will work with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care and other social service agencies to identify qualified, eligible participants to benefit from this affordable housing activity. At this time, no information is available upon which to base an estimate of the number of citizens who will benefit from this activity.

The City also anticipates budgeting general funds to continue supporting Back Bay Mission's housing rehabilitation program that benefits elderly and disabled, income-qualified residents.

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

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

| One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through | |
|--|---|
| Rental Assistance | 0 |
| The Production of New Units | 0 |
| Rehab of Existing Units | 0 |
| Acquisition of Existing Units | 0 |
| Total | 0 |

Table 12 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City of Biloxi will continue to support the grant applications of area nonprofit service organizations and public agencies for expanded resources to meet the housing needs of its citizens, including applications for funding that will lower housing cost burdens on low- and moderate-income families to help them access affordable housing. The City will continue to support the pursuit of federal, state and private housing funding by area nonprofit service organizations and public agencies for housing services and programs that comply with the goals and objectives of the Biloxi Five-Year Consolidated Plan through programs such as: HOME, ESG, HOPWA, Weatherization, LIHEAP, Public Housing, VA, FEMA rental and mortgage assistance.

As an active member of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC, the City will continue to work during PY2017 to effectively coordinate local and regional systems, resources and services to meet the housing needs of the homeless, and to improve the affordability of and/or access to housing for those with special needs and those with low- to moderate-incomes.

The City will continue to support efforts of agencies, such as the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence to secure increased funding from federal and state sources to provide rental and mortgage assistance payments for those in crisis.

The City will continue to support efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition to secure grant funding through the “Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program” to assist families on the verge of becoming homeless with counseling services, financial assistance and long-term solutions.

The City also will work with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition and its member agencies to implement a PY2017 CDBG public service program to assist qualified, income-eligible near-homeless and homeless families with children and veterans with tenant-based housing security deposit grants and rental and utility assistance to improve access to affordable housing.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Biloxi Housing Authority (BHA) owns and manages 13 public housing complexes in the City, which comprise a combined total of 908 public housing units; BHA reported that there were approximately 4,265 applicants on the waiting list for public housing. While there is an apparent need for additional public housing, there also is a great local need for housing specifically designated for low-income elderly citizens. BHA reported that zero units were deemed to be below standard, while most developments were reported to be in good condition.

In addition to managing the 13 BHA public housing sites, BHA administers a total of 881 public housing and VASH vouchers, which includes 496 project-based, 103 tenant-based and 107 VASH vouchers. The Mississippi Region VIII Housing Authority also provides Section 8 rental assistance through Section 8 certificates and vouchers to hundreds of Biloxi residents. According to the regional public housing agency, there are approximately 275 families on the waiting list for Section 8 vouchers.

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

Although the Biloxi 2017 Action Plan does not designate funding for public housing, the City of Biloxi will continue to work with and support the Biloxi Housing Authority and the Mississippi Region VIII Housing Authority through the following actions:

- Continue to support the efforts of the Regional Housing Authority to eliminate obsolete public housing.
- Support the Biloxi Housing Authority's efforts to secure funds for additional assisted housing.
- Support the Biloxi Housing Authority's efforts to secure funds for additional assisted housing designated for elderly citizens.
- Support the Biloxi Housing Authority's efforts to improve the living environment at all assisted housing sites.
- Partner with the public housing agencies to provide fair housing educational outreach information and workshops.

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

The City will continue to work with the Biloxi Housing Authority and encourage BHA residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership through the public outreach campaign to educate Biloxi residents about their rights under the Fair Housing Act through workshops offered at various locations in 2017.

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

provided or other assistance

Not applicable to the Biloxi Housing Authority.

Discussion

BHA reports that zero units are deemed to be below standard, and all of the developments were reported to be in good condition.

DRAFT

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

Introduction

The City of Biloxi's strategy for addressing homelessness during the 2017 Program Year largely will focus on supporting the ongoing efforts of the following organizations that currently serve the homeless and those threatened with homelessness: the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care, LIFE, Catholic Community and Social Services, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Back Bay Mission, Gulf Coast Rescue Mission, the Biloxi Housing Authority, the Veterans Administration and others.

