



**PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT  
PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT  
TO THE 2016 ONE YEAR ACTION PLAN**

**A COMPONENT OF THE 2015-2019 CONSOLIDATED PLAN  
FOR THE CITY OF BILOXI CDBG ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM**

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## **City of Biloxi Proposed Substantial Amendment to the 2016 Action Plan PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT**

HUD approved the City of Biloxi's original 2016 Action Plan that included using \$95,458 of the City's PY2016 CDBG Entitlement Program allocation to assist in funding a design plan for comprehensive repair and rehabilitation of the Saenger Theatre and Community Center (STCC). In August 2017, the City substantially amended its 2016 Action Plan to budget \$210,100 in additional available CDBG resources to the STCC Project to fully funding the design plan and to assist in funding critically-needed exterior repairs. The substantial amendment also revised the City's CDBG program year to correlate with the City's fiscal year.

Subsequently in September 2017, the HUD Field Office in Jackson, MS verbally informed the City that its 2016 Action as Substantially Amended was not approved because budgeting the additional program year 2016 CDBG resources to fully funding the STCC design plan and to assist in funding critically-needed exterior repairs for the Saenger are not CDBG-eligible activities.

In letters sent in September to the HUD Field Office in Jackson, MS and in October to the Field Management Director at HUD Headquarters, the City requested reconsideration of HUD's determination that the STCC Project is not eligible as a CDBG-funded project. In spite of its request for a written determination that the proposed STCC Project activities are ineligible, the City has not received anything from HUD in writing.

The City of Biloxi's first priority for use of the \$210,100 in additional, available CDBG resources in program year 2016 is to complete the design plan for the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Project and assist in funding critically-needed exterior repairs. However, if HUD provides the City with a written determination that the STCC Project is no longer a CDBG-eligible activity, the City is proposing that the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure Project, Phase One, be substituted for the STCC Project, as detailed in this Public Review Draft of its 2016 Action Plan as Substantially Amended.

The Substantial Amendment to the 2016 Action Plan also revises the City of Biloxi's CDBG Program Year from January 1 - December 31 to correlate with the City's fiscal year, which runs October 1 - September 30. To accommodate the change, HUD approved extending the 2016 Program Year by nine months to end September 30, 2017 and an additional \$109,845.37 of program income was generated during the one-time extended program year. The City proposes to budget this to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Project or to the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closures Project, Phase One, if the STCC Project is determined to be ineligible.

Also included in the substantial amendment to the 2016 Action Plan is the reallocation of \$100,255.58 (which includes \$10,000 originally budgeted for a 2016 public service activity) in previously-committed but unexpended CDBG Entitlement funds to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Project or to the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closures Project, Phase One, if the STCC Project is determined to be ineligible.

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

### **1. Introduction**

The City of Biloxi's 2016 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 2016, which begins January 1, 2016 and ends December 31, 2016, the City of Biloxi received an allocation of \$417,843 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from HUD and originally anticipated receiving CDBG Program Income in the amount of \$175,456, to bring total CDBG funds available for Program Year 2016 to \$593,299.

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 2016 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 2016 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 2016 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) improving the quality of life for residents in areas where the majority of households qualify as low- to moderate-income; and 2) expanding affordable public services for very low, low and moderate-income families, victims of domestic violence and qualified residents with special needs such as the disabled.

The City proposes to substantially amend its 2016 Action Plan to change its CDBG Program Year from January 1 - December 31 to correlate with its fiscal year, which runs October 1 - September 30. HUD approved a one-time nine month extension of the 2016 Program Year to accommodate the change, allowing PY2016 to end September 30, 2017 (instead of December 31, 2016).

The substantial amendment also proposes to budget \$109,845.37 in additional program income generated during the nine-month extension period and reallocate \$100,255.58 in previously-committed, but unexpended CDBG Entitlement funds to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center (STCC), if it is determined to be eligible, and to the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closures Project, Phase One if the STCC Project is ineligible. This reallocation includes \$10,000 previously budgeted in PY2016 for the CTA Bus Pass Public Service Activity, which was eliminated because a free CTA program for the elderly and disabled was determined to address the need for public transportation along existing routes.

The amendment process complies with the Biloxi Citizen Participation Plan, including a public hearing and 30-day comment period for citizens to provide input about the proposed use of CDBG resources. The City Council is anticipated to adopt the substantial amendment at its January 2, 2018 regular meeting.

## **2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan**

Activities included in the Biloxi 2016 Action Plan are intended to principally benefit low- to moderate-income residents through eligible uses of CDBG funds. The City budgeted 2016 CDBG funds to improve public safety through acquisition of a fire truck to be stationed in a Central Biloxi neighborhood in which the majority of households qualify as low- to moderate-income.

