



**Public Review Draft**  
**of the City of Biloxi's Community Development Block Grant 2019 Action Plan,**  
**a Component of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan**

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

**1. Introduction**

The City of Biloxi's 2019 Action Plan is a component of its 2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and serves as its application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for entitlement grants. During Program Year 2019, which begins October 1, 2019 and ends September 30, 2020, the City of Biloxi received an allocation of \$470,034 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from HUD. The City anticipates receiving CDBG Program Income in the amount of \$170,271 and budgeting \$31,947 in additional CDBG resources (previously allocated, but unexpended funds and program income received but not used), bringing total CDBG funds anticipated to be available for Program Year 2019 activities to \$672,252.

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 2019 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 2019 and the steps to be taken to accomplish proposed goals.

Through its citizen-based public participation process described in the Citizen Participation Plan, the City of Biloxi identified the community's housing and community development needs and priorities for PY2019 and for the five-year period of its current Consolidated Plan. Through input provided by citizens, citizen groups and nonprofit organizations, in particular 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) supporting affordable public services for very low, low and moderate-income families, victims of domestic violence and qualified residents with special needs.

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

Activities included in the Biloxi 2019 Action Plan are intended to principally benefit low- to moderate-income residents through eligible uses of CDBG funds for public safety and welfare improvements that will improve their quality of life. Program Year 2019 CDBG funds in the amount of \$507,252 are budgeted for the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure and Access Road Project, Phase One that will benefit a majority of low- to moderate-income residents in a primarily residential area of East Biloxi; \$65,000 is budgeted for qualified social services agencies; and \$100,000 is budgeted for CDBG Entitlement Program administration.

In the Public Services category, \$65,000 in PY2019 CDBG funds are budgeted for programs to address the following unmet, high priority community needs: expanded access to quality, affordable early childcare services for eligible families, including children who are victims of domestic violence; expanded access to affordable educational programs for eligible elementary school age children; and improved access to affordable housing to primarily assist homeless veterans and families with children through rent and utility assistance and rental unit, utility and security deposits.

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

As identified in its Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the goal for use of Biloxi's CDBG resources is primarily to meet the high priority, unmet needs of its low- to moderate-income residents and those with special needs to improve their standard of living. 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.

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 ensure 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.

Based on this on-going evaluation of past performance, the City determines which qualified social services agency programs and/or eligible activities should be funded with CDBG resources in the upcoming program year. The on-going evaluation of past performance also improves the City's understanding of the time and resources required to administer the CDBG Entitlement Program, especially development of annual and multi-year documents, in compliance with current HUD regulations and policies.

#### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

The City encouraged citizen participation throughout development of the 2019 One-Year Action Plan. As 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 input specifically into development of the 2019 Action Plan, the City did the following:

- Published a Notice of Availability of Information Regarding Biloxi's 2019 Action Plan;
- Published a Notice of Public Hearing for the 2019 Action Plan;
- Mailed letters to supportive service agencies, civic organizations and neighborhood associations to encourage attendance at the public hearing and to make them aware of the availability of information regarding the 2019 Action Plan;
- Posted notices, in English, Spanish and Vietnamese, regarding the public hearing and availability of information about the 2019 Action Plan on the City's website, at City Hall, the Biloxi Public Library, and delivered notices to social service agencies that assist and/or represent nonEnglish-speaking residents;
- Conducted a public hearing to provide citizens with an opportunity to comment orally and in writing about the housing and non-housing community development needs of the City and about the proposed use of CDBG funds during PY2019;
- Published a Notice of Availability of Draft of the 2019 Action Plan for a 30-day comment period; and
- Posted notices and made the Draft of the 2019 One-Year Action Plan available for public review at City Hall, the Biloxi Public Libraries, the Biloxi Housing Authority and on the City's website.

#### **Summary of Citizens Comments**

A public hearing to discuss the City of Biloxi's 2019 Action Plan was held on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 in the Biloxi Community Development Auditorium. Minutes, copies of the attendance roster, agenda, CDBG Fact Sheet, the official notice published in the local newspaper and posted fliers are attached to this document.

#### **5. Summary of public comments**

A public hearing to discuss the City of Biloxi's 2019 One-Year Action Plan was held on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 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 and the official notice

published in the local newspaper to advertise the hearing are attached to this document. \_\_\_ oral comments were received and are summarized in the attached minutes; \_\_\_ written comments were formally submitted at the public hearing and are attached. \_\_\_ written comments were submitted during the subsequent 30-day comment period and are attached.