The City of Biloxi is an active participant in the Gulf Coast Continuum of Care, a multi-county, multi-agency effort to address the full continuum of care for the homeless. The City will continue to participate and will actively support efforts to obtain HUD and other funding to broaden the spectrum of services available to the homeless and increase and improve current levels of services. In addition, the City will continue to support efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC to assess and address the needs of homeless persons and to obtain grant funding to assist those on the verge of becoming homeless.

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 works with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC and other social service agencies serving the homeless with shelter, food, clothing, etc. and will continue to work with the CoC to establish methods for assessing the needs of the homeless. The CoC interviews homeless persons in Biloxi in an attempt to identify their immediate and long-term needs to determine what can be done to comprehensively meet those needs so that self-sufficiency and economic independence in a permanent housing environment can be attained.

During PY2017, the City will not receive funding through HOME, ESG or HOPWA, but will participate in on-going efforts to reduce homelessness through the allocation of \$20,000 in PY2017 CDBG funds for a tenant-based housing assistance public service activity that will provide rent and utility assistance and security deposit assistance to qualified, eligible near-homeless and homeless families with children and veterans to assist them in accessing affordable housing in Biloxi.

The City also is working with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition and other dedicated local nonprofits to effectively end chronic homelessness in Biloxi by the end of the year and to effectively end homelessness among families and youth by 2020.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City will continue to support efforts of agencies to secure increased funding from HUD and other agencies to provide rental and mortgage assistance payments for those in crisis.

The City will continue to support efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC to secure grant funding through the “Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program” to assist families on the verge of becoming homeless with counseling services, financial assistance and long-term solutions.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again.

The need for expanded or additional emergency shelter facilities and supportive services has been established from data supplied to the City by agencies such as the Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC, Back Bay Mission, the Mississippi Center for Justice and Interfaith Hospitality Network. Strategies for addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless individuals and families include the following actions:

\$20,000 in PY2017 CDBG funds are budgeted by the City to assist near homeless and homeless families with children and veterans (as first priority) in securing housing through the provision of rent and utility assistance and security deposit grants to improve access to affordable housing. This public service activity will be a collaborative effort between the City and local housing-supportive service agencies to identify qualified, eligible participants and to document beneficiaries for HUD compliance purposes.

The City will support applications from agencies currently providing emergency shelter and supportive housing to the homeless. Agencies such as the Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, Women’s Resource and Empowerment Center (a subsidiary of the Center for Environmental and Economic Justice), Gulf Coast Rescue Mission and others will be supported by the City in their efforts to expand the capacity of such programs.

The City will support agencies serving Biloxi residents that seek funding opportunities to establish a transitional housing program with facilities and supportive services.

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

The City will support applications for federal and state funding to assist housing and supportive service providers in obtaining funds for the continuation and expansion of services and facilities that help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially the extremely low-income and those who are being discharged from public institutions and systems of care or receiving assistance from agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education and youth needs.

The City also will support agencies and applications for funding to continue and expand programs and facilities to meet the needs of mentally, developmentally and physically disabled persons. Agencies such as the South Mississippi Regional Center, LIFE, Gulf Coast Mental Health and the Mental Health Association of Mississippi will continue to be supported.

Discussion

The City will continue to support agencies such as the Mississippi Region VIII Housing Authority, Biloxi Housing Authority and Catholic Community and Social Services in their efforts to obtain more housing and housing assistance for the elderly through programs such as Public Housing Development Grants, Section 8 Certificates and Vouchers, HUD Section 201 and 811 Housing, and Tax Credits.

The City will support applications for funding to assist agencies such as the Catholic Community and Social Services and American Red Cross with programs to assist the elderly with reducing utility costs and paying utility bills through Weatherization and LIHEAP. Programs such as Meals on Wheels, which delivers meals to homebound elderly, Coastal Family Health Center and other home health programs will be supported in their efforts to assist the elderly and frail elderly.

The City will support agencies and applications for funding to continue and expand programs and facilities to meet the needs of mentally, developmentally and physically disabled persons. Agencies such as the South Mississippi Regional Center, LIFE, Gulf Coast Mental Health and the Mental Health Association of Mississippi will continue to be supported.