Program Year 2016 CDBG funds also are proposed to be budgeted for the Saenger Theatre and Community Center (STCC) Project, if eligible, or to the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closures Project, Phase One if the Saenger Project is ineligible. Both projects are located in East Biloxi in which a majority of households qualify as low- to moderate-income.

The STCC Project involves the investment of CDBG resources to complete the design plan for the comprehensive repair and rehabilitation of the building and to assist in funding critically-needed exterior repairs. As funds become available from other sources, the City will repair and rehabilitate the interior.

The first phase of the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure Project involves completion of the environmental assessment; surveying; right-of-way acquisition; relocation; demolition and new roadway construction from Dorries Street to Crawford Street to provide east-west access to the neighborhood on the north side of the CSX Railroad tracks. As funds become available, the City will extend the access road from Reynoir to Oak Street and close other railroad crossings.

In the Public Services category, 2016 CDBG funds are budgeted for programs to address the following unmet community needs: expanded access to quality, affordable early childcare services for eligible families, including children who are victims of domestic violence; expanded access to public transportation services for the disabled and income-qualified elderly; expanded recreational opportunities for the disabled; and improving housing affordability to assist homeless veterans and families with children through tenant-based rent, utility and security deposit assistance.

Through the investment of 2016 CDBG funds as budgeted, the City will improve the standard of living and quality of life for low- to moderate-income residents through enhanced public safety; expanded

access to quality, affordable early childhood education programs; expanded recreational opportunities for eligible disabled persons; and affordable housing assistance to homeless veterans and families with children.

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

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 2016 One-Year Action Plan and subsequent Substantial Amendment. 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 2016 Action Plan and fall Substantial Amendment, the City did the following:

- Published Notices of Availability of Information Regarding the City of Biloxi's 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment;
- Published Notices of Public Hearings for the 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment;
- 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 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment;
- Posted notices, in English, Spanish and Vietnamese, regarding the public hearing and availability of information about the 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment 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 public hearings 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 2016 Program Year, including changes made through the Substantial Amendment;
- Published Notices of Availability of Drafts of the 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment for 30-day comment periods; and
- Posted notices and made the Draft 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Draft Substantial Amendment 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 2016 One-Year Action Plan was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 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 are attached to this document. One written comment was submitted that encouraged support for the Women in Construction Program that provides affordable training to expand women's employment opportunities. All oral and written comments were considered by the City.

A public hearing regarding the proposed 2016 Action Plan Substantial Amendment was conducted at 5:30 p.m. on November 29, 2017, also in the Community Development Department auditorium. Minutes from the hearing, a copy of the attendance roster, agenda packet, the official notice published in the local newspaper to advertise the hearing, and the flier posted on the City's website and at public sites are attached to this document. A 30-day comment period, November 30 – December 29, 2017 was publicized to provide citizens additional opportunity for comment.

**5. Summary of public comments**

A public hearing to discuss the City of Biloxi’s 2016 One-Year Action Plan was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 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 the one written comment received are attached to this document.

All oral comments were considered by the City. One written comments was formally submitted at the public hearing, but none were submitted during the subsequent 30-day comment period. The written comment that encouraged support for the Women in Construction Program that provides affordable training to expand women's employment opportunities was considered by the City. To address some of the unmet community needs of low- to moderate-income residents as identified during development of Biloxi's Five-Year Consolidated Plan and 2016 Action Plan, limited CDBG resources were budgeted

to improve the standard of living and quality of life for as detailed in the attached minutes, through enhanced public safety; expanded access to educational, recreational and cultural activities and programs; affordable access to public transportation services for the disabled and qualified elderly; and assistance to homeless veterans and families with children through improving housing affordability with tenant-based security deposit assistance.

During the November 29, 2017 public hearing regarding the proposed substantial amendment, those present expressed \_\_\_\_\_ in response to the City's proposed reallocation of identified Entitlement Funds and budgeting of additional anticipated program income to the new East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closures Project. \_\_\_\_\_ written comments were submitted at the hearing or during the subsequent 30-day comment period.

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

One written comment was formally submitted during the September 15, 2015 public hearing; no written comments were submitted during the 30-day comment period. All oral comments, as detailed in the attached public hearing minutes, and the written comment presented during the public hearing were considered by the City in developing the 2016 Action Plan. The City budgeted its limited CDBG resources to benefit low- to moderate-income residents, regardless of whether they are male or female, through a broad range of projects.

Oral comments offered during the November 29, 2017 public hearing regarding the proposed substantial amendment expressed \_\_\_\_\_ in response to the City's proposal to reallocate additional CDBG resources to the new East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closures Project.

