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# CITY OF ALTOONA

*1301 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 400  
Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601*

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## **FY 2015-2019 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND FY 2015 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**



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## Executive Summary

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

#### 1. Introduction

The City of Altoona, Pennsylvania is an entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs. The City of Altoona has prepared its Five Year Consolidated Plan (CP) for the period of FY 2015, beginning July 1, 2015, through FY 2019, ending June 30, 2019. The Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan to implement Federal programs for housing and community development activities within the City of Altoona and how the proposed activities will principally benefit low- and moderate-income individuals. The Consolidated Plan is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program that must be completed by the entitlement community every five (5) years in conjunction with an update to the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI).

The Five Year Consolidated Plan establishes the goals the City of Altoona proposes for the next five (5) year period and outlines the specific initiatives the City will undertake to address these goals by encouraging the development of decent housing, promoting a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities. The Five Year Consolidated Plan is a collaborative planning process between the City, the community at large, social service agencies, housing providers, community development groups, and economic development agencies. The process was implemented through a series of public meetings, stakeholder surveys, statistical data, and reviews of previous community development plans.

## 2. **Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview**

The “Vision” of the Five Year Consolidated Plan is to serve as a consolidated planning document, an application, and a strategic plan for the City of Altoona. The following goals and objectives have been identified for the period of FY 2015 through FY 2019:

### **HOUSING PRIORITY**

There is a need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the community and to increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary housing for home-owners, renters, and home buyers.

#### **Goals/Strategies:**

- **HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation** - Increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, accessible and sanitary housing through the rehabilitation of existing owner-occupied and rental housing stock in the City.
- **HS-2 Housing Construction** - Encourage the development of new housing by private developers and non-profits that is affordable, decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary.
- **HS-3 Fair Housing** - Promote fair housing choice for all protected classes through education, and outreach.
- **HS-4 Housing Counseling** - Promote low- and moderate-income households to become home-owners by encouraging them to enroll in credit counseling, housing counseling and financial assistance programs.

### **HOMELESS PRIORITY**

There is a need for housing opportunities and services for homeless persons and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.

#### **Goals/Strategies:**

- **HO-1 Operation/Support** - Encourage local agencies to apply for funds to expand their operations and support services by creating additional units for emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing.
- **HO-2 Prevention and Housing** - Encourage non-profit organizations and governmental agencies in their pursuit of funds for the development of housing for the homeless and disabled.
- **HO-3 Continuum of Care** - Cooperate and participate in the planning efforts of the various homeless organizations to coordinate their policies and procedures to address homelessness.

### **OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS PRIORITY**

There is a need for housing opportunities, services, and facilities for persons with special needs.

#### **Goals/Strategies:**

- **SN-1 Housing** - Increase the supply of decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation and new construction by developers, and non-profit agencies.
- **SN-2 Social Services** - Support social services, programs, and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY**

There is a need to improve the community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life in the City of Altoona.

#### **Goals/Strategies:**

- **CD-1 Community Facilities** - Improve the City's public facilities and infrastructure through rehabilitation and new construction.
- **CD-2 Accessibility** - Improve the physical, visual, and handicapped accessibility of community facilities and infrastructure.
- **CD-3 Public Services** - Improve and increase public safety, programs for youth, the elderly and the disabled, including recreational programs, city services, and social service programs throughout the City.
- **CD-4 Public Safety** - Increase neighborhood policing to reduce the incidences of crime and violations of public safety in low- and moderate-income areas.
- **CD-5 Code Enforcement** - Continue a systematic code enforcement program to ensure that the existing housing stock will be decent, safe, and sanitary.
- **CD-6 Slum and Blight** - Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions throughout the City through demolition and clearance.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY**

There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, educational training, and empowerment for residents of the City of Altoona.

#### **Goals/Strategies:**

- **ED-1 Employment** - Support and encourage non-profits, for-profit entities, and government agencies to create new jobs, retention of job, and job training opportunities.
- **ED-2 Business Development** - Encourage business and commercial growth through expansion and new development in the City.
- **ED-3 Redevelopment Program** - Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of vacant commercial and industrial sites in the City.

### **ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING, AND MANAGEMENT PRIORITY**

There is a continuing need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of federal, state, and local funded programs.

#### **Goals/Strategies:**

- **AM-1 Overall Coordination** - Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of federal, state, and local funded programs.
- **AM-2 Special Studies/Management** - Provide planning services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

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

The City of Altoona has a good performance record with HUD. The City regularly meets the performance standards established by HUD. Each year the City prepares its Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). This report is submitted within ninety (90) days after the start of the new program year. Copies of the CAPER are available for review at the City Planning and Community Development Department, 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA.

The FY 2013 CAPER, which was the fourth CAPER for the FY 2010-2014 Five Year Consolidated Plan, was approved by HUD. In the FY 2013 CAPER, the City of Altoona expended 80.41% of its CDBG funds to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The City expended 11.07% of its funds during the FY 2013 CAPER period on public service, which is below the statutory maximum of 15%. The City expended 19.25% of its funds during this CAPER period on Planning and Administration, which is below the statutory maximum of 20%. The City is in compliance with the required 1.5 maximum drawdown ratio.

The HOME program is being administered in a timely manner and in accordance with applicable activity limitations and match requirements. The City was not required to provide a match for FY 2013's HOME funds because the City satisfied the distressed criteria for participating jurisdictions in accordance with HOME Program regulations. The City has also met the 15% Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) requirement.

#### 4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The City of Altoona, in compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, advertised and held two (2) public hearings on the needs of the City of Altoona that provided residents with the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG and HOME Programs and to offer their suggestions on future CDBG and HOME program priorities.

The City maintains a mailing list for the CDBG and HOME programs, and copies of all public hearing notices and a survey concerning the program were mailed to all the agencies and individuals on the list.

A "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the City's website at <http://www.altoonapa.gov> and copies of the plan were available for review at the following locations:

- **City Clerk's Office and City Planning and Community Development Department**  
1301 12th Street  
Altoona, PA
- **Altoona Housing Authority**  
2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard  
Altoona, PA
- **Altoona Area Public Library**  
1600 Fifth Avenue  
Altoona, PA

Additionally, the City developed and disseminated an online citizen's survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CityofAltoona>.

The City developed the Consolidated Plan based on the input received from the public and stakeholders through interviews, public hearings, draft plan review comments, and the citizen's survey.

#### 5. Summary of public comments

The City of Altoona held its First Public Hearing on June 19, 2014 at 6:00 PM. Comments received at that public hearing are included in the attachments at the end of the Five Year Plan.

The Five Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2015 Annual Action Plan were placed on public display and a Second Public Hearing was scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2015. Comments that were received at the Second Public Hearing and are included in the attachments at the end of the Five Year Plan.

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

All comments and suggestions that were received to date, have been accepted and incorporated into the planning documents.

## **7. Summary**

The main goals of the Five Year Consolidated Plan are to improve the living conditions of all residents in the City of Altoona, create a suitable and sustainable living environment, and to address the housing and community development needs of the residents.

The Five Year Consolidated Planning process requires the City to state in a single document its strategy to pursue goals for all housing, community development, and planning programs. The City will use the Consolidated Plan's goals and objectives to allocate the next five (5) years of CDBG and HOME funds and to provide direction to other partners addressing the housing and community development needs of the low- and moderate-income population of the City of Altoona. HUD will evaluate the City's performance under the Five Year Consolidated Plan against these goals.

DRAFT

## The Process

### PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

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

*The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.*

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	ALTOONA	
CDBG Administrator		Planning & Community Development
HOME Administrator		Planning & Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

#### Narrative

The administering lead agency and administrator is the City of Altoona’s Department of Planning and Community Development for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs. The Department of Planning and Community Development Director, Lee C. Slusser, reports directly to the Mayor and City Manager. The Planning and Community Development Department is responsible for preparing the Five Year Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, Environmental Review Records (ERR’s), the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPER), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, and oversight of the programs on a day to day basis. In addition the City of Altoona has a private planning consulting firm available to assist the City on an as needed basis.

#### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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## PR-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

### 1. Introduction

The City of Altoona held a series of meetings with non-profits, local housing providers, social service agencies, community and economic development organizations, and City department directors. An online survey was created for stakeholders and residents to complete, which identified needs, gaps in the system, etc. Input from the meetings and survey were used in the development of specific strategies and priorities for the Five Year Plan.

Each year, as a part of the CDBG and HOME application process, local agencies/organizations are invited to submit proposals for CDBG grant eligible activities and to participate in the consultation process through attending a public hearing or responding directly to the correspondence or survey. A complete list of agencies contacted and representatives that participated in meetings can be found in the Citizen Participation attachment.

**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)).**

The City of Altoona works with the following agencies to enhance coordination:

- **Altoona Housing Authority** – Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and improvements to public housing communities.
- **Social Services Agencies** – funds to improve services to low and moderate income persons.
- **Housing Providers** – funds to rehabilitate and develop affordable housing and provide housing options for low and moderate income households.

Each year, as part of the CDBG and HOME application planning process, local agencies, and organization are invited to submit proposals for CDBG and HOME funds for eligible activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings, informational meetings, and completing survey forms.

**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 Altoona/Central Pennsylvania CoC (PA-507) is comprised of 21 counties including Blair County and the City of Altoona. The City of Altoona is not a stand-alone CoC but rather is part of a 21 county CoC. City of Altoona Planning Department staff are active participants in the Blair County LHOT (Local Housing Options Team) committee. The LHOT is comprised of persons from many

agencies and organizations throughout the county that deal with housing issues. These organizations include providers of health, mental health, drug and alcohol, social service, food, domestic abuse, veterans and homeless services. William Hunter, Executive Director of Blair County Community Action Agency and Co-Chair of PA 507, the Altoona/Central Pennsylvania Continuum of Care (CoC), is also one of the active participants of the Blair LHOT. In this dual role he represents the CoC on the Blair LHOT, which City Planning Staff participate in and takes the input and views of the Blair LHOT back to the greater CoC.