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

Introduction

During development of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the need for affordable permanent housing and affordable rental housing was identified by community leaders and citizens as one of the greatest challenges facing the City of Biloxi. To foster and maintain affordable housing and remove barriers to affordable housing, the City will do the following during the 2017 Program Year:

- Continue to work with and support efforts of the Biloxi Housing Authority to expand public housing and improve existing public housing;
- Continue to support grant applications of local nonprofit agencies for local rehabilitation loan and grant programs;
- Continue to support grant applications of local nonprofit agencies for emergency shelter services and programs;
- Continue to support efforts of various agencies to obtain HOME funding to broaden much-needed opportunities for homebuyer education and assistance for homeownership; and
- Work to implement the City's public education outreach plan to educate the public about the responsibilities of lenders, realtors, developers, landlords and others to provide access to all citizens in compliance with the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act as well as to inform the public about their rights under the law.

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

Biloxi's Comprehensive Land Development Ordinance, which includes subdivision regulations, provides for zero lot line developments and includes other land use provisions that encourage construction of affordable housing developments. An analysis of the Official Zoning Map of Biloxi reveals that a range of residential activities are permitted city wide so that affordable multi-family residential apartments and homes of all types and prices are not clustered in a single geographic area.

In the FY2016-17 Municipal Budget, property taxes were not increased as part of the effort to support land affordability; water and sewer rates and various user fees also were not increased to keep the cost of living affordable in Biloxi, especially to those on fixed incomes.

The City's Community Court helps maintain property values throughout the City through code enforcement activities that support public health and safety as well as promote basic maintenance of structures and preclude illegal dumping. This comprehensive, citywide code enforcement effort helps

maintain property values for all home owners and regulates rehabilitation to safeguard the safety of renters and home buyers.

The City annually provides general funds to a local nonprofit agency to provide homebuyer education programs and mortgage preparation assistance to first-time homebuyers.

Discussion

During 2017, a portion of CDBG program administration funds will assist with implementing the fair housing educational outreach plan as part of its ongoing effort to remove and ameliorate barriers to fair house. This includes publishing information in local housing publications and conducting workshops in partnership with the Biloxi Housing Authority, the Mississippi Center for Justice, the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care to educate the public about rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

To meet other unmet community needs identified during development of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the 2017 Action Plan, the City budgeted the following CDBG funds for public service activities. The total of \$55,000 for these PY2017 public service activities complies with HUD's public service category cap.

Affordable Early Childhood Education and Development Program \$25,000

To expand access to affordable, quality early childhood education and development for children six weeks to three years old, \$25,000 is budgeted to expand an existing program provided by Moore Community House that has a track record of success administering federally- and state-funded public programs for the benefit of Biloxi residents; use of CDBG funds for this activity will leverage additional private, state and local funds to support this activity. The program will be available to qualified low- to moderate-income residents of Biloxi who also must comply with program participation requirements.

Early Childhood Education and Development Program for Abused Children \$10,000

The Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence is licensed to provide an early childhood education and development program, which is limited to families that are sheltered at or receiving services from the center. PY2017 CDBG funding in the amount of \$10,000 will help fund expansion of the program and will leverage other private, state and local resources. The activity meets HUD's *Limited Clientele* presumption of benefit for abused children, homeless persons and battered spouses, but will be supported with required income documentation to verify low/mod benefit compliance.

Tenant-Based Affordable Housing Assistance through Rent and Utility Assistance and Security Deposits \$20,000

The Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC is certified by HUD to administer federally-funded homeless and housing programs. The FY2017 CDBG funds will provide rent and utility assistance and security deposit grants to help eligible homeless families with children and veterans (first priority) comply with "move-in" requirements to access affordable housing in Biloxi; the City's CDBG funds will provide security deposit assistance on a "first come-first served" basis until the \$20,000 cap is reached. The activity meets HUD's *Limited Clientele* presumption of benefit for homeless persons, which will be supported with required income documentation to verify low/mod benefit compliance.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City and local service providers will address the housing and supportive service needs of special groups that are underserved as follows:

The City will support applications for federal and state funding to assist housing and supportive service providers in obtaining funds for continuation and expansion of services and facilities. The City will continue to support agencies such as the Mississippi Region VIII Housing Authority, Biloxi Housing Authority, the Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and Catholic Community and Social Services in their efforts to obtain more housing and housing assistance for the underserved through various housing programs.