## **7. Summary**

Biloxi's 2016 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 2016 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.

**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 Women's 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 2016, 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, South Mississippi AIDS Task Force, LIFE, Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Catholic Community and Social Services, Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence, Back Bay Mission, Moore Community House, Visions of Hope, 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 2016, 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 PY2016, 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 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 and is not eligible to apply for 2016 ESG funds through the State of Mississippi as it does not currently operate an emergency shelter.

**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 chart on following pages)

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Biloxi Housing Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs Lead-based Paint Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	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 2016 Action Plan <u>and Substantial Amendment</u> Public Hearings and to provide oral or written comments regarding proposed activities and use of funds.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy

	<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>The CoC was invited by mail to attend the 2016 Action Plan <u>and Substantial Amendment</u> Public Hearings 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. Working together, the CoC and City developed a tenant-based public service program to provide rent, utility and security deposit assistance to help prevent and/or address homelessness, especially for the chronically homeless, families with children and veterans, through the investment of 2016 CDBG funds.</p>
3	<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization</b></p>	<p>BACK BAY MISSION</p>
	<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b></p>	<p>Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing</p>
	<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</p>
	<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>The City contacted Back Bay Mission by phone and mail to encourage their input into development of the 2016 Action Plan <u>and Substantial Amendment</u> and to encourage attendance at the public hearings. The City provides Back Bay Mission with general funds to support its housing rehabilitation program for the elderly and disabled.</p>

4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	GULF COAST WOMEN'S CENTER FOR NONVIOLENCE
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City encouraged attendance of the Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence at the 2016 Action Plan <u>and Substantial Amendment</u> public hearings 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 2016 CDBG funds.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Moore Community House
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City encouraged Moore Community House's attendance at the 2016 Action Plan <u>and Substantial Amendment</u> public hearings 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. 2016 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 2016 Action Plan and Substantial Amendment public hearings, which were 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 PY2016 to provide a rent, utility and security deposit assistance program to assist veterans and families with children to access affordable housing 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 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment. As thoroughly identified and detailed in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, specific measures were 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 2016 Action Plan and Substantial Amendment:

- Published Notices of Availability of Information Regarding the City of Biloxi’s 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment;
- Published Notices of Public Hearings for the 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment;
- 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 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment;
- Posted notices, in English, Spanish and Vietnamese, regarding the public hearings and availability of information regarding the 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment 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 public hearings 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 2016 Program Year;
- Published Notices of Availability of Drafts of the 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment for a 30-day comment period; and
- Posted notices and made the Drafts of the 2016 One-Year Action Plan and Substantial Amendment 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 2016 One-Year Action Plan was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 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 are attached to this document.

Based on citizen input and consultation with local housing and social service agencies, the City identified Program Year 2016 CDBG-funded activities and programs.

The same citizen participation process was followed during consideration of the Substantial Amendment to the 2016 Action Plan. Minutes from the November 29, 2017 public hearing, as well as copies of the attendance roster, agenda, CDBG Fact Sheet, the official notice published in the local newspaper to advertise the hearing are attached to this document. \_\_\_\_\_ written comments were received.

### 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</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish &amp; Vietnamese</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>Eleven people, in addition to staff, attended the first public hearing.</p> <p>_____ people attended the <u>Substantial Amendment to the Action Plan public hearing.</u></p>	<p>The minutes of the public hearings and a copy of written comments submitted are attached to this document.</p>	<p>Not applicable; all comments were considered.</p>	

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	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish &amp; Vietnamese</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	Cannot determine (public hearing notices also were published and posted).	<p>One written comment was received during the 1<sup>st</sup> 30-day comment period.</p> <p><u>written comments were received during the 2<sup>nd</sup> 30-day comment period.</u></p>	Not applicable; all comments were considered.	
3	Flyers were posted throughout the City.	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	Not known because other forms of advertising were used to encourage citizen input at the public hearings and through written comments.	Attached to this document	Not applicable; all comments were considered.	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

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

**Introduction**

HUD allocated \$417,843 to the City of Biloxi for PY2016. The City anticipated generating \$175,456 in program income during the 2016 Program Year, increasing estimated available 2016 CDBG funds to \$593,299. These funds are budgeted to improve low- to moderate-income residents' standard of living and quality of life through various activities and programs identified as high priorities during the citizen participation process.

The substantial amendment increased revenue by \$210,100.95, which included \$100,255.58 from reallocated funds and \$109,845.37 in additional program income anticipated to be generated during the extended program year.