All oral and written comments were considered by the City.

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

\_\_\_ oral comments were offered and \_\_\_ written comments were submitted during the June 26, 2019 public hearing; \_\_\_ written comments were submitted during the 30-day comment period.

The City considered all oral and written comments and budgeted its limited CDBG resources to improve public safety and welfare in a primarily residential, low- to moderate-income area in East Biloxi and to four public service activities to help address high priority, unmet needs identified during development of the City's Consolidated Plan and 2019 Action Plan.

#### **7. Summary**

Biloxi's 2019 Action Plan allocated most of its Program Year 2019 CDBG resources to improve the safety and welfare of its residents, primarily those who reside in low- to moderate-income households in an East Biloxi project service area.

The City does not receive HOME, ESG or HOPWA allocations to address needs funded through these programs. 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

### 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, Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII, Back Bay Mission, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, the Mississippi Center for Justice, Moore Community House, the Biloxi Public School District, the East Biloxi Community Collaborative 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 2019, 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 Center for Nonviolence, Back Bay Mission, Moore Community House, Gulf Coast Rescue Mission, the Mississippi Center for Justice and several others. In a similar manner, the City maintains open channels of communication with local and regional private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies to ensure the healthcare needs of its residents are met. Merit Hospital of Biloxi, Coastal Family Health Center, Gulf Coast Mental Health, South Mississippi Regional Center, Meals on Wheels & Human Resources Agency, South Mississippi AIDS Task Force and Catholic Social and Community Services, among others, were invited and encouraged to participate in development of the 2019 Action Plan. Most of these receive the City's mailed monthly newsletter and Biloxi "Bmails" (an almost daily emailed update of City news and information), which helps these agencies and the City better coordinate on-going efforts to address local healthcare needs on a comprehensive basis.

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 2019, 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 PY2019, Biloxi has budgeted \$20,000 in CDBG funds for a public service activity to directly assist in ongoing efforts to address and prevent homelessness by providing rent, utilities and deposit assistance, with priority given to homeless families with children, veterans and persons at risk of homelessness.

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

The City has a good working relationship with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, the Mississippi Coast's designated Continuum of Care. The City provides input about the needs of the community to

support the efforts of the Continuum of Care, including projects and activities assisted with ESG funds. The City does not receive or administer any ESG funds.

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

**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 Executive Director and staff on a regular basis. The BHA was invited by a mailed letter and telephone call to attend the 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing and to provide oral or written comments regarding proposed activities and use of funds. Additionally, the BHA Executive Director met several times with the Biloxi Federal Programs Manager to plan PY2019 fair housing outreach activities and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice update.
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 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 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 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing and provide input orally or in writing. The Executive Director also was contacted to provide updated information regarding homelessness in Biloxi. The City regularly attends the CoC meetings and participates in the Point of Time annual counts to maintain current information about local homelessness. Working together, the CoC, Biloxi and other nonprofits effectively ended veterans homelessness in Biloxi during 2015. The City and CoC worked together to provide a public service activity 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, which will be supported through the investment of 2019 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 2019 Action Plan and to encourage attendance at the public hearing. The City provides Back Bay Mission with general funds to support its housing rehabilitation program for the elderly and disabled.</p>

4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	GULF COAST 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 Center for Nonviolence at the 2019 Action Plan public hearing by mail, email and phone conversation. The City works with the Center to provide an early childhood services program for qualified victims of domestic violence, which is supported with resources from the City's CDBG Program. The City met with the Center director and staff several times during development of the 2019 Action Plan.
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 2019 Action Plan public hearing by mail, email and phone. The City and MCC are working together to provide affordable, quality early childhood education services to income-eligible families; the City invests CDBG resources to support this program.
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Biloxi NAACP
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Business and Civic Leaders

<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Families with children Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy</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 invited the Biloxi NAACP to the 2019 Action Plan public hearing and encouraged the agency's input into development of the 2019 Action Plan. The Mayor meets with representatives of the agency on an on-going basis to discuss and coordinate local activities and programs to redevelop East Biloxi neighborhoods, stimulate economic development activities and workforce training opportunities. PY2019 CDBG funds are budgeted for a public facilities project in East Biloxi, in large part because of consultation with Biloxi NAACP members and residents. Consultation has resulted in a shared vision for East Biloxi neighborhoods that are safe, code-compliant and offer residents a high quality of life.</p>