The City will support applications for funding to assist agencies such as the Catholic Community and Social Services and American Red Cross with programs to assist the elderly with reducing utility costs and paying utility bills through Weatherization and LIHEAP. Programs such as Meals on Wheels, which delivers meals to homebound elderly, Coastal Family Health Center and other home health programs will be supported in their efforts to assist the elderly and frail elderly.

The City will support agencies and applications for funding to continue and expand programs and facilities to meet the needs of mentally, developmentally and physically disabled persons. Agencies such as the South Mississippi Regional Center, LIFE, Gulf Coast Mental Health and the Mental Health Association of Mississippi will continue to be supported.

The City will continue to support efforts to sustain and expand programs and facilities to address the needs of persons who have alcohol or drug addictions. Agencies such as the Coastal Family Health Center, Salvation Army, Gulf Coast Rescue Mission and others will be supported in their efforts to develop new facilities to house and counsel persons addicted to drugs or alcohol.

The City will endorse and support efforts to establish a health facility specifically devoted to health care for persons with HIV/AIDS and will endorse and actively support efforts to develop broad educational programs focused on AIDS prevention.

The City will continue to support agencies and applications for funding agencies providing a full array of services that support the low- and moderate-income population and help persons to avoid homelessness. The following programs, among others, will be supported as well as applications for funding: American Red Cross, Meals on Wheels, Loaves & Fishes and Back Bay Mission.

The City will support agency efforts to assist public housing residents in making the transition to independent living. Agencies such as the Mississippi Region VIII Housing Authority, Biloxi Housing Authority, Salvation Army, Boys and Girls Clubs, Moore Community House and Interfaith Hospitality Network will be supported in efforts to provide public housing residents with opportunities to seek gainful employment and economic self-sufficiency. Programs such as resident initiatives, economic development training, homeownership, comprehensive day care programs, and youth programs will be encouraged and supported.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

To foster and maintain affordable housing and remove barriers to affordable housing, the City will do the following during the 2017 Program Year:

Continue to work with and support efforts of the Biloxi Housing Authority to expand public housing and improve existing public housing.

Continue to support applications for local rehabilitation loan and grant programs.

Continue to support efforts of various agencies to obtain HOME funding to broaden much-needed opportunities for homebuyer education and assistance for homeownership.

In Program Year 2017, the City also will partner with local nonprofit agencies such as the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care, the Biloxi Housing Authority, the Mississippi Center for Justice and others to implement an educational outreach program to promote compliance with the Fair Housing Act and to support the rights of those protected by the Act. The City will continue to implement its Fair Housing Plan in an ongoing effort to affirmatively advance fair housing and eliminate discrimination.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

During the 2017 Program Year, the City will continue to educate the public about lead-based paint hazards, including information about testing and abatement, if necessary, in accordance with EPA requirements.

The City's code enforcement efforts require housing structures being substantially rehabilitated or repaired be upgraded to code standards to eliminate or reduce the likelihood of lead-based paint exposure.

The Biloxi Housing Authority will continue to require abatement of lead-based hazards prior to public housing rehabilitation or renovation.

The Mississippi Region VIII Housing Authority will abate any lead-based paint reported in its LRP units with funds from its Comprehensive Grant Program. The Regional Housing Authority will continue its inspection program requiring owners of housing units inspected for Section 8 eligibility scrape and repaint any surface areas where paint is chipping or peeling. The agency will continue its lead-based paint hazard education program by providing informational literature to Section 8 families with children less than six years of age.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

In addition to capitalizing on redevelopment opportunities and encouraging economic growth, the City will continue to do the following during Program Year 2017 to help reduce the number of poverty-level families:

Invest PY2017 CDBG resources for a tenant-based housing assistance program to assist in improving access to affordable housing in Biloxi through rent and utility assistance and security deposit grants to qualified homeless families with children and veterans;

Continue to support programs of the Biloxi Housing Authority to provide employment training opportunities to public housing residents and support the establishment of afterschool care programs, which will allow parents a chance to seek and maintain gainful employment while children are cared for by qualified agencies;

Invest PY2017 CDBG resources to expand two affordable, quality early childhood education and development programs for children in qualified, income-eligible families to support parents' efforts to secure and maintain jobs or complete their education or training;

Continue to support the establishment of local job training programs that focus on jobs for Biloxi residents;