**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	417,843	285,301	100,256	803,400	1,759,609	The City's 2016 CDBG allocation is a \$520 increase over its PY2015 allocation. For the purpose of its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City based its planning for the 2016 period based on the assumption that funding will remain at the current level.

**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 City budgeted a portion of its PY2016 CDBG funds for preparation of a design plan to guide the comprehensive rehabilitation of the City-owned Saenger Theatre and Community Center. The building is located in an East Biloxi area in which 66.4% of the residents are low- to moderate-income. Investment of PY2016 CDBG funds into preparation of this plan will leverage additional resources from private, state and local sources necessary to implement exterior and interior rehabilitation activities so that this neighborhood and community resource may continue to serve the needs of the neighbors as a public meeting and activity center and for the community for educational and performing arts activities. HUD-approved budgeting of \$95,458 in the FY2016 Action Plan helped leverage state funds in the form of a \$100,000 grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History to assist in funding the first phase of this project, which includes the environmental assessment, comprehensive rehabilitation plan and critically-needed exterior repairs to secure the public facility.

PY2016 CDBG funds budgeted for public service programs to expand affordable early childhood education programs will leverage additional private, state and local funds to support efforts of low- to moderate-income families to maintain employment and/or pursue a degree or certification while providing quality education to their children.

**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 fire truck to be purchase with Program Year 2016 CDBG funds will be housed in a City-owned fire station located in a primarily low- to moderate-income area in Central Biloxi to address the community's priority need for improved public safety through increased fire protection.

**Discussion**

The City of Biloxi budgeted its limited 2016 CDBG resources to improve the standard of living and quality of life for all its citizens, but primarily to benefit 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.

## 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 Safety Enhancement	2015	2016	Non-Housing Community Development	Central Biloxi/Lee Chinn Fire Station ladder truck acquisition	Fire Station/Equipment	CDBG: \$354,841	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 674 Persons Assisted
2	Public Safety and Welfare	2015	2016	Non-Housing Community Development	East Biloxi	Neighborhood meeting space; access to educational/cultural programs	CDBG: \$95,458	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4,270 Persons Assisted
3	Public Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Homelessness prevention; affordable daycare; expanded recreational opportunities for the disabled	CDBG: \$58,000	Persons Assisted
4	Public Safety and Welfare	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	East Biloxi	Improved Safety	CDBG: \$210,100	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3,845 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

## Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Safety Enhancement
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City has allocated \$354,841 in 2016 CDBG funds to make the final of three lease payments on a fire truck to be stationed at the Lee Chinn Fire Station, which is located in a Central Biloxi project area comprised of 68.5% low- to moderate-income households.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Safety and Welfare
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p><b>Note: IDIS software would not allow the City to insert a Strategic Plan Goal of "Public Facilities and Improvements" in its 2016 Action Plan, which is why the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Rehabilitation Design Plan Project is being described under the "Public Safety and Welfare" heading.</b></p> <p>The City budgeted \$95,458 in its original 2016 Action Plan, which was approved by HUD, to prepare a design plan to comprehensively repair and rehabilitate the Saenger Theatre and Community Center, which is located in an area of East Biloxi in which a majority of low- to moderate-income persons reside.</p> <p><u>As part of its 2016 Action Plan substantial amendment, the City proposes to reallocate \$100,255.58 from PY2014, 2015 and 2016 and budget \$109,845.37 in additional program income generated during the extended program year to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Project, if HUD determines it to be an eligible use of funds. If not, the City proposes to reallocate the \$210,100 to the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure Project, Phase One, which also is located in an area of East Biloxi in which a majority of low- to moderate-income persons reside.</u></p>
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services

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<p><b>Goal Description</b></p>	<p>The City will invest PY2016 CDBG funds to support Public Service Programs to address high priority, unmet needs, described below. IDIS software would not allow each activity to be entered as a separate public service project (a copy of the IDIS error message was printed and is on file with the Federal Programs Office). <b>NOTE: These are new public service activities of the City, so no historic data is available upon which to base estimates of the number of beneficiaries. The IDIS software would not allow this fact to be inserted into the “Goal Outcome Indicator” column.</b></p> <p>1) \$25,000 for Moore Community House’s affordable early childhood learning program for children six weeks to three years old, eligible as a limited clientele presumption of benefit public service activity. The program provides citywide benefit to qualified low- to moderate-income residents who also must comply with participation requirements for each parent to: be employed or qualified as “in school” to break the cycle of poverty; participate as a volunteer to teach parenting skills; and comply with federal requirements for 2 annual home visits. The CDBG investment will leverage other private, state and local investments.</p> <p>2) \$10,000 to support an early childhood education and development program at the Gulf Coast Women’s Center for Nonviolence, eligible as a limited clientele presumption of benefit public service activity. Income data will be maintained; the program will be limited to those sheltered at or receiving direct services through the Center. This investment of CDBG funds will leverage other private, state and local funds.</p> <p>3) \$10,000 is budgeted to purchase Coast Transit Authority bus passes for income-qualified elderly and very elderly residents and disabled adults. Documentation of age/income will be maintained. Passes will be provided only to qualified residents of Biloxi for existing City routes and will be available on a “first come-first served” basis. <b><u>NOTE: this activity was eliminated as part of the fall 2017 Substantial Amendment to the 2016 Action Plan. The \$10,000 was reallocated to the East Biloxi Railroad Crossings Closure Project.</u></b></p> <p>4) \$3,000 for acquisition of a beach wheelchair to expand recreational opportunities for disabled citizens in Biloxi. The wheelchair will be available to qualifying residents at the Biloxi Visitors Center, located directly north of the beach.</p> <p>5) \$20,000 to assist homeless families with children and veterans in securing affordable housing through tenant-based security deposit grants. The Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care will identify eligible persons to be assisted through this public service and will work with other area housing agencies to secure affordable housing.</p>
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		Each of the public service activities identified for assistance with PY2016 CDBG funds involves the continued collaboration between the City and local nonprofit agencies to improve coordination of programs and services, maximize use of limited resources, and comply with federal, state and local requirements.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Safety and Welfare
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<u>As previously stated, the City's first priority for use of its CDBG Entitlement resources is to complete the design plan and assist in funding critically-needed exterior repairs for the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Project. As part of its 2016 Action Plan Substantial Amendment, the City reallocated \$100,255.58 from PY2014, 2015 and 2016 and budgeted \$109,845.37 in additional program income generated during the extended program year to the Saenger Project. However, if HUD determines in writing that it is not a CDBG-eligible project, the City proposes to budget the \$210,100 in additional funds to the East Biloxi Railroad Crossings Closure Project, Phase One. In addition to eliminating a dangerous railroad track crossing, phase one of the project involves constructing approximately 1,420 feet of a new east-west roadway on the north side of the CSX Railroad tracks, from Dorries Street to Crawford Street, to improve access in the primarily low- to moderate-income neighborhood. This roadway also will improve response times of emergency vehicles to the residents of the project area.</u>

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

### Introduction

This section provides specific information about Program Year 2016 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, budgeted at \$75,000, 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.

The City’s first priority for use of its CDBG resources is to fully fund the design plan and assist in funding critically-needed exterior repairs for the Saenger Theatre & Community Center through budgeting of \$210,100 in additional PY2016 funds to the project. However, if HUD determines in writing that the Saenger Project is ineligible, the City proposes the East Biloxi Railroad Crossings Closure Project, Phase One as an alternate project for use of the additional PY2016 funds.

### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Fire Station/Equipment
2	Rehabilitation Design Plan for Saenger Theatre & Community Center
3	Moore Community House Affordable Early Childhood Education & Development Program
4	Disability Beach Wheelchair Purchase
5	Senior and Disabled Passenger CTA Bus Passes
6	Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence – Public Service
7	Tenant-Based Rent, Utility & Security Deposit Program
8	East Biloxi Railroad Crossings Closure Project, Phase One
9	Administration

Table 7 - 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 2016 Action Plan and the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City originally allocated \$68,000 in PY2016 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 the three public facility improvements projects also was based on public input and anticipated benefit.

The Substantial Amendment eliminated the Senior and Disabled Passenger CTA Bus Pass Activity because an existing CTA program was expanded to provide no-cost public transportation along

existing routes to elderly and disabled persons. The \$10,000 originally budgeted for this public service activity is proposed to be reallocated to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Project or the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure Project, Phase One if the Saenger Project is determined by HUD to be ineligible.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Project Summary Information

1	<b>Project Name</b>	Fire Station/Equipment
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Safety Enhancement
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Fire Station/Equipment
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$354,841
	<b>Description</b>	Third and final lease payment for acquisition of a ladder truck to be stationed in a fire station located in a Central Biloxi area comprised of primarily low- to moderate-income households.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2016
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	An estimated 674 residents will benefit from this project, of whom 66% reside in low- to moderate-income households.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Lee Chinn Fire Station in Central Biloxi, as identified on the attached project map.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	During Program Year 2016, the City will make the third and final lease payment for acquisition of this fire protection equipment.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	Rehabilitation Design Plan for Saenger Theatre & Community Center
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Safety and Welfare
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$95,458
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG entitlement funds in the amount of \$95,458 are allocated for a rehabilitation design plan for the Saenger Theatre and Community Center. This neighborhood and community resource is located in a predominantly low- to moderate-income area of East Biloxi where 54.68% of the 4,270 residents reside in low- to moderate-income households. (Additional funding in the amount of \$210,100 is proposed to be budgeted to this activity, if determined by HUD to be eligible.)
	<b>Target Date</b>	