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

The City of Altoona's Planning Department staff participate in the Blair County LHOT which is the local group that represents Altoona/Blair County to the CoC. Issues facing homeless persons in Altoona are discussed at the LHOT meeting. These local needs are reported to the greater CoC. The Healthy Blair County Coalition conducts a regular Community Health Needs Assessment. While this needs assessment is not geared specifically toward homeless people it does address many of the health and mental health issue that are exhibited by the homeless population. The most recent version of this needs assessment was completed in September of 2013. The Point in Time survey of sheltered and unsheltered homeless is conducted annually on the date prescribed by HUD. The next survey is scheduled for January 28, 2014. The count from the most recent completed survey in 2013 indicated that there were 29 people in 24 families that were in emergency shelter, 82 people in 44 families that were in transitional housing and 6 people in 4 families that were unsheltered.

The CoC does not directly receive ESG funds. ESG funds for member counties and cities in the Altoona/Central CoC are administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Community And Economic Development (DCED). DCED has developed a process for allocating funds, for evaluating outcomes and for developing policies and procedures. The CoC is consulted by DCED regarding past program performance and involvement of ESG applicants.

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

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

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CENTRAL BLAIR RECREATION COMMISSION
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Regional organization Planning organization Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission was consulted to ascertain the social service and infrastructure needs of the community.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Family Services, Inc.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services - Victims Child Welfare Agency
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Family Services, Inc. was consulted to ascertain information regarding victims of domestic violence and non-housing special needs.
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Sovereign Grace Church of Central PA
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Civic Leaders

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Sovereign Grace Church of Central PA was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Your Choice Federal Credit Union
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Private Sector Banking / Financing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Your Choice Federal Credit Union was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs in the City of Altoona.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ALTOONA BLAIR COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Planning organization Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Community Development Financial Institution
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Altoona Blair County Development Corporation was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs of the City of Altoona.

6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	First National Bank
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Private Sector Banking / Financing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	First National Bank was consulted to ascertain the Economic Development needs of the City of Altoona.
7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Blair County Chamber of Commerce
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Planning organization Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Community Development Financial Institution Private Sector Banking / Financing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Blair County Chamber of Commerce was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs of the City of Altoona.
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	M&T Bank
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Private Sector Banking / Financing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	M&T Bank was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs for the City of Altoona.

9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Catholic Charities
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Catholic Charities was consulted to ascertain the fair housing and housing needs of the City of Altoona.
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Blair County Community Action
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Blair County Community Action was consulted to ascertain the fair housing, housing, and homeless needs of the City of Altoona.

11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Central PA Landlord's Association
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Central PA Landlord's Association was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
12	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	BLAIR SENIOR SERVICES, INC.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Blair Senior Services Inc. was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
13	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Home Nursing Agency
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Home Nursing Agency was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.

14	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Blair County Department of Social Services
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Blair County Department of Social Services was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
15	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	American Rescue Workers
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	American Rescue Workers was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
16	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Blair Health Choices
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Health Health Agency
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Blair Health Choices was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
17	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGING
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Service-Fair Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Pennsylvania Department of Aging was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
18	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Altoona Area School District
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Education
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy Education
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Altoona Area School District was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.

19	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Kids First/Lily Pond
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Child Welfare Agency
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Kids First/Lily Pond was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
20	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Blair County Assistance Office
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Child Welfare Agency Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Blair County Assistance Office was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
21	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Altoona Area Public Library
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Education Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Education
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Altoona Area Public Library was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
22	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Blair County NAACP
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Service-Fair Housing Civic Leaders

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Blair County NAACP was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
23	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Altoona Center for Nursing Care
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health Health Agency
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Altoona Center for Nursing Care was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
24	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	AMTRAN
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Transportation
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	AMTRAN was consulted to ascertain the transportation needs of the City of Altoona.
25	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING OF SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Service-Fair Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Center for Independent Living was consulted to ascertain the housing and social service needs of the City of Altoona.
26	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Evergreen Manors Inc.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Evergreen Manors, Inc. was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
27	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Allegheny Highland Association of Realtors
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Allegheny Highland Association of Realtors was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
28	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Habitat for Humanity of Blair County
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Habitat for Humanity of Blair County was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
29	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind was consulted to ascertain the social service and disability needs of the City of Altoona.
30	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
31	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Sheetz, Inc.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Employment Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Major Employer
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Sheetz, Inc. was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs of the City of Altoona.

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

All known agency types were consulted and contacted during the planning process. See Exhibit Section for meeting notes.

**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		They are compatible.
5-Year Plan	Altoona Housing Authority	They are compatible.
Positively Altoona	Altoona Department of Planning and Community Development	They are compatible.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(l))**

The City of Altoona, Department of Planning and Community Development is the administrating agency for the CDBG and HOME programs. Close coordination is maintained with the other City departments CDBG projects such as the Department of Public Works, Public Utilities and the Park and Recreation Board.

Develop policies are promoted by the City Manager with approval and oversight by the Mayor and City Council. The City works closely with the Blair County Commissioners and County staff to address projects and activities that extend beyond the City limits. The City and the county have good working relationships.

**Narrative (optional):**

Not Applicable.

## **PR-15 Citizen Participation**

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

The FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and FY 2015 Annual Action Plan has many components which try to reach out and encourage citizen participation. These components are the following: request for proposals for funding (RFP's) from agencies/organizations; meeting with agencies/organizations on how to complete the RFP; interviews and roundtable discussions were held with various stakeholders; a needs hearing; and a hearing to gather public comments on the draft plan on public display. The City posted a survey on the City's website and received back 79 completed surveys. All of these comments are included in the consolidated and annual action plan in the Exhibit Section. Through the citizen participation process, the City uses citizen input to develop how the plan will serve the low- and moderate-income population to reach the goals set in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

The City has followed its approved Citizens Participation Plan to develop its Five Year Consolidated Plan.

**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	Newspaper Ad	Minorities  Persons with disabilities  Non-targeted/broad community  Residents of Public and Assisted Housing  Agencies	None	None	None	Not Applicable.

DRAFT

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of Comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Public Hearing	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Agencies	A Public Hearing was held on Thursday, June 19 to discuss the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. There were a total of 5 attendees.	Meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.
3	Internet Outreach	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Agenices	There were a total of 79 residents that completed the online survey.	A summary of the survey responses can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	<a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/cityofaltoona">https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/cityofaltoona</a>

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of Comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
4	Organizations	Agencies	There were a total of 31 organizations that completed surveys. In addition, the City met with local agencies and organizations.	A summary of the survey responses and meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.
5	Public Hearing	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies	A Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 to discuss the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. There were a total of _____ attendees.	Meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

## Needs Assessment

### NA-05 Overview

#### Needs Assessment Overview

The City of Altoona used the HUD Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, which provides information on housing needs, to prepare its estimates and projects. The tables in this section have been filled in with the data sets from HUD, based on the American Community Survey (ACS) five year estimate, and the 2010 U.S. Census. This data is the most current information on which to base the five year needs assessment.

Altoona is part of the Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care, which includes twenty-one (21) counties in central and south/central Pennsylvania. Data for the development of the needs for the homeless in the area have been obtained from the Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care.

Additional needs for the City of Altoona were obtained from input and interviews with various social service agencies, housing providers, city staff, and resident survey comments.

DRAFT

## NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

### Summary of Housing Needs

Based on a comparison between the 2000 and 2011 population, the City of Altoona had a 6% decrease in population of 2,861 persons. The number of households decreased by 816 or 4%. This indicates that size of households has decreased. Furthermore, the median income of the area increased by 24%. This increase in median income represents a change in nominal dollars and not a change in real dollars. In order to calculate the change in real dollars, the Consumer Price Index is used to calculate the inflation rate for a given period. Between 2000 and 2011, the cumulative inflation rate was 30.6%, meaning that the \$28,248.00 median income in 2000 would be \$36,899.40 if it were expressed in 2011 dollars. By taking into consideration the rate of inflation, the median income in Altoona has not kept up with the rate of inflation.

Demographics	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2011	% Change
Population	49,523	46,662	-6%
Households	20,091	19,275	-4%
Median Income	\$28,248.00	\$35,052.00	24%

**Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics**

**Data Source:** 2000 Census (Base Year), 2007-2011 ACS (Most Recent Year)

### Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households *	2,925	3,005	3,665	2,150	7,530
Small Family Households *	830	1,050	1,270	825	4,295
Large Family Households *	180	130	135	180	610
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	550	575	795	435	1,425
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	449	755	775	300	555
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger *	515	470	560	400	885
* the highest income category for these family types is >80% HAMFI					

**Table 6 - Total Households Table**

**Data Source:** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Housing Needs Summary Tables**

**1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)**

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	10	60	45	0	115	65	10	20	0	95
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	25	0	0	4	29	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,240	250	30	0	1,520	390	315	200	25	930

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	385	680	330	100	1,495	155	435	475	240	1,305
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	90	0	0	0	90	25	0	0	0	25

**Table 7 – Housing Problems Table**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
Source:

## 2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	1,285	305	75	4	1,669	455	325	220	25	1,025
Having none of four housing problems	825	1,370	1,205	525	3,925	245	1,000	2,165	1,590	5,000
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	90	0	0	0	90	25	0	0	0	25

**Table 8 – Housing Problems 2**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
Source:

### 3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>								
Small Related	495	425	140	1,060	210	205	285	700
Large Related	155	10	0	165	15	105	30	150
Elderly	454	320	130	904	265	275	220	760
Other	560	200	90	850	120	165	140	425
Total need by income	1,664	955	360	2,979	610	750	675	2,035

**Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
Source:

### 4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>								
Small Related	415	90	0	505	170	90	70	330
Large Related	145	0	0	145	15	20	15	50
Elderly	310	70	10	390	155	100	70	325
Other	415	90	20	525	105	100	40	245
Total need by income	1,285	250	30	1,565	445	310	195	950

**Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
Source:

### 5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Single family households	4	0	0	4	8	0	0	0	0	0

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	25	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	29	0	0	4	33	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2**

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2**

Data Source  
Comments:

**Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.**

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey (ACS), there were 19,275 households in 2011 in the City of Altoona. Based on this number of households, 6,451 (33.5%) of all households were single person households living alone. Single person households aged 65 and over comprised 2,682 households or (13.9%) of all single person households. Based on the ACS estimates, 41.6% of all persons living alone are seniors, and it is presumed that as they age in place, additional accommodations and special needs will be necessary for this portion of the City’s population. The City will need to assist in obtaining funding, and working with housing service and elderly support agencies to provide programs, activities and accommodations for its elderly population.

**Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.**

**Disabled Population** – Based on the 2000 CHAS Data and the 2007-2011 ACS Data, it is estimated that 46% of all disabled renters have a housing problem that includes cost overburdened by 30% or another type of housing problem, and 33% of disabled homeowners have a housing problem that includes cost overburdened by 30% or another type of housing problem. From these estimates it can be deduced that approximately 754 disabled renters have a housing problem and approximately 1,406 disabled

homeowners have a housing problem. A breakdown of the types of disability compared to the population as a whole is as follows: hearing difficulty = 4.01%; vision difficulty = 2.77%; cognitive difficulty = 7.43%; ambulatory difficulty = 7.85%; self-care difficulty = 2.66%; and independent living difficulty = 6.03%.

**Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, sexual assault, and stalking** – Based on the local crime statistics and social service agency responses to interviews and surveys, it is estimated that approximately 25 single family households and family households that are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, are in need of housing assistance.

### **What are the most common housing problems?**

The largest housing problem in the City of Altoona is housing affordability. According to the 2008-2012 ACS data, 45.7% of all renter households are cost overburdened by 30% or more, and 16.0% of all owner households are cost overburdened by 30% or more.

In consultations, interviews and surveys, the lack of affordable accessible housing for the disabled is the largest unmet housing need and problem. Most of the affordable housing units are located in the central portion of the City close to the Central Business District. This is the oldest part of the City. It contains the oldest housing stock which is multi-stories in height and not easily accommodated for the needs of the disabled.

Another housing problem is the lack of permanent housing for the homeless. Once again this is an affordability issue.

### **Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?**

Yes, the elderly and disabled populations are the most affected by the high cost of housing in the City of Altoona. The elderly and disabled are on fixed or limited incomes. The lack of affordable housing that is decent, safe, and sound forces them into housing that is below code standards.

The other large group affected by the lack of affordable housing is the homeless and persons at-risk of becoming homeless, including persons who are victims of domestic violence.

**Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance**

Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) Continuum of Care – PA-507. The Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care contains twenty-one (21) member counties: Lycoming,

Clinton, Union, Columbia, Northumberland, Centre, Snyder, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, Lebanon, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Franklin, Somerset, Bedford, Fulton, and Montour.

The City of Altoona does not receive an ESG entitlement grant for the local shelter activities.

Specific needs of the extremely low-income who are housed, but are at imminent risk of becoming unsheltered or living in shelters are: food, clothing, transportation and job training. The local social service agencies provide food and clothing through food pantries, food kitchens and thrift stores. Transportation and job training are limited and funds are needed to address those needs.

The local organizations maintain records in the HMIS system and continue to monitor and tract assisted households. The HMIS reports indicate that a small percentage of assisted clients return to homelessness after twelve (12) months of service.

**If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:**

**Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness**

The high cost of decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the City creates instability of housing for the lower income families in the area. Many families are living from paycheck to paycheck and are paying over 35% of their income for housing.

The other housing characteristic is the lack of housing supportive services. For example, predatory lending practices, purchasing a house on a "land contract," and the lack of knowledge and poor training on how to maintain a house.

## **Discussion**

The City of Altoona has a large elderly population that requires accessible housing units.

## NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### Introduction

During the planning process for the preparation of the City of Altoona’s Five Year Consolidated Plan, an evaluation and comparison was made to determine if any racial or ethnic group is disproportionately affected by housing problems in the City. Disproportionately greater need is defined as a group having at least 10 percentage points higher than the percentage of persons as a whole. The total number of White Households in the City of Altoona is 18,529 households (96.13%); the number of Black/African American Households is 490 households (5.69%); the number of Asian Households is 69 households (0.36%); and the number of Hispanic Households is 166 households (2.25%).

### 0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,445	605	40
White	2,165	585	30
Black / African American	139	10	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	10	0	0
Hispanic	55	10	10

**Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI**

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,705	1,275	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
White	1,590	1,225	0
Black / African American	45	50	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	35	0	0

**Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
 Source:

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

**50%-80% of Area Median Income**

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	995	2,685	0
White	930	2,615	0
Black / African American	19	35	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	25	29	0

**Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
 Source:

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

**80%-100% of Area Median Income**

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	345	1,625	0
White	345	1,595	0
Black / African American	0	30	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

**Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI**

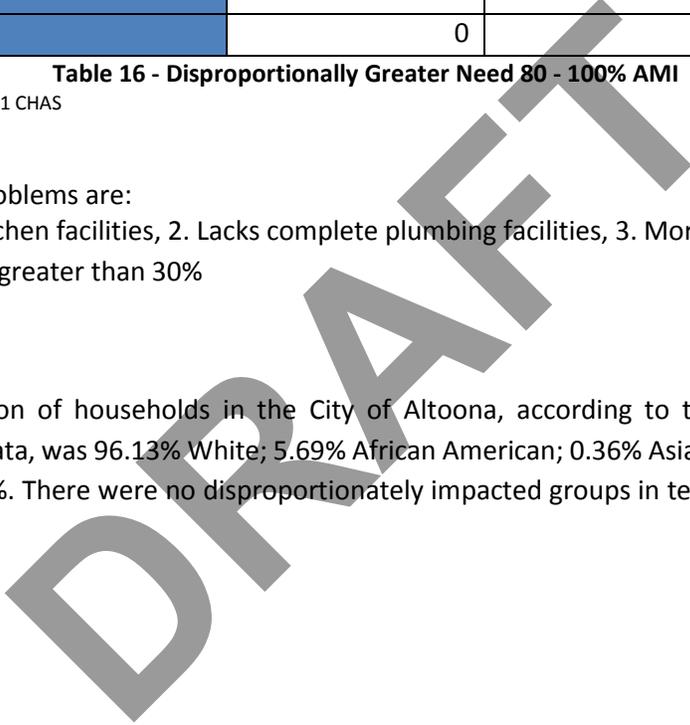
Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
 Source:

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

**Discussion**

The racial composition of households in the City of Altoona, according to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey data, was 96.13% White; 5.69% African American; 0.36% Asian. The Hispanic or Latino population was 0.86%. There were no disproportionately impacted groups in terms of housing problems in the City.



## NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### Introduction

In order for the City of Altoona to determine its goals and strategies, it must determine the extent to which any racial/ethnic group has a greater need in comparison to the City’s overall population need. Data detailing information by racial group and Hispanic origin has been compiled from the CHAS data and the 2007-2011 American Community Survey data. Disproportionate need is defined as a group having at least 10 percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in that group as a whole. The following tables illustrate the disproportionate needs of the City of Altoona.

### 0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,735	1,320	40
White	1,500	1,255	30
Black / African American	115	34	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	10	0	0
Hispanic	50	14	10

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	600	2,380	0

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
White	545	2,270	0
Black / African American	20	75	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	19	15	0

**Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
 Source:

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

**50%-80% of Area Median Income**

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	235	3,435	0
White	220	3,330	0
Black / African American	0	55	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	54	0

**Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
 Source:

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

**80%-100% of Area Median Income**

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	15	1,950	0
White	15	1,920	0
Black / African American	0	30	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

**Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI**

Data 2007-2011 CHAS  
Source:

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

**Discussion**

The racial composition of households in the City of Altoona, according to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey data, was 96.13% White; 5.69% African American; 0.36% Asian. The Hispanic or Latino population was 0.86%. There were no disproportionately impacted groups in terms of severe housing problems in the City.

## NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

*Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.*

### Introduction:

The greatest housing problem facing the City of Altoona, PA is the lack of affordable housing and the fact that many of the City’s lower income households are paying more than 30% of their total household rent on the monthly cost for housing. The following information was noted: 13,235 White households were cost overburdened by less than 30%, 3,090 White households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 2,155 White households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 235 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by less than 30%; 75 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 125 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 15 Asian households were cost overburdened by less than 30%; 15 American Indian/Alaskan Native households were cost overburdened by less than 30% and 4 American Indian/Alaskan Native households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 10 Pacific Islander households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; and lastly, 40 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by less than 30%, 49 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 65 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%.

### Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	13,580	3,260	2,445	40
White	13,235	3,090	2,155	30
Black / African American	235	75	125	0
Asian	15	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	15	0	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	10	0
Hispanic	40	49	65	10

**Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI**

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

### Discussion:

A total of 5,205 (91.2%) White households out of a total of 5,705 households were considered cost overburdened by 30% and greater. There were 200 Black/African American households (3.5%) of a total

of 5,705 Black/African American households in the City were cost overburdened by 30% and greater. In addition, there were 144 Hispanic households (2.0%) that were cost overburdened by 30% and greater.

DRAFT

**NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)**

**Are there any income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?**

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey, the racial composition of households in the City of Altoona was 96.13% White; 2.54% African American/Black; and 0.36% Asian. The Hispanic or Latino population was 0.86%. There are no disproportionately impacted groups in terms of having a housing problem, a severe housing problem, or a housing cost burden.

When examining the percentage of each race or ethnic group with a housing problem, a severe housing problem, and that are housing cost overburdened, a different picture presents itself. 69.28% of all Hispanic households experienced a housing problem, while 41.43% of Black/African American households, and 27.15% of White households experienced one. These numbers follow a similar pattern with severe housing problems, with 41.57% of Hispanic households, 27.31% of Black/African American households, and 12.31% of White households experiencing severe housing problems. These numbers show that if you are Black/African American or Hispanic, you are more likely to experience a housing problem or a severe housing problem than you are if you identify as any other racial or ethnic group.