**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; in addition to residents, representatives of several social service organizations, healthcare agencies, business and civic organizations attended the 2019 Action Plan public hearing, which was widely advertised, to provide input.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Open Doors Homeless Coalition	The City's goals are similar in seeking to address the causes of homelessness to prevent homelessness. The City and CoC are working together during PY2019 to provide assistance to veterans and families with children in accessing affordable housing to prevent or address 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)**

In addition to the agencies identified in Table 2, above, agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the development process for the 2019 Action Plan by attending and providing input during the June 26, 2019 public hearing include representatives of: \_\_\_\_\_

## **AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation**

The City encouraged citizen participation throughout development of the 2019 Action 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. The City did the following to broaden citizen participation into development of the 2019 Action Plan:

- Published a Notice of Availability of Information Regarding the 2019 Action Plan;
- Published a Public Hearing Notice for the 2019 Action Plan;
- Mailed letters to various agencies and civic organizations;
- Posted public hearing notices in English, Spanish and Vietnamese;
- Conducted a public hearing to provide citizens with an opportunity to give input about proposed uses of CDBG funds;
- Published a Notice of Availability of the Draft of the 2019 Action Plan for a 30-day comment period; and
- Posted a notice and made the Public Review Draft available at public locations and on the City's website.

### **Summary of Citizens Comments**

A public hearing to discuss the 2019 Action Plan was held on June 26, 2019 in the Community Development Auditorium. Minutes, the attendance roster, agenda, CDBG Fact Sheet and official notice published in the newspaper, are attached. \_\_\_\_ oral comments and \_\_\_\_ written comments, were received.

\_\_\_\_ written comments were received during the 30-day comment period for development of the 2019 Action Plan.

All written comments received are attached and were considered by the City.

### **Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
1	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>In addition to staff, ___ locally-elected officials and ___ citizens attended the June 26, 2019 public hearing.</p>	<p>The minutes of the public hearing are attached to this document; copies of the written comments received during development of the Action Plan also are attached. ___ written comment was submitted during the 30-day comment period; all are attached.</p>	<p>Not applicable; all comments were considered.</p>
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>	<p>Cannot determine (public hearing notices also were published and posted).</p>	<p>The attached public hearing minutes summarize oral comments received. ___ written comments were received during development of the 2019 Action Plan and ___ was received during the 30-day comment period.</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
3	Flyers were posted throughout the City.	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish &amp; Vietnamese</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 hearing 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)

HUD allocated \$470,034 in CDBG Entitlement Program funds to the City of Biloxi for PY2019. The City anticipates generating \$170,271 in program income during the 2019 Program Year. Carryover funds total \$31,947.

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.

### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 5				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	470,034	170,271	31,947	672,252	0	This is the 5th year of the 5-Year Consolidated Plan period. City's 2019 CDBG allocation is a slight increase over its PY2018 allocation.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The CDBG Program does not require matching funds.

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

The City of Biloxi budgeted most of its 2019 CDBG resources to improve the public safety of citizens, in a primarily residential project service area in which the majority of residents are low- to moderate-income, through implementation of the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure and Construction of East-West Neighborhood Access Road Project.

## Discussion

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	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Streets, sidewalks and lighting improvements	2016	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Sidewalk and Street Improvements	CDBG: \$507,252	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2110 Persons Assisted
2	Public Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development		CDBG: \$65,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 125 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

### Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Streets, sidewalks and lighting improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City budgeted \$507,252 of PY2019 CDBG resources for the East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure and Construction of East-West Neighborhood Access Road Project, Phase One to benefit a primarily residential, low- to moderate-income project area in East Biloxi.

<b>2</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City budgeted \$65,000 in PY2019 for public service activities. \$25,000 is budgeted to support affordable, high quality early childcare services for qualified low-to moderate-income residents provided by Moore Community House; \$20,000 is budgeted to assist the local Continuum of Care address and prevent homelessness primarily for homeless veterans and families with children through rental, utility and security deposit assistance; \$10,000 is budgeted for the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence to support quality early childcare and educational services for victims of domestic violence; and \$10,000 is budgeted for New Bethel CDC to support a summer educational program for children ages 5 - 12.