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This public facility is located in East Biloxi, where most of the buildings that once offered free public meeting space were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The area is comprised of primarily low- to moderate-income households; of the 4,270 residents, 2,335 (54.68%) reside in low- to moderate-income households.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The Saenger Theatre and Community Center is located at 170 Reynoir Street.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The rehabilitation design plan for the Saenger Theatre and Community Center will be partially funded with \$95,458 in CDBG funds as approved by HUD. Additional resources of \$210,100 will assist in fully funding the design plan and assist in funding critically-needed exterior repairs, if the project is determined eligible by HUD.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Moore Community House Affordable Early Childhood Education & Development Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$25,000
	<b>Description</b>	This public service activity will expand local availability of an affordable, educational and developmental early childcare program that primarily benefits qualified low- to moderate-income residents. The program is limited to children six weeks to three years old.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	NOTE: this is a new public service activity so there is no information upon which to base a projection of beneficiaries.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Moore Community House is located at 684 Walker Street in East Biloxi.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This public service activity will support expansion of an existing quality, affordable early childhood education and development program for children 6 weeks to 3 years old.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Disability Beach Wheelchair Purchase
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Recreational opportunities
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$3,000
	<b>Description</b>	The City is budgeting \$3,000 for purchase of a beach wheelchair to improve disabled adults' quality of life through expanded recreational opportunities. The wheelchair will be available for "check out" by qualified citizens at the Biloxi Visitors Center, which is located just north of the beach.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	NOTE: this is a new public service activity so there is no information upon which to base a projection of beneficiaries.
	<b>Location Description</b>	citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Acquisition of a beach wheelchair to benefit disabled adults will be accomplished through this project. With input from various public agencies and private organizations, the City will identify and purchase equipment that is easy to maneuver and will benefit the largest number of people in terms of their height, weight and disability.
5	<b>Project Name</b>	Senior and Disabled Passenger CTA Bus Passes-deleted
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable transportation
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	<u>This project was cancelled as part of the Substantial Amendment</u> as the proposed services were offered by Coast Transit Authority. Originally planned: The City will work with Coast Area Transit (CTA) to provide free public transportation on CTA buses on existing routes in Biloxi for qualified elderly residents and the disabled. Participants must register to document eligibility, including Biloxi residency requirements. The passes for qualifying participants will be available on a first-come, first-served basis during the program year until the \$10,000 cap is reached.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	CTA is providing this public service without the need for the City's participation.

	<b>Location Description</b>	citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City will work with CTA to market this activity, which will run from January to December 2016. Program registration forms will document eligibility compliance, which includes verification of Biloxi residency.  Since this is a new public service, it isn't possible to project the number of persons to be assisted. The goal outcome indicator would be public service activities other than low/mod income housing benefit.
6	<b>Project Name</b>	Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence - Public Service
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Early childhood education for children who have experienced domestic violence
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence's educational program for children will be supported through this public service activity.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Note: this is a new public service activity so there was no information upon which to base a projection of beneficiaries. 100% will be low- to moderate-income.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Cannot disclose
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City has allocated \$10,000 to support expansion of an early childhood education and development program at the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence. Program participation will be limited to those families sheltered at or receiving services from the Center; income documentation will be required to identify the number of low- to moderate-income families who benefit.
7	<b>Project Name</b>	Tenant-Based Rent, Utility & Security Deposit Assistance Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Access to affordable housing, prevention of homelessness
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$20,000

	<b>Description</b>	Working with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care, the City will provide up to \$20,000 during PY2016 to benefit homeless veterans and families with children (first priority) by providing funds for housing rent, utility & security deposits to assist in making housing in Biloxi more affordable and thus more accessible.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Note: this is a new public service activity so there was no information upon which to base a projection of beneficiaries. 100% will be low- to moderate-income.
	<b>Location Description</b>	citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City and the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care will administer this activity, including development of eligibility forms to document beneficiary information. The program will be available during PY2016 or until such time as the \$20,000 cap is reached.
<b>8</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Not applicable
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Not applicable
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$75,000
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds are budgeted to assist in cover cost associated with effectively implementing the CDBG Entitlement Program.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Not applicable
	<b>Location Description</b>	Federal Programs Office, Engineering Department
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City will administer its CDBG Entitlement Program in compliance with applicable federal regulations.
<b>9</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<u>East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure, Phase One</u>
	<b>Target Area</b>	