**If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?**

Not applicable.

**Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?**

## **NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)**

### **Introduction**

The Altoona Housing Authority has identified the following goals and objectives in their Action Plan:

**PHA Goal:** Expand the supply of assisted housing

#### **Objectives:**

- Apply for additional rental vouchers (VASH -if available & based upon funding)
- Reduce public housing vacancies
- Leverage private or other public funds to create additional housing opportunities
- Other: Increase inventory of homeownership properties; Increase level of landlord participation in the Section 8 Voucher Program; Educate prospective landlords on the benefits of the Section 8 Voucher Program

**PHA Goal:** Improve the quality of assisted housing.

#### **Objectives:**

- Improve/Maintain public housing management: (PHAS score)
- Improve/Maintain voucher management: (SEMAP score)
- Renovate or modernize public housing units based upon PNA
- Demolish or dispose of obsolete public housing
- Provide replacement public housing
- Work with local advocacy groups in identifying those who need UFAS units

**PHA Goal:** Increase assisted housing choices.

#### **Objectives:**

- Conduct outreach efforts to potential voucher landlords
- Implement public housing or other homeownership programs
- Maintain utilization rate of Section 8 HCV funds to 95% or higher dependent upon funding

**PHA Goal:** Provide an improved living environment

**Objectives:**

- Designate developments or buildings for particular resident groups (elderly, persons with disabilities)
- Improve current level of resident satisfaction with living conditions in public housing through meetings, safety and customer satisfaction surveys
- Continuation of support of resident Neighborhood Watch Program at sites
- Increase participation in health related workshops
- Continuation of in-house employee trainings for regulation changes
- Continue annual Community Education Workshops to educate local agencies on services provided by the Authority

**PHA Goal:** Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of assisted households

**Objectives:**

- Provide or attract supportive services to improve assistance recipients' employability
- Provide or attract supportive services to increase independence for the elderly or families with disabilities
- Other: Conduct workshops to low income residents on homeownership opportunities; Work with residents to improve the image of public housing

**PHA Goal:** Ensure equal opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing

**Objectives:**

- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, and disability
- Undertake affirmative measures to provide a suitable living environment for families living in assisted housing, regardless of race, color, religion national origin, sex, familial status, and disability
- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure accessible housing to persons with all varieties of disabilities regardless of unit size required
- To adopt the highest standards in operating housing developments
- To promote self-sufficiency and independence of residents
- To pursue partnerships which promote resident opportunity and quality of life
- To provide housing that is an asset to the community
- Continue Fair Housing workshops for staff and residents
- To effectively manage and upgrade all ADA compliance deficiencies
- Continuation of staff training on reasonable accommodation policies and requests and Fair Housing practices

**Totals in Use**

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	48	509	822	0	812	10	0	0

**Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type**

\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

**Characteristics of Residents**

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	10,315	11,783	10,957	0	10,985	8,680	0
Average length of stay	0	3	4	2	0	2	0	0
Average Household size	0	1	1	2	0	2	1	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	16	237	153	0	153	0	0
# of Disabled Families	0	30	123	327	0	322	5	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	48	509	822	0	812	10	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

**Data Source:** PIC (PIH Information Center)

**Race of Residents**

Race	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	46	482	723	0	717	6	0	0
Black/African American	0	2	24	93	0	89	4	0	0
Asian	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	2	3	0	3	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

**Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

**Ethnicity of Residents**

Ethnicity	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	6	10	0	10	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	48	503	812	0	802	10	0	0

**\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

**Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

## **Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:**

The Housing Authority had 785 families/individuals on its Housing Choice Voucher waiting list as of June 2014. There are currently 785 people on the Section 8 waiting list, of which 718 are families, 41 are elderly, and 26 are families with disabilities. In addition, there are 391 families/individuals on the waiting list for public housing. There are 18 applicants on the Public Housing waiting list that identified as elderly, and 49 that identified as near elderly. The waiting list for Public Housing is still open and is expanding as the need for public housing grows. The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list was closed on April 19, 2014. The following housing needs are for the applicants on the waiting list for public housing:

- **Elderly Highrise Apartments = 41**
- **Efficiency Apartments = 68**
- **One Bedroom Apartments = 188**
- **Two Bedroom Apartments = 110**
- **Three Bedroom Apartments = 16**
- **Four Bedroom Apartments = 5**
- **Five Bedroom Apartments = 4**

The waiting list for Housing Choice Vouchers (785 families/individuals) is mainly for one (348 applicants) and two (225 applicants) bedroom housing units.

There is a need for accessible housing accommodations for the elderly applicants on the waiting list. It is estimated that approximately 3.3% of the persons on the waiting list (26 persons) are in need of accessibility accommodations.

The follow are identified in the Altoona Housing Authority's FY 2014 Annual Plan as the housing needs of families on the Public Housing and Section 8 Tenant-Based Assistance waiting lists:

"The Authority administers 536 public housing apartment, 3 home-ownership units, and 985 Section 8 vouchers. An examination of current occupancy levels and waiting list information shows a majority of families with incomes below 30% of median income. The Authority monitors income targeting on a quarterly basis for compliance. This illustrates a need to maintain quality, affordable and safe housing choices for families. The Authority partners with surrounding and local agencies to educate them on the types of housing available to those meeting the income guidelines. The Authority also does extensive marketing outreach to the public on the affordability and accessibility of our housing stock. The current waiting list for public housing is open but the Section 8 waiting list will be closing April 19, 2014 due to funding and the waiting list being over 800. The Authority continues to market our public housing stock through advertising through the local newspaper and recruitment through local agencies on the availability of such units to meet their family's need."

### **Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders**

The most immediate need of the current residents of Public Housing is for employment training, job opportunities, and transportation for shopping, medical services, and community services such as youth activities. Their housing needs are being addressed by the Public Housing Authority.

There is a need for accessible housing accommodations for the elderly applicants on the Section 8 waiting list. The Housing Authority reported that 3.3% of the persons on the waiting list (26 persons) are in need of accessibility accommodations. The Housing Authority has been working to make reasonable accommodations to its public housing units to satisfy the Section 504 requirements for persons with physical disabilities such as mobility, visual, and hearing impairments.

The Altoona Housing Authority is improving public safety and crime prevention at its public housing communities. Safety measures are a high priority due to the increase in violent and drug-related crimes. Based on interviews with the Housing Authority staff and Board, if patrolling were increased in and around the housing developments, safety would be increased and crime would decrease. If officers were patrolling on the ground, on foot or on bikes, it would create a more noticeable presence of law enforcement in the public housing communities, which could decrease incidences of crime and violence.

A goal of the Altoona Housing Authority is to instill a sense of pride in their residents so that they want to engage in "community policing". The Housing Authority will continue its Neighborhood Watch Program in an effort to incorporate residents in increasing public safety within public housing communities. The Altoona Housing Authority wants to make their housing developments are suitable places for families and children to reside.

The immediate needs of the Housing Choice Voucher holders is similar. They need housing units that are close to public transportation or their place of employment. There does not appear to be any other housing needs, except that the supply of available affordable units is limited and therefore a shortage of housing choices.

### **How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large**

The needs of the existing public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher Holders are not similar to the population at large which has a much higher income. Those residents are living in decent, safe, and sanitary housing that is affordable to them since they are in a higher income bracket. The needs of the population at large, in the same lower income bracket, are for quality, affordable housing close to transportation and their places of employment.

### **Discussion**

The Altoona Housing Authority is a partner with the City in addressing the housing needs for the residents of Altoona who are very low and extremely low income. The City of Altoona has identified the need for affordable housing that is decent, safe, and sanitary for those whose income is at or below 30% AMI. The Housing Authority is a valuable resource in addressing that need. There is a significant number of

households in the City that are at or below 50% of AMI that are affected by housing problems, severe housing problems and housing cost burdens.

The Altoona Housing Authority has identified the following strategies to address housing needs for public housing residents and Section 8 Voucher holders:

The Housing Authority's current operating budget provides funds for routine maintenance and operating costs. The Housing Authority obtains an annual grant from HUD through the Capital Fund Program (CFP) for capital improvements and renovation costs. The CFP funds include the construction of capital maintenance initiatives identified in the Housing Authority's Five Year Plan, and implementation of the agency's Section 504 handicap accessibility improvements.

The Altoona Housing Authority is not rated as a "troubled" agency by HUD, but instead is designated a "high performer." The Housing Authority's biggest challenges are renovating the existing public housing units and the lack of sufficient Housing Choice Vouchers to meet the demand for housing by low income persons. The Housing Authority has been working to make reasonable accommodations to its public housing units to satisfy the Section 504 requirements for persons with physical disabilities such as mobility visual, and hearing impairments.

The HACM is improving public safety and crime prevention at its public housing communities. Safety measures are a high priority due to the increase in violent and drug-related crimes, as well as occurrences of other low level crimes such as vandalism and graffiti.

The Housing Authority's FY 2011 Capital Fund Grant Budget is as follows:

- **Operations** = \$20,000
- **Administration** = \$55,755
- **Fees and Costs** = \$40,000
- **Site Improvement** = \$10,000
- **Dwelling Improvement** = \$431,801
- **Total** = **\$557,556**

## NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

### Introduction:

The City of Altoona is a member of the Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) Continuum of Care – PA-507. The Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care contains twenty-one (21) member counties: Lycoming, Clinton, Union, Columbia, Northumberland, Centre, Snyder, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, Lebanon, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Franklin, Somerset, Bedford, Fulton, and Montour.

### Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	4	60	140	35	105	180
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	1	0	0	0	30
Persons in Households with Only Adults	4	50	115	30	85	180
Chronically Homeless Individuals	1	1	1	1	1	180
Chronically Homeless Families	1	1	0	0	0	180
Veterans	1	5	45	30	15	90
Unaccompanied Child	0	0	1	1	1	30
Persons with HIV	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

**Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)**

<b>Race:</b>	<b>Sheltered:</b>	<b>Unsheltered (optional)</b>
White	85	0
Black or African American	22	0
Asian	2	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
<b>Ethnicity:</b>	<b>Sheltered:</b>	<b>Unsheltered (optional)</b>
Hispanic	5	0
Not Hispanic	105	0

Data Source  
Comments:

**Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.**

Based on the 2014 Point-In-Time data, 64 families with children (140 individuals) were in various states of homelessness in Blair County. It is estimated that 45 veterans experience homelessness at some point throughout the year.

**Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.**

Most individuals and families experiencing homelessness, regardless of race or ethnicity, are suffering from substance abuse problems, and/or they are uneducated when it comes to financial literacy. Service providers indicate that they serve more single white males than any other homeless population or racial or ethnic group.

**Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.**

Unsheltered Homelessness would refer to the segment of a homeless community who do not have ordinary lawful access to buildings in which to sleep, as referred to in the HUD definition as persons occupying "place not meant for human habitation", (examples: bus stop, beach, riverbed, van, RV, sidewalk)

Sheltered Homelessness would refer to those in an emergency shelter, in transitional housing, or are exiting an institution where they temporarily resided lacking a fixed nighttime residence. People will be considered homeless if they are exiting an institution where they resided for up to 90 days ( it was

previously 30 days) People who are losing their primary nighttime residence which may be a motel, hotel or a doubled up situation within 14 days and lack resources or support networks to remain housing.

According to the Point in Time Count for Blair County, there were many more sheltered homeless individuals (households without children) at 109 than unsheltered at 6. However, for people in household with at least one adult and one child, there were 62 sheltered and 4 unsheltered.

**Discussion:**

According to the 2014 Point-In-Time data for Blair County of the 147 total homeless, 41 (27.9%) were considered “Severely Mentally Ill,” 25 (17%) experienced “Chronic Substance Abuse,” 56 (38%) had a disability, and 18 (12.2%) were “Victims of Domestic Violence.”

DRAFT

## NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)

### Introduction:

The assessment of non-homeless special needs includes the following:

- Elderly persons (age 62 years and older)
- Frail elderly
- Persons with mental, physical and/or developmental disabilities
- Persons with alcohol or other drug additions
- Persons with HIV/AIDS and their families
- Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking

The housing need of each of these groups were determined by consultation with social service providers and statistical information provided by social services providers.

### Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

- Elderly Persons are defined as persons who are age 62 years and older. According to the 2008-2012 American Community Survey, elderly persons represent 19.0% of the City's total population. Approximately 5.2% of the elderly population are age 80 years and older. In addition, 16.2% of the elderly population lives alone.
- Frail Elderly are those persons who are elderly and have a form of disability, ranging from a hearing loss, vision difficulty, cognitive difficulty, ambulatory problems, and lack of self-help skills. It is estimated that approximately 23.1% of the total elderly population are frail elderly.
- Persons with mental, physical and development and disabilities, according to the ACS data for 2007-2011, comprise 16.8% of the City of Altoona's total population and are classified as "disabled."
- Persons with HIV/AIDS and their families comprise a small percentage of the City's overall population. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Health's "Annual HIV Surveillance Summary Report" reports by county the number of HIV/AIDS diagnosis. As of December 31, 2013, there were 78 reported HIV/AIDS diagnosis in Blair County with 2 new cases in 2013.
- Victims of Domestic Violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking is rapidly increasing both locally and nationally. Based on crime statistics and social service agency response, it can be estimated that over 80 residents are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

### What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

- **Elderly Persons** – Accessible housing units plus supportive services, for example, transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.

- **Frail Elderly** – Accessible housing units plus supportive services, for example, transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.
- **Mentally, Physically Disabled** – 48 housing units plus supportive services
- **Alcohol & Drug Addicts** – 25 housing units plus supportive services
- **HIV/AIDS Persons** – \_\_\_ housing units plus supportive services
- **Victims of Domestic Violence** – 18 housing units plus supportive services

**Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:**

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Health’s “Annual HIV Surveillance Summary Report” reports by county the number of HIV/AIDS diagnosis. As of December 31, 2013, there were 78 reported HIV/AIDS diagnosis in Blair County with 2 new cases in 2013. Those classified as Currently Living (with an HIV diagnosis) make up 2% of the Blair County population. There are no statistics available for the Metropolitan Statistical Area.

While many supportive service providers for the special needs population are located in the City of Altoona, their service area and clients are not limited to City limits. Therefore, the statistics are not limited to just the City of Altoona. The needs for these various groups of the Special Needs Population were determined based on HUD data, U.S. Census Data, ACS data and interviews with housing providers and social service agencies.

**Discussion:**

While many supportive service providers for the special needs population are located in the City of Altoona, their service area and clients are not limited to City limits. Therefore, the statistics are not limited to just the City of Altoona. The needs for these various groups of the Special Needs Population were determined based on HUD data, U.S. Census Data, ACS data and interviews with housing providers and social service agencies.

## **NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)**

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:**

The following are the needs for improvement to the City's public facilities:

- Public facilities need to be ADA compliant in accordance with the City's Section 504 Plan.
- Public facilities need to be in compliance with the PA Building Code.
- Public facilities must be open and available to all residents of the City on a fair and impartial basis.
- Public facilities need to be provided by the City to maintain a quality of life for its residents.
- Public facilities for parks, playgrounds, recreational areas, fields of play, and trails need to be improved and upgraded.
- Public and community facilities need to be improved and upgraded.

### **How were these needs determined?**

These needs for public facilities were determined through: resident surveys; agency needs surveys; interviews with City staff, Mayor, the City of Altoona Department of Planning and Community Development, and other City agencies; public hearing comments on needs; and the City's Comprehensive Plan.

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:**

The following are the City's needs for public improvements:

- The City needs to improve and upgrade its storm water management system and flood mitigation infrastructure.
- The City needs to reconstruct and improve its streets, curbs, and walks.
- The City needs to provide for additional handicap accessibility at intersections, public buildings and facilities.
- The City needs to improve and upgrade its sanitary sewer system.
- The City needs to improve and upgrade its water lines and distribution system.
- The City needs to improve its parks and playground equipment.
- The City needs to continue its public improvements through public greening and beautification activities.

### **How were these needs determined?**

These needs for public improvements were determined through: resident surveys; agency needs surveys; interviews with City staff, Mayor, the City of Altoona Department of Planning and Community Development, and other City agencies; public hearing comments on needs; and the City's Comprehensive Plan.

## **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:**

The City of Altoona provides for public safety and other public services to its residents. The following are the City's needs for public services:

- The City needs to continue to provide fire protection to its residents.
- The City needs to upgrade its fire stations and fire safety equipment and vehicles.
- The City needs to continue to provide its high level of public safety to its residents.
- The City needs to provide neighborhood policing in areas with high levels of crime.
- The City needs to continue its code enforcement efforts to ensure the health and safety of its residents.
- The City needs to continue to provide emergency medical services to its residents.
- The City needs to continue to provide garbage, trash pickup, and neighborhood clean-up programs to its residents.
- The City needs to support, encourage, and affirmatively further fair housing throughout its neighborhoods.
- The City needs to continue to support housing counseling services for low- and moderate-income families in the City.
- The City needs to continue to support programs that serve the elderly residents of the City of Altoona.
- The City needs to continue to support programs that assist the homeless population in the City.
- The City needs to continue to support programs that assist victims of domestic violence and abuse.
- The City needs to continue to support programs that assist youth through afterschool, educational, and recreational programs.
- The City needs to continue to support microenterprise programs through technical assistance, advice, and business support services.
- The City needs to continue to support its job training programs for youth and underemployed.
- The City needs to continue to support social/welfare programs for low- and moderate-income persons.

## **How were these needs determined?**

These needs for public services were determined through: resident surveys; agency needs surveys; interviews with City staff, Mayor, the City of Altoona Department of Planning and Community Development, and other City agencies; public hearing comments on needs; and the City's Comprehensive Plan.

# Housing Market Analysis

## MA-05 Overview

### Housing Market Analysis Overview:

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey, there are 21,245 housing units in the City of Altoona, of which 19,275 (90.7%) are occupied; this leaves a vacancy rate of 9.3% in the City. Most of the vacant units are located in the north central section of the City.

Based on the 2007-2011 American Community Survey Data, the City of Altoona's housing stock is considered older, since almost half of it (49.1%) was constructed prior to 1939 and 23.9% was constructed between 1940 and 1959. Therefore, almost three-quarters of the City's housing stock (73.0%) was built prior to 1960. It is estimated that the City of Altoona has seen moderate construction of housing to meet the demands of the City's stable population. Since the year 2000, the City has built 1.9% of their housing stock.

DRAFT

## MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

### Introduction

According to the 2007-2011 ACS data, there are 21,245 total housing units. There are 19,275 occupied housing units (12,756 owner-occupied and 6,519 renter-occupied), which means there are 1,970 vacant housing units. The majority of the owner-occupied houses are 3 or more bedrooms (80% of all owner-occupied houses). Renter-occupied households are evenly divided amongst 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom, and 3 or more bedroom units.

### All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	15,105	71%
1-unit, attached structure	1,004	5%
2-4 units	2,489	12%
5-19 units	1,403	7%
20 or more units	1,037	5%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	207	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,245</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

### Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	0	0%	266	4%
1 bedroom	116	1%	2,011	31%
2 bedrooms	2,414	19%	2,176	33%
3 or more bedrooms	10,226	80%	2,066	32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,756</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

**Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.**

The following number of units in the City of Altoona are assisted with Federal, State and Local Programs:

- **Public Housing** - 536 housing units of which 27 are accessible. The income levels are at 50% and below AMI.