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

### Introduction

This section provides specific information about Program Year 2019 projects to be funded through Biloxi's CDBG Entitlement Program. In addition to funding a portion of CDBG Program staff costs and publication fees through its Program Administration activity, this category includes funding to implement the fair housing educational outreach recommendations in Biloxi's current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, which includes conducting workshops in partnership with the Biloxi Housing Authority, the Mississippi Center for Justice, the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care, and to update the A.I. in collaboration with the Mississippi HOME Corp. and other CDBG entitlement cities and housing agencies.

### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Administration
2	Public Services
4	East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure & Access Road Project, Phase 1

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 2019 Action Plan and the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City has allocated \$65,000 in PY2019 CDBG funds for public service activities. This level of support for public service activities funding complies with HUD's public service category cap.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Project Summary Information

1	<b>Project Name</b>	Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	N/A
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	N/A
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	N/A
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$100,000
	<b>Description</b>	PF2019 CDBG funds in the amount of \$100,000 are budgeted for eligible costs associated with administering the CDBG entitlement program, including a portion of staff costs and publication of required notices. Funding also supports implementation of the City's fair housing educational outreach activities identified in its current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and updating its Analysis of Impediments.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	N/A
	<b>Location Description</b>	Federal Programs Office City of Biloxi 214-A Delauney Street Biloxi, MS 39530
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Activities to be funded through Administration include a portion of staff costs and publication of required notices. Funding also supports implementation of the City's fair housing educational outreach activities identified in its current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and updating the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Target Area</b>	N/A
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improved access to affordable housing; improved access to quality, affordable daycare; improved access to affordable educational programs for low/mod children
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$65,000

	<b>Description</b>	\$65,000 in CDBG funds is budgeted to implement four public service projects in Program Year 2019: Moore Community House - affordable, high quality, early childcare services for qualified residents \$25,000; Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence - affordable early childcare and education services for victims of domestic violence \$10,000; Open Doors Homeless Coalition - rental, utility and security deposit assistance to improve access to affordable housing, primarily for near-homeless and homeless veterans and families with children \$20,000; and New Bethel CDC for summer education classes for income-qualified children \$10,000.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Moore Community House estimates 55 qualified children will benefit during PY2019 from the CDBG-assisted program; New Bethel CDC projects that 50 income-eligible children will benefit from the summer educational program. The Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence estimates that <u>20 children who have experienced domestic violence will participate in its early childhood daycare and educational services each month of PY2019</u> . Open Doors Homeless Coalition projects that 15 eligible households will be assisted through Biloxi's investment of CDBG funds for its public service activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Assist in the provision of affordable, high quality early childhood educational programs for qualified children; assist in improving access to affordable housing in Biloxi for near-homeless and homeless veterans and families with children through rental, utility and security deposit assistance to prevent and address homelessness; and assist children ages 5 - 12 meet required skill levels through participation in a summer educational program.
3	<b>Project Name</b>	East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure & Access Road Project, Phase 1
	<b>Target Area</b>	East Biloxi
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Streets, sidewalks and lighting improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Sidewalk and Street Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$507,252
	<b>Description</b>	This project will improve public safety and welfare in a primarily residential, low- to moderate-income area in East Biloxi. A railroad crossing will be closed and a portion of an east-west neighborhood access road will be constructed to preserve neighborhood access and improve emergency vehicle response times. Activities will include environmental review; engineering design; survey and legal work; right-of-way acquisition; demolition and relocation services; and access road construction.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/20

<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City estimates that 3,845 people will benefit from this project, of whom 2,110 (54.88%) are low- to moderate-income.
<b>Location Description</b>	East Biloxi between Dorries and Crawford Streets in the vicinity of the CSX Railroad tracks
<b>Planned Activities</b>	The project involves closing a CSX Railroad crossing between Dorries and Crawford Streets in East Biloxi and constructing a neighborhood access road north of the tracks to preserve neighborhood access and improve emergency vehicle response times. Project activities also may include right-of-way acquisition; demolition and relocation; environmental review; survey and legal work; and engineering design.

**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.

Maps are attached that identify the low-to moderate-income areas in the City, minority concentration areas and the location of 2019 Program Year projects.