<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Health and Safety
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improved Public Health and Safety
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$210,100
<b>Description</b>	<u>The Substantial Amendment proposes to re-allocate \$100,255.58 in unused PY2014, PY2015 and PY2016 funds and \$109,845.37 in additional program income, generated during PY2016 due to the extended program year to this project, if the Saenger Project is determined by HUD to be ineligible. The East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure Project, Phase One involves a railroad crossing closure and construction of 1,420 feet of east-west roadway, from Dorries Street to Crawford Street, on the north side of the CSX Railroad tracks for neighborhood and emergency vehicle access. The East Biloxi project area includes a total of 3,845 residents, of whom 2,110 (54.88%) are low- to moderate-income.</u>
<b>Target Date</b>	
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities.</b>	<u>3,845 residents live in the project area, of whom 2,110 (54.88%) are low- to moderate-income.</u>
<b>Location Description</b>	East Biloxi
<b>Planned Activities</b>	<u>The City will close a CSX Railroad crossing to improve public safety in the primarily low- to moderate-income neighborhood. Approximately 1,420 feet of east-west road will be constructed on the north side of the CSX Railroad tracks to provide access through the neighborhood. The project also involves engineering design, environmental review, right-of-way acquisition, housing demolition and relocation. The City is committing approximately \$406,000 in general funds to fully fund Phase One.</u>

## 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 2016 will benefit residents on a citywide basis, two will principally serve low-to moderate-income residents in specific project areas, selected in response to community input. Maps are attached that identify the low-to moderate-income areas in the City, minority concentration areas and the location of 2016 Program Year activities.

Each of the public service activities will provide citywide benefit. These activities will be funded with a total of \$68,000 in PY2016 CDBG funds, in compliance with HUD's public service cap. The activities include providing up to \$10,000 for CTA Bus Passes for disabled and eligible elderly residents\*; provision of \$20,000 for tenant-based housing assistance to improve affordability through security deposit grants (priority given to homeless families with children and homeless veterans); \$35,000 for expansion of early childhood development and education programs for qualified, eligible families; and \$3,000 for the purchase of a beach wheelchair to expand recreational opportunities for disabled residents.

The third and final payment of the leased fire truck stationed at the Lee Chinn Fire Station and exterior repairs of the Saenger Theatre are both CDBG-funded Public Facilities projects that will serve specific areas of the City in which principally low- to moderate-income citizens reside.

\*The Substantial Amendment to the PY2016 Action Plan cancelled this activity and reallocated the funds to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center or East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure Project if the Saenger Project is determined to be ineligible.

### Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Central Biloxi Drainage Improvements Project	
Petit Bois Drainage Improvements Project	
Central Biloxi Infrastructure Improvements Project (Greater Biloxi Subdivision area)	
Hiller Park Recreational Enhancement Project	
Central Biloxi/Lee Chinn Fire Station ladder truck acquisition	60
East Biloxi/Howard Avenue Streetscape Improvements	
East Biloxi/Division Street Neighborhood Facility	
Central Biloxi/Pass Road and Hiller Park Area Sidewalk and Street Improvements Project	
East Biloxi/Division Street	
Central Biloxi/Pass Road	

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
East Biloxi Police Substation and Meeting Room	

**Table 8 - 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 health, safety and welfare of its low-to moderate-income residents through investment of funds in activities that maximize public benefits and that leverage the investment of other private, local, state and federal funding.

**Discussion**

In its Administration budget category, PY2016 CDBG funds in the amount of \$75,000 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.

**AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)**

**Introduction**

The City of Biloxi does not receive HOME, ESG or HOPWA funding. However, during PY2016, the City has budgeted \$20,000 of PY2016 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 security deposit grants to improve housing affordability 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. Since this is a new activity, 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 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through</b>	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	0

**Table 10 - 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 PY2016 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 and South MS Aids Task Force, 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 PY2016 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 to improve the affordability of 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 2016 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 2016.

**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.

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

### **Introduction**

The City of Biloxi's strategy for addressing homelessness during the 2016 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, South Mississippi AIDS Task Force, LIFE, Catholic Community and Social Services, Gulf Coast Women's 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 PY2016, 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 PY2016 CDBG funds for a tenant-based housing assistance public service activity that will provide security deposit grants to qualified, eligible near-homeless and homeless families with children and veterans to assist in making housing more affordable.

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 is not eligible

to apply for ESG funds through the State of Mississippi under 2016 rules as it does not currently operate an emergency shelter.

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, South Mississippi AIDS Task Force, 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 PY2016 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 security deposit grants to make local housing more affordable. 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 Women’s 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.
- The City will continue to support the South Mississippi AIDS Task Force’s efforts to obtain ESG, HOPWA and other funding to meet the growing unmet needs of homeless persons with HIV/AIDS and their families.

**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 AIDS Task Force, 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 AIDS Task Force, 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 2016 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 Municipal Budget, property taxes 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 2016, 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 Women’s 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.

## **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 2016 Action Plan, the City budgeted the following CDBG funds for public service activities. The total of \$68,000 for these PY2016 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.

### **Disability Beach Wheelchair \$3,000**

A beach wheelchair will be purchased with PY2016 CDBG funds to be "checked out" by eligible residents at the Biloxi Visitors Center. This activity meets HUD's *Limited Clientele* presumption of benefit to adults meeting the census' definition of severely disabled adults that will be supported with required income documentation to verify low/mod benefit compliance for children with disabilities.

### **Senior and Disabled Passenger CTA Bus Passes (for 12-month period) \$10,000 - deleted in substantial amendment**

To help meet the transportation needs of the elderly and disabled, the City will work with the Coast Transit Authority to purchase bus passes for qualifying participants. The bus pass is limited to service on existing routes in Biloxi and will be available on a "first come-first served" basis until the cap is reached.

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

The Gulf Coast Women's 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. PY2016 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, Utility & Security Deposits \$20,000**

The Open Doors Homeless Coalition CoC is certified by HUD to administer federally-funded homeless

and housing programs. The FY2016 CDBG funds will provide security deposit grants to help eligible homeless families with children and veterans (first priority) comply with “move-in” requirements for affordable housing in Biloxi; the City’s CDBG funds will provide rent, utility & 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 Women's Center for Nonviolence, South MS AIDS Task Force 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 AIDS Task Force, 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, South Mississippi AIDS Task Force, 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 continue its support of the South Mississippi AIDS Task Force and will endorse the agency’s efforts to develop housing capabilities for persons with HIV/AIDS and their families. The City will support efforts to expand the agency’s capacity to house and provide an

expanded comprehensive approach for assisting persons with HIV/AIDS and their families with food, housing assistance, medicines, transportation, home health care and other related services.

- 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 2016 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 2016, 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 2016 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 2016 to help reduce the number of poverty-level families:

- Invest PY2016 CDBG resources for a tenant-based housing assistance program to assist in making Biloxi housing more affordable through 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 PY2016 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;
- Continue its policy of encouraging investment and creation of jobs and will, to the maximum extent feasible, encourage investors to employ local residents.
- 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 PY2016. 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 PY2016, 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 2016, 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 received a CDBG entitlement allocation of \$417,843 for PY2016 and generated an additional \$175,456 in program income, the vast majority of which will be used to benefit low- to moderate-income persons. PY2016 Public Service activities originally were allocated a total of \$68,000 to benefit either those who meet HUD's requirements for limited clientele, presumed benefit or who qualify as low- to moderate-income. The Substantial Amendment deleted this activity and reallocated the \$10,000 to the Saenger Theatre and Community Center Project or, as an alternate, to the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure Project, Phase One if HUD determines that the Saenger Project is ineligible.

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.

#### **2016 Program Year Activities & Funding as Substantially Amended:**

Program Administration \$ 75,000; Fire Truck Payment (3 of 3) \$354,841; Saenger Theatre and Community Center Design Plan \$95,458 (previously approved by HUD in original 2016 Action Plan); Public Services \$58,000; and \$210,100 in additional PY2016 CDBG resources to fully fund the Saenger Theatre and Community Center design plan and assist in funding exterior repairs or, as an alternate, to assist in funding the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure Project, Phase One.

The \$210,100 proposed to be budgeted through the substantial amendment includes \$100,255.58 in PY2014, PY2015 and PY2016 entitlement funds and \$109,845.37 in additional program income, generated during the extended program year. 2016 Public Service funding was reduced to \$58,000 as part of the substantial amendment because the CTA Bus Pass program was cancelled when CTA expanded services to seniors and those with disabilities.

The substantial amendment also revised Biloxi's CDBG program year from a calendar year period to run concurrently with the City's fiscal year, October 1 - September 30. To accommodate the change, PY2016 was extended by nine months and covers the period from January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

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

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	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
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

**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%

This Annual Action Plan covers the Program Year 2016. The City estimates that 100% of Program Year 2016 CDBG funds will be invested in activities to benefit those who qualify as low- to moderate-income.

# **Attachments**

SF-424 and Certifications  
Maps  
Citizen Participation Documentation