Continue its commitment to maintain existing infrastructure, including but not limited to water and sewer lines and streets, to serve business and industry and will continue implementing its capital projects program to upgrade and improve infrastructure to accommodate, encourage and induce diverse economic development;

Continue street improvements at major thoroughfares to insure that traffic congestion does not adversely impact economic development efforts;

Continue to use federal and state resources to position Biloxi so that development and redevelopment opportunities will be available, such as the investment of PY2017 CDBG funds to secure the Saenger Theatre and Community Center, which is located in a primarily low- to moderate-income area in East Biloxi, which also is in a designated slum and blighted area. Rehabilitation of this community resource will stimulate redevelopment of the area creating employment opportunities in an area in which primarily low- to moderate-income people live;

Continue its policy of encouraging investment and creation of jobs and will, to the maximum extent feasible, encourage investors to employ local residents; and

Continue to work with and support local agencies to expand affordable housing options.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care assists the City in maintaining an effective coordinated system of housing and related services to meet the needs of all Biloxi citizens and the City of Biloxi plans to continue working as an active member of the CoC during PY2017. By participating with Open Doors and its 50+ other members, the City maintains good communication and share critical information with public and private housing and social service agencies that form the local institutional structure.

Adherence to the Biloxi Citizen Participation Plan will assist the City in its efforts to strengthen the institutional structure within the jurisdiction as it requires public notice regarding planned and proposed CDBG-funded activities. In addition to posting and publishing notices regarding the City's CDBG

Entitlement Program, the City mails invitations to meetings and public hearings to local public and private housing and social service agencies to encourage their participation and input.

During PY2017, the City of Biloxi will take a pro-active role in implementing its Consolidated Plan and its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice's public education outreach plan. Social service agencies and housing providers will work to insure that application for HUD programs affected by the Consolidated Plan are consistent with the Plan.

The City will support coordinated efforts of the social service agencies in addressing the full continuum of care for the homeless and those with special needs.

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

In an effort to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies during PY2017, the City will continue to participate as an active member of the regional CoC and to adhere to its Citizen Participation Plan, which requires publication and distribution of information regarding the CDBG entitlement program. The City will continue to share information about federal, state and local funding opportunities with local agencies and organizations that provide housing and social service assistance to Biloxi residents. The City also will conduct an annual mailout to local agencies and organizations to encourage their participation in development and implementation of each CDBG Action Plan in an effort to strengthen the institutional structure within the jurisdiction.

The City will support coordinated efforts of the social service agencies in addressing the full continuum of care for the homeless.

Discussion

The City of Biloxi recognizes that its actions have significant bearing on economic development and private investment in the community. The City remains proactive in its efforts to encourage local economic development and redevelopment. The City has used such programs as Tax Increment Financing, the Urban Renewal Program, the CDBG Program, and others to revitalize and redevelop areas of Biloxi. This pro-development attitude has helped attract gaming venues, new business and industry and, in effect, has created thousands of new jobs thereby helping to reduce local poverty levels.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

The CDBG Program is authorized under Title I of the Housing and Development Act of 1974, as amended. The primary objective of Title I is the development of viable urban communities. These viable communities are achieved by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities.

The City of Biloxi anticipates receiving a CDBG entitlement allocation of \$443,429 for PY2017 and generating an additional \$171,691 in program income, the vast majority of which will be used to benefit low- to moderate-income persons. Its PY2017 Public Service activities have been budgeted a total of \$55,000 to benefit either those who meet HUD's requirements for limited clientele, presumed benefit or who qualify as low- to moderate-income.

Eligible CDBG activities must meet one of the program's three national policy objectives: benefit low- to moderate-income persons; aid in preventing or eliminating slums or blight; or address a need with a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community.

2017 Program Year Activities & Funding:

Program Administration \$ 75,000; Saenger Theatre and Community Center Exterior Repairs including Public Access Improvements for ADA Compliance \$516,618; Public Services \$ 55,000

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%

The years covered by the Action Plan are: 2017, 2018 and 2019

Discussion

The City estimates that 100% of PY 2017 CDBG funds will be invested in activities to benefit those who persons of low- and moderate-income.

Overall benefit is determined based on the three-year period, 2017, 2018 and 2019. The City of Biloxi's CDBG Program Year runs from October 1 to - September 30.