Each of the PY2019 public service activities provides citywide benefit.

**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 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.

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

The City of Biloxi does not receive HOME, ESG or HOPWA funding. However, the City has budgeted \$20,000 of PY2019 CDBG funds for a public service activity to prevent or address homelessness of veterans and families with children through rental, utility and deposit assistance that will improve access to affordable housing in Biloxi. The City will work with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of

Care and other social service agencies to identify qualified, eligible participants. It is estimated that this public service activity will benefit 15 eligible households in PY2019.

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.

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported</b>	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

Table 8 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through</b>	
Rental Assistance	15
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

Table 9 - 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 PY2019 to effectively coordinate local and regional systems, resources and services to meet the housing needs of the homeless, and to improve the affordability of and/or access to housing for those with special needs and those with low- to moderate-incomes.

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

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

The City also will work with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition and its member agencies to implement a PY2019 CDBG public service program to assist qualified, income-eligible near-homeless and homeless families with children and veterans with rental, utility and deposit assistance to improve access to affordable housing.

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

The Biloxi Housing Authority (BHA) owns and manages 13 public housing complexes in the City, which comprise a combined total of 908 Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Project Based Housing Choice Voucher units. In 2019, there were approximately \_\_\_\_\_ applicants on the waiting list for assisted housing. BHA reported that no units were deemed to be below standard and most developments were reported to be in good condition. **(This information is being updated.)**

In addition to managing the 13 BHA public housing sites, BHA administers a total of 65 affordable market rate units; 444 Tenant Based Housing Choice Vouchers; 158 VASH vouchers; 117 Project-based Non-RAD Vouchers; and 50 straight Low Income Housing Tax Credit units.

The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII provides Section 8 rental assistance through Section 8 certificates and vouchers to hundreds of Biloxi residents.

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

Although the Biloxi 2019 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 Regional Housing Authority VIII 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 2019.

**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 in 2019 none of its units is 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 2019 Program Year largely will focus on continuing to support the ongoing efforts of the following organizations that currently serve the homeless and those threatened with homelessness: the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care, LIFE, Catholic Community and Social Services, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Back Bay Mission, Gulf Coast Rescue Mission, the Biloxi Housing Authority, the Veterans Administration and others.

The City of Biloxi is an active participant in the MS-503 Gulf Coast Continuum of Care, a multi-county, multi-agency effort to address the full continuum of care for people experiencing homelessness. 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 people experiencing homelessness and increase and improve current levels of services. In addition, the City will continue to support efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition/MS-503 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/MS-503 CoC and other social service agencies serving people experiencing homelessness with shelter, food, clothing, etc. and will continue to work

with the CoC to establish methods for assessing the needs of people experiencing homelessness. The CoC interviews homeless persons in Biloxi through coordinated entry 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 PY2019, 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 PY2019 CDBG funds for a housing assistance public service activity that will provide rent, utility and security deposit assistance to qualified, eligible near-homeless and homeless families with children and veterans to assist them in accessing affordable housing in Biloxi.

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

### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

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

The City will continue to support efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition/MS-503 CoC to secure grant funding through the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) 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/MS-503 CoC, Back Bay Mission, the Mississippi Center for Justice and Interfaith Hospitality Network. Strategies for addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless individuals and families include the following actions:

- \$20,000 in PY2019 CDBG funds are budgeted by the City to assist near homeless and homeless families with children and veterans (as first priority) in securing affordable housing through the provision of rent, utility and security deposit assistance to improve access to affordable housing. This public service activity will be a collaborative effort between the City and local housing-supportive service agencies to identify qualified, eligible participants and to document beneficiaries for HUD compliance purposes.

- The City will support applications from agencies currently providing emergency shelter and supportive housing to people experiencing homelessness. Agencies such as the Open Doors Homeless Coalition/MS-503 CoC, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, Women’s Resource and Empowerment Center (a subsidiary of the Center for Environmental and Economic Justice), Gulf Coast Rescue Mission and others will be supported by the City in their efforts to expand the capacity of such programs.
- The City will support agencies serving Biloxi residents that seek funding opportunities to establish a transitional housing program with facilities and supportive services.

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

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

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

### **Discussion**

The City will continue to support agencies such as the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII , 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, Housing Choice 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 persons, Coastal Family Health Center and other home health programs will be supported in their efforts to assist the elderly and frail elderly.