- **Housing Choice Vouchers** - 985 vouchers that are tenant based and 10 are Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH). The income levels are at 80% and below AMI.

**Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.**

There are no units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory.

**Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?**

There is a sufficient supply of housing units within the City of Altoona. There are 12,652 owner-occupied housing units, 6,292 renter-occupied housing units, and approximately 2,131 vacant units; for a total of 21,075 housing units. There are 18,944 households in the City of Altoona. The population over the past ten years has remained relatively constant while the number of households has increased, thus there is a demand for fewer bedroom housing units in the City than previously required. Additionally there is a 2:1 ratio of owner occupied housing units to renter occupied housing units. This disparity limits housing choice for affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary rental housing.

**Describe the need for specific types of housing:**

Based on the statistics above and through interviews, meetings, and surveys, the City has determined that the greatest housing need in the City of Altoona is for decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing units. In particular, there is a need for accessible housing for the disabled and elderly.

**Discussion**

There is a continuing need for “affordable” and “accessible” housing in the City of Altoona. However, there is a lack of financial resources to adequately address these issues. The City is willing to partner with private developers and not for profit housing development agencies to construct new sales housing in the City that is affordable to lower income families.

## MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

### Introduction

The value of housing has increased in the last ten years in the City of Altoona. In 2000, based on the 2000 U.S. Census, the median home value was \$57,600 which has increased by 42% to \$81,900 in 2011 according to the 2007-2011 ACS data. Median rent has also increased from \$308/month to \$421/month. 73% of all rental housing units were in the less than \$500 per month category.

According to Trulia.com, the average listing price for a single family home in Altoona, PA was \$151,301 for the week ending March 4, 2015. During that time period, there were approximately 336 single family homes listed for sale.

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey, 3,995 renter housing units were affordable to persons who were 50% or less of Housing Affordability Median Family Income (HAMFI). For home owners, there were 1,790 housing units that were affordable to households with 50% or less HAMFI.

### Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2011	% Change
Median Home Value	57,600	81,900	42%
Median Contract Rent	308	421	37%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2007-2011 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	4,756	73.0%
\$500-999	1,723	26.4%
\$1,000-1,499	31	0.5%
\$1,500-1,999	0	0.0%
\$2,000 or more	9	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

### Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	900	No Data
50% HAMFI	3,095	1,790
80% HAMFI	5,225	4,210

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
100% HAMFI	No Data	6,139
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,220</b>	<b>12,139</b>

**Table 31 – Housing Affordability**

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

## Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	479	510	611	804	897
High HOME Rent	536	571	684	900	1,004
Low HOME Rent	498	534	641	740	826

**Table 32 – Monthly Rent**

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

## Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

Based on the HUD - CHAS data there is not sufficient housing for all income levels due to the cost over burden criteria for the following groups:

The following households have housing costs that are 30% to 50% of their AMI:

- White households = 3,090 or 54.2% of households
- Black/African American households = 75 or 1.3% of households
- Hispanic households = 49 or 0.9% of households

The following households have housing costs that are greater than 50% of their AMI:

- White households = 2,155 or 37.8% of households
- Black/African American households = 125 or 2.2% of households
- American Indian, Alaska Native = 10 or 0.2% of households
- Hispanic households = 65 or 1.1% of households

## How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

With an increasing population of smaller households moving into the area, housing prices for smaller houses might increase or stay the same instead of decreasing. The median income in the City of Altoona has increased along with the cost of housing. If the rise in income continues to keep up with the increase in housing cost, affordability will not be a greater issue than it is now.

Between 2000 and 2011 the median home value increased by 42% and the median contract rent increased by 37%. However, during that same time period, the median income only increased by 24%. This trend has caused many households to become cost overburdened in the City of Altoona and this trend is likely to continue in the foreseeable future.

**How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?**

According to RentoMeter ([www.rentometer.com](http://www.rentometer.com)), it is estimated that the Area Median Rent is for a one bedroom apartment is \$474 per month, for a two bedroom apartment is \$495 per month, for a three bedroom apartment \$585 per month, and for a four bedroom apartment \$615 per month. These estimates are less than the HOME rents and Fair Market rents for one, two, three, and four bedroom apartments. The assisted rental housing units do not unduly impact the market forces dictating rents in the City of Altoona.

**Discussion**

While housing affordability is an issue in the City of Altoona, the biggest housing need is for decent, safe, and accessible housing in the City.

DRAFT

## MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

### Introduction

The housing market analysis for the City of Altoona revealed the following summary:

- There are 2,513 (20%) owner-occupied housing units with conditions out of 12,756 owner-occupied housing units.
- There are 3,137 (48%) renter-occupied housing units with conditions out of 6,519 renter-occupied housing units.
- There are 8,576 (67%) of all owner-occupied housing units built before 1950 out of 12,756 owner-occupied housing units.
- There are 3,261 (50%) of all renter-occupied housing units built before 1950 out of 6,519 renter-occupied housing units.
- There is a risk of lead-based paint hazard in 11,903 (93%) of all owner-occupied housing units.
- There is a risk of lead-based paint hazard in 5,495 (84%) of all renter-occupied housing units.
- There are approximately 1,970 (9.3%) vacant housing units in the City.

### Definitions

The following definitions are used in the table below:

- "Selected Housing Condition" - Over-crowding (1.01 or more persons per room), lacking a complete kitchen, lack of plumbing facilities, and/or other utilities, and cost over-burden.
- "Substandard condition" - Does not meet code standards, or contains one of the selected housing conditions.
- "Suitable for Rehabilitation" - The amount of work required to bring the unit up to minimum code standard, and the existing debt on the property, together are less than the fair market value of the property.
- "Not Suitable for Rehabilitation" - The amount of work required to bring the unit up to minimum code standard exceeds the fair market value of the property after rehabilitation work is complete.

### Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	2,513	20%	3,137	48%
With two selected Conditions	42	0%	113	2%
With three selected Conditions	36	0%	12	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	10,165	80%	3,257	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,756</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 33 - Condition of Units**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

## Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	157	1%	246	4%
1980-1999	696	5%	778	12%
1950-1979	3,327	26%	2,234	34%
Before 1950	8,576	67%	3,261	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,756</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 34 – Year Unit Built**

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

## Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	11,903	93%	5,495	84%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	110	1%	170	3%

**Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS (Total Units) 2007-2011 CHAS (Units with Children present)

## Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	0	0	0
Abandoned Vacant Units	0	0	0
REO Properties	0	0	0
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

**Table 36 - Vacant Units**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

## Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

There is a need for housing rehabilitation work in the City of Altoona. The City has an aggressive code enforcement policy and has been actively enforcing its codes. In addition, as an older urban environment with 90.26% of its housing units built over 60 years ago, there is a need for rehabilitation work. Main systems, such as plumbing, electrical and heating, need work and should be brought up to code. Deferred maintenance on older homes occupied by lower income families with limited financial resources is a need that has to be addressed. Lastly the historic significance of older structures in the central portion of the City, that are located in Historic Districts, require specialized rehabilitation work with compatible historic

materials. Once again, with the lack of financial resources, homeowners and landlords are forgoing rehabilitation work.

### **Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards**

There are approximately 11,903 (93%) owner-occupied and 5,495 (84%) renter-occupied housing units that were built prior to 1980 and therefore are assumed to contain lead based paint.

### **Discussion**

In determining decent, safe and sanitary housing, one needs to look at the environmental quality where these units are located. Air quality and contaminants in the soil affect the condition of housing. The census information only reports on the number of persons per room (overcrowding condition) and the lack of a complete kitchen, or plumbing facilities. These are general conditions and do not necessarily reflect the true conditions of houses in the area. A better source is the local building inspector or code officer. These individuals have actual field experience and their estimates are more comprehensive and accurate than the U.S. Census data. The City of Altoona incorporates all of these data sources for determining the condition of the housing in the City.

According to RealtyTrac, the City of Altoona had 377 homes in foreclosure in December 2014, which is a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 3,543 housing units. Blair County experienced a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 3,217 housing units, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania had a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 1,302 housing units. The number of foreclosures for the City of Altoona was at its highest in July 2014 with eleven (11) foreclosures

## MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

### Introduction

The Altoona Housing Authority owns and operates three (3) public housing communities. In those housing communities, thirty-three (33) studio units, one bedroom units, and two bedroom units are set aside for the elderly. There is a total of 536 housing units in the public housing communities.

In addition, the Housing Authority administers 398 Housing Choice Vouchers for low- to moderate-income households for rental units in the City and surrounding region. This number is slightly higher than the number reported below, based on the most recent Housing Choice Voucher list provided by the Housing Authority in June of 2014.

### Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	50	536	883	0	883	0	0	0
# of accessible units									

\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

**Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

## Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Altoona Housing Authority	80

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

### Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

The City of Altoona Public Housing Authority has 536 public housing units in the following public housing communities:

- **Fairview Hills** – 170 Units
- **Green Avenue Tower** – 206 Units
- **Eleventh Street Tower** – 160 Units

The physical condition of the public housing is good but maintenance and upgrading is needed due to the age of the units. There is a need to make more units accessible to the physically handicapped tenants.

In addition, the Housing Authority's FY 2014 Five Year Plan for the Capital Fund Grant Program indicated the following as needed capital improvements in the public housing developments: entrance lighting, site lighting, boiler replacement, furnace replacement, asbestos abatement, siding replacement, hot water tank replacement, medicine cabinet replacement, roofs, sidewalk/concrete repairs, countertop replacement, toilet replacement, security cameras, front door replacement, sliding apartment door replacement, stairwell repairs, Balcony sealing, stove replacement, refrigerator replacement, EST generator replacement, air conditioner replacement, fire alarm system, nurse call system upgrade, refinish tubs, lobby floor window replacement and fire pump and controls.

### Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:

- Employ effective maintenance and management policies to minimize the number of public housing units off line due to modernization
- Reduce turnover time for vacated public housing units.
- Participate in the City of Altoona Consolidated Plan development process to ensure coordination with the community's strategies.
- Monthly monitoring of the Section 8 HCV program to insure full program utilization within budget constraints.
- Modernize public housing units utilizing Capital Funds.
- Affirmatively market to local non-profit agencies that assist families with disabilities. Continuation of working with Center for Independent Living.
- Affirmatively ensure fair housing compliance.

**Discussion:**

The Housing Authority is the primary provider of housing for the very low- and extremely low-income residents of the City of Altoona. To adequately meet the housing needs of the lowest income residents of the City additional funding resources are required.

DRAFT

## MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

### Introduction

The following table lists the existing facilities for the homeless in the City of Altoona:

### Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	15	2	103	38	0
Households with Only Adults	0	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	0	0	53	0
Unaccompanied Youth	6	0	0	0	0

**Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households**

Data Source Comments:

**Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons**

Providers of services to homeless persons refer clients to local providers of mainstream services on a regular basis. These providers of mainstream services include the Blair County Assistance Office for TANF, General Assistance and Food Stamps, UPMC Altoona and the Gloria Gates Foundation for health care services, UPMC and Home Nursing Agency for mental health services and the PA CareerLink for employment services. Veteran's health care and other services are available through the James E. VanZandt Veterans Hospital.

**List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.**

Blair County Community Action Agency provides budget counseling, job readiness/job search, transportation assistance related to employment, child care expenses, clothing for clients for job interviews, housing placement assistance and the purchase of basic home furnishings for clients who are moving into unfurnished transitional housing. UPMC Altoona and Home Nursing Agency provide mental health and drug and alcohol counseling, PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation provides service for persons with disabilities, the County Assistance Office provides TANF and General Assistance and related services, the Altoona VA Hospital provides veteran's services, The Altoona Food Bank and St. Vincent DePaul Food Bank provides food and the Altoona Area School District provides GED and Remedial Education services.

## **MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)**

### **Introduction**

The City of Altoona has identified the priorities for services and facilities for its special needs population. This includes the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and public housing residents.

### **Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs**

- Elderly Persons – Accessible housing units plus supportive services, for example, transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.
- Frail Elderly – Accessible housing units plus supportive services, for example, transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.
- Mentally, Physically Disabled – Accessible housing/permanent supportive housing, using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing, plus supportive services such as PATH (Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) and SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) case management for those suffering from mental illness, substance abuse, or coexisting disorders, education and job training, financial counseling, and access to health care services.
- Alcohol & Drug Addicts – Permanent supportive housing, using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing, plus supportive services such as PATH (Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) and SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) case management for those suffering from mental illness, substance abuse, or coexisting disorders, education and job training, financial counseling, and access to health services and substance abuse counseling.
- HIV/AIDS Persons – Permanent supportive housing plus supportive services such as case management and continued access to health services and counseling.
- Victims of Domestic Violence – Permanent supportive housing, using the Housing First model to avoid transitional housing, plus supportive services such as case management, education and job training, financial counseling, and access to victims counseling. The Child Mentor Program offered by RCCAA helps with parenting skills and helps kids with homework.

### **Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing**

The City of Altoona will coordinate efforts with the PA Department of Human Services (DHS) to ensure that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions have an individual supportive services plan. This includes housing, training/educational, employment and other supportive services needed for a smooth transition back into society.

All local hospitals have guidelines for staff on how to appropriately discharge patients, regarding resource connections and appropriate living situations prior to exiting the facility. The CoC is working diligently with healthcare providers, many of whom are already entering data into HMIS and utilizing the VI-SPDAT, to ensure individuals are being discharged into permanent housing, and the CoC staff continues to work with providers, particularly through SOAR and HMIS involvement, to strengthen this connection and offer guidance on appropriate discharge.

The healthcare providers themselves are the primary force working directly with individuals to ensure they are not being discharged into homelessness. The CoC is taking specific steps toward increasing the effectiveness of discharge from medical settings to permanent housing in several ways.

There are not stand alone programs specifically targeting persons coming out of mental or physical health institutions. However, there is a strong network of agencies/providers in Altoona/Blair County that operate programs for homeless persons. These providers have relationships established with mainstream providers of health, mental health and employment services and refer homeless persons to these providers on a regular basis for needed services.

**Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)**

For the FY 2014, the City will support the efforts of agencies that serve the special needs populations in Altoona. The City will provide additional community policing in low-income neighborhoods and in public housing developments in low-income neighborhoods with FY 2014 CDBG funds under public service activities.

## **MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)**

### **Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment**

The City of Altoona, in its most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, has identified the following changes to the City's Zoning Ordinances:

- Add under Title Three, Article 1, Section 101. Purpose, a new subsection titled, "Fostering Housing Choice and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing."
- Add a definition for, "Accessibility" and "Visibility" to the definition section of the Zoning Ordinance.

There are no known public policies in the City of Altoona that are barriers to affordable housing. The City Planning and Community Development monitors the following:

- Tax policies affecting land and other properties
- Land use controls
- Zoning Ordinance
- Building Code
- Fees and charges

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## MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

### Introduction

The goal of the City of Altoona’s economic development policy is to foster economic growth in the community, improve the local economy, promote job opportunities, and increase the local tax base.

### Economic Development Market Analysis

#### Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	99	5	1	0	-1
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	1,894	2,129	12	11	-1
Construction	848	993	5	5	0
Education and Health Care Services	3,905	6,937	25	36	11
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	650	795	4	4	0
Information	364	441	2	2	0
Manufacturing	1,808	1,190	11	6	-5
Other Services	782	907	5	5	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	973	1,475	6	8	2
Public Administration	57	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	2,748	2,827	17	15	-2
Transportation and Warehousing	965	610	6	3	-3
Wholesale Trade	745	867	5	5	0
Total	15,838	19,176	--	--	--

**Table 40 - Business Activity**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS (Workers), 2011 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

## Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	21,704
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	19,413
Unemployment Rate	10.56
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	29.46
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.58

**Table 41 - Labor Force**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	2,842
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	963
Service	2,382
Sales and office	5,817
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,611
Production, transportation and material moving	1,102

**Table 42 – Occupations by Sector**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

## Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	15,800	86%
30-59 Minutes	1,954	11%
60 or More Minutes	688	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,442</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 43 - Travel Time**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

## Education:

### Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	898	113	975

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	7,103	724	3,391
Some college or Associate's degree	4,981	442	1,304
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,476	62	537

**Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

### Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	25	105	61	145	462
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	536	389	372	914	962
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	1,927	2,272	2,821	6,135	3,935
Some college, no degree	1,492	1,110	985	2,222	1,074
Associate's degree	103	634	735	1,041	166
Bachelor's degree	265	1,074	649	1,310	520
Graduate or professional degree	13	253	217	572	174

**Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

### Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	12,541
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	23,995
Some college or Associate's degree	28,332
Bachelor's degree	37,286
Graduate or professional degree	40,430

**Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

**Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?**

As the principal city in the Altoona Metropolitan Statistical Area and the tenth most populous City in Pennsylvania, the City of Altoona contains a large number of professional offices, educators and health care workers.

The three (3) largest categories of jobs in business by sector is as follows:

- **Education and Health Care Services** – 3,905 jobs
- **Retail Trade** – 2,748 jobs
- **Arts, Entertainment & Accommodations** – 1,894 jobs
- **Total = 8,547 jobs**

These three categories represent 54.0% of the total number of jobs in the City.

The Altoona, Blair County Development Corporation lists on their website, the top employers for Blair County. They are:

- UPMC – Altoona Health System
- Sheetz, Inc.
- Altoona Area School District
- Norfolk Southern
- Home Nursing Affiliates
- Smith Transport
- Penn State – Altoona
- Wal-Mart Associates
- Hollidaysburg Area School District
- Cenveo

**Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:**

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey data, the City of Altoona has an unemployment rate of 10.56% which is almost double the unemployment rate of Pennsylvania. In Altoona, there are 19,176 available jobs and only 15,838 workers, suggesting that the unemployment that exists is Structural Unemployment, caused by a mismatch of skills and available jobs. The employment rate is also fairly similar between the 20-24, 25-44, and the 45-55 age groups.

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey data, there are job deficiencies (the number of qualified workers exceeds the number of jobs available) in the following sectors:

- **Agriculture, Mining, Oil and Gas Extraction** – 94.95% of sector workforce is not utilized

- Manufacturing – 34.18% of sector workforce is not utilized
- Transportation and Warehousing – 47.65% of sector workforce is not utilized

The City of Altoona is also experiencing employment deficiencies (the number of jobs available exceeds the number of qualified workers) in the following sectors:

- Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations – 11.04% of the available jobs are not filled
- Construction – 14.6% of the available jobs are not filled
- Education and Health Care Services – 43.71% of the available jobs are not filled
- Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate – 18.24% of the available jobs are not filled
- Information – 17.46% of the available jobs are not filled
- Professional, Scientific, Management Services – 34.03% of the available jobs are not filled
- Retail Trade – 2.79% of the available jobs are not filled
- Wholesale Trade – 14.07% of the available jobs are not filled

**Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.**

There are no major changes to the local economy expected.

**How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?**

According to the ACS data for 2007-2011, there are 21,704 persons in the civilian workforce in the City of Altoona. The majority of the workforce is employed in the Educational Services and Health Care and Social Assistance Category (3,905 persons) and the Retail Category (2,748 persons). This corresponds to the attained educational levels of 17,090 persons who are a high school graduate (or equivalency) and 6,883 persons who have a college bachelor's degree or higher.

**Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.**

The following organizations provide organizations provide workforce training initiatives and community education to the residents of the City of Altoona:

**Altoona Area School District Community Education Center**

The following programs offers a variety of programs in addition to their basic adult education. These programs are free and open to the community, and seek to provide career training, family educational services, and education resources for TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) clients. Programs and collaborations include:

- GED Program
- EARN – Employment Advancement and Retention Network
- Family Literacy
- Pennsylvania Literacy Corps
- ELECT – Education Leading to Employment and Career Training  
MOVE UP
- The Family Resource Center
- The Parent-Child Home Program

#### **Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center**

GACTC provides vocational and technical programs in the form of high school programs as well as adult education. There are 27 high school programs currently listed as well as various adult education programs in multiple formats (Full Time, Online, etc.). Examples include Cosmetology, HVAC, and Medical Coding.

- New River Community and Technical College
- Automotive Care
- Welding
- EMS Certification
- Realtor Training
- Class A CDL
- Mining

#### **Penn State Altoona Continuing Education and Training**

Penn State Altoona offers professional and workforce development training. This includes management skills, such as Strategic Planning, and Supervisory and Leadership Training. It also offers basic concepts in computers and engineering as well as many other career development programs.

## **MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion**

**Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")**

The City of Altoona defines an area of minority concentration as having more than a 50% minority population. There are no areas of minority concentration in the City of Altoona. This is largely due to the very small percentage of minorities in the City, (5.9%).

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# Strategic Plan

## SP-05 Overview

### Strategic Plan Overview

The Five Year Consolidated Plan is a guide for the city of Altoona to use in its housing, community development, and economic development programs. The Strategic Plan portion of the Five Year Consolidated Plan established the City's priorities and goals to address its need for:

- Housing
- Homelessness
- Other Special Needs
- Community Development
- Economic Development
- Administration, Planning, and Management

These strategies have been developed as the result of meetings agencies/organizations, public hearings, community meetings, resident surveys, agency/organization surveys, and consultations. It is based on the needs assessment and market analysis.

The over-riding objective and strategy is to assist low and moderate income residents (income of less than 80% of the area median income). These residents are referred to as the "target income" group. The City has an overall low and moderate income percentage of its population at 44.82%. The City is cognizant of the Federal regulation that at least 70% of all its CDBG funds must principally benefit low and moderate income persons. The City is committed to this and has abridged its Strategic Plan to meet that requirement.

The principles of the FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan are as follows:

- **Assist** - By developing comprehensive strategies to support and assist those residents who are low and moderate income.
- **Involve** - The community and provide opportunities for citizen input in the planning process and preparation of the plan.
- **Collaborate** - Between public, private, and non-profit agencies and organizations to ensure that activities and services will be efficient and effective.
- **Leverage** - CDBG funds and other local resources to maximize the effectiveness of programs and services.
- **Promote** - Involvement of agencies and organization to undertake specific projects and activities to assist low and moderate income persons.

The priority needs of the Five Year Consolidated Plan were determined based on the following:

- Research of existing data on needs of the City
- Thorough consultation with City staff and officials
- Interviews and meetings with stakeholders
- Public hearings
- Resident surveys
- Surveys of social service providers, housing organizations, and community and economic development agencies

The key factors affecting the determination of the Five Year priorities for the Consolidated Plan include the following:

- The types of target income households with the greatest needs
- The areas with the greatest concentration of low-income households
- Activities that will best address the needs of City residents
- The limited amount of funding available to meet the needs
- The ability to leverage additional financial resources

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## SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

### Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

<b>1</b>	<b>Area Name:</b>	Citywide
	<b>Area Type:</b>	Local Target area
	<b>Other Target Area Description:</b>	
	<b>HUD Approval Date:</b>	
	<b>% of Low/ Mod:</b>	
	<b>Revital Type:</b>	Comprehensive
	<b>Other Revital Description:</b>	
	<b>Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.</b>	This target area includes all low- and moderate-income areas throughout the City of Altoona.
	<b>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</b>	The City of Altoona is 44.82% low- and moderate-income.
	<b>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</b>	
	<b>Identify the needs in this target area.</b>	
	<b>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</b>	
	<b>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</b>	

### General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

The City of Altoona will allocate its CDBG funds to those geographic areas whose population is over 51% low- and moderate-income. At least 70% of all the City's CDBG funds that are budgeted for activities will principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The following guidelines for allocating CDBG and HOME funds will be used during the FY 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan:

- The public services activities are for social service organizations whose clientele have a low income or in certain cases, a limited type of clientele with a presumed low- and moderate-income status.

- The public facilities activities are either located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group or have a low- and moderate-income service area benefit or clientele over 51% low- and moderate-income.
- The acquisitions and demolition of structures are either located in a low- and moderate-income census area or these activities are eligible by preventing or eliminating slums and blight on a spot basis or area basis.
- The housing activities have income eligibility criteria, therefore the income requirement directs funds to low- and moderate-income households throughout the City.
- Economic development projects will either be located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group, or a poverty tract greater than 20%, or part of a redevelopment plan, or making 51% of the jobs available to low- and moderate-income population.

The HOME funds will be used for administration and for housing projects. These funds will be targeted to low-income persons and projects designed to provide affordable housing to low-income persons and are located in low- and moderate-income areas.

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## SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)

### Priority Needs

Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

1	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Housing Priority
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation HS-2 Housing Construction HS-3 Fair Housing HS-4 Housing Counseling
	<b>Description</b>	There is a need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the community and to increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary housing for home-owners, renters, and home buyers.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	30% of all households are cost overburdened by 30% or more. The housing stock is older and is not all accessible.
	2	<b>Priority Need Name</b>
<b>Priority Level</b>		High

	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	HO-1 Operation/Support HO-2 Prevention and Housing HO-3 Continuum of Care
	<b>Description</b>	There is a need for housing opportunities and services for homeless persons and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
<b>3</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Other Special Needs Priority
	<b>Priority Level</b>	Low

	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	SN-1 Housing SN-2 Social Services
	<b>Description</b>	There is a need for housing opportunities, services, and facilities for persons with special needs.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
4	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	CD-1 Community Facilities CD-2 Accessibility CD-3 Public Services CD-4 Public Safety CD-5 Code Enforcement CD-6 Slum and Blight

	<b>Description</b>	There is a need to improve the community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life in the City of Altoona.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
5	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Economic Development Priority
	<b>Priority Level</b>	Low
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Non-housing Community Development Other
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	ED-1 Employment ED-2 Business Development ED-3 Redevelopment Program
	<b>Description</b>	There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, educational training, and empowerment for residents of the City of Altoona.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
	6	<b>Priority Need Name</b>
<b>Priority Level</b>		Low
<b>Population</b>		Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Non-housing Community Development Other
<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>		Citywide
<b>Associated Goals</b>		AM-1 Overall Coordination AM-2 Special Studies/Management

<b>Description</b>	There is a continuing need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of federal, state, and local funded programs.
<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	This priority was determined through consultations with City staff.

**Narrative (Optional)**

The priority ranking of needs for housing, homelessness, other special needs, community development, economic development, and anti-poverty are as follows:

- **High Priority** - Activities are assigned a high priority if the City expects to fund them during the Five Year Consolidated Plan period.
- **Low Priority** - Activities are assigned a low priority if the activity may not be funded by the City during the Five Year Consolidated Plan period. The City may support applications for other funding if those activities are consistent with the needs identified in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

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## SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

### Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	The City has very limited HOME funds. Financial assistance is limited to rental rehabilitation.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	With the limited amount of HOME funds and the need to increase rental housing rehabilitation, the City is not able to fund TBRA.
New Unit Production	There are numerous vacant sites in residential areas that the city can utilize for new construction. New construction will permit the design of housing for special needs population.
Rehabilitation	There is a high demand for rehabilitation funds for rental rehabilitation and single family housing. Over 82% of the rental housing units were built prior to 1980.
Acquisition, including preservation	<p>The cost to acquire property is expensive, especially when relocation benefits are required.</p> <p>The City of Altoona only has one national historic district. The Downtown Altoona Historic District consists of 240 contributing buildings located in the central business district and the surrounding residential area.</p>

Table 49 – Influence of Market Conditions

## SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

### Introduction

The City of Altoona is receiving \$1,418,161 from CDBG funds and \$194,238 from HOME funds for the FY 2015 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2019. Based on a 5% cut in funds, the Municipality projects the following anticipated resources:

- **FY 2015** = \$1,418,161 CDBG + \$194,238 HOME
- **FY 2016** = \$1,347,253 CDBG + \$184,526 HOME
- **FY 2017** = \$1,279,890 CDBG + \$175,300 HOME
- **FY 2018** = \$1,215,896 CDBG + \$166,535 HOME
- **FY 2019** = \$1,155,101 CDBG + \$158,208 HOME
- **Total** = \$6,416,301 CDBG + \$878,807 HOME

The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2015 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder 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	1,418,161	0	0	1,418,161	6,416,301	Five years of funding at 95% reduced level each year.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	194,238	0	0	194,238	878,807	Five years of funding at 95% reduced level each year.

Table 50 - Anticipated Resources

**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 of Altoona will work with the Altoona Housing Authority on projects to upgrade the Housing Authority's housing stock. The Altoona Housing Authority will contribute funds to these projects.

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

Not Applicable.

## SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
ALTOONA	Government	Planning	Jurisdiction
ALTOONA HOUSING AUTHORITY	PHA	Public Housing	Jurisdiction
Blair County Community Action	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region

Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure

### Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
<b>Homelessness Prevention Services</b>			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	
Legal Assistance	X		
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X		
Utilities Assistance	X		
<b>Street Outreach Services</b>			
Law Enforcement	X		
Mobile Clinics			
Other Street Outreach Services			
<b>Supportive Services</b>			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	
Child Care	X	X	
Education	X		
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	
Healthcare	X		
HIV/AIDS	X		
Life Skills	X	X	
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	
Transportation	X	X	
<b>Other</b>			

Table 52 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

**Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above**

There is a strong network of agencies/providers in Altoona/Blair County that operate programs for homeless persons. These providers have relationships established with mainstream providers of health, mental health and employment services and refer homeless persons to these providers on a regular basis for needed services.

Strengths include excellent providers of mental health and drug and alcohol services including the Home Nursing Agency and UPMC Altoona. Utility assistance is another particular area of strength with services provided by Blair County Community Action and Catholic Social Services. Counseling and