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

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

### **Introduction:**

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

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 homeowners and regulates rehabilitation to safeguard the safety of renters and home buyers.

### **Discussion:**

During PY2019, 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 conducting workshops in partnership with the Biloxi Housing Authority, the Mississippi Center for Justice, the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care to educate the public about rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Funds also will be invested to complete a statewide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

## **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 2019 Action Plan, the City budgeted CDBG funds for the following public service activities. The total of \$65,000 for these PY2019 public service activities complies with HUD's public service category cap.

### **Affordable, High Quality Early Childhood Education and Development Services**

To support affordable, high quality early childhood education and development services for children six weeks to three years old, \$25,000 is budgeted for Moore Community House, which 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. The program will be available to qualified low- to moderate-income Biloxi families who also must comply with program participation requirements.

### **Early Childhood Education and Development Services for Victims of Domestic Violence**

The Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence is licensed to provide an early childhood education and development program, which is limited to families that are sheltered at or receiving services from the center. PY2019 CDBG funding in the amount of \$10,000 will help support the program and will leverage other private, state and local resources. The activity meets HUD's *Limited Clientele* presumption of benefit for children who have experienced domestic violence but will be supported with required income documentation to verify low/mod benefit compliance.

### **Access to Affordable Housing through Rent, Utility and Security Deposit Assistance**

The Open Doors Homeless Coalition/MS-503 CoC is certified by HUD to administer federally-funded homeless and housing programs. FY2019 CDBG funds will provide rent, utility and security deposit assistance for eligible families with children and veterans (first priority) in their efforts to avoid or address homelessness by supporting compliance with "move-in" requirements to access affordable housing in Biloxi. The City's CDBG funds will provide 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

people experiencing homelessness, which will be supported with required income documentation to verify low/mod benefit compliance.

### **Summer Educational Program for Income-Eligible Children**

The City also will support a summer educational program provided by New Bethel CDC for eligible children from low- to moderate-income households. The 8-week program will help prepare children, ages 5-12, for the upcoming school year through reading, writing, math, computer and English as a Second Language classes. \$10,000 in PY2019 CDBG funds is budgeted to purchase teacher resources, books, classroom supplies and meals/snacks for the children and to fund field trip expenses. The program operates Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### **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 Regional Housing Authority VIII, Biloxi Housing Authority, the Open Doors Homeless Coalition/ MS-503 CoC, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and Catholic Community and Social Services in their efforts to obtain more housing and housing assistance for the underserved through various housing programs.

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

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

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

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

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

The City will support agency efforts to assist public housing residents in making the transition to independent living. Agencies such as the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII, 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 2019 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 2019, the City also will partner with local nonprofit agencies such as the Open Doors Homeless Coalition/MS-503 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. The City also will assist in completing the statewide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

During the 2019 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 Regional Housing Authority VIII 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 2019 to help reduce the number of poverty-level families:

- Invest PY2019 CDBG resources to improve access to affordable housing in Biloxi through rent, utility and security deposit assistance for qualified families with children and veterans to prevent or address homelessness;
- 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 PY2019 CDBG resources to support 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 ensure 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/MS-503 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 PY2019. 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 PY2019, the City of Biloxi will take a pro-active role in implementing its Consolidated Plan and its current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. Social service agencies and housing providers will work to ensure that applications 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 PY2019, 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.

## 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.

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.

The City of Biloxi received a CDBG entitlement allocation of \$470,034 for PY2019 and anticipates generating an additional \$170,271 in program income. \$31,947 in funds carried over from previous years or in additional program income brings the anticipated total of CDBG funds to be available in PY2019 to \$672,252.

### 2019 Program Year Activities & Funding:

Program Administration \$100,000; East Biloxi Railroad Crossing Closure and Construction of East-West Neighborhood Access Road Project, Phase 1 \$507,252; and Public Services \$65,000.

### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

#### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

The City estimates that 100% of 2019 CDBG funds will be invested in activities to benefit those who qualify as low- to moderate-income.

Overall benefit is determined based on the one-year period, October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020, which is the City of Biloxi's 2019 CDBG Program Year.

Draft

**The following attachments will be included in the final document:**

**Citizens Participation**

**Maps**

**SF-424 & HUD Certifications**

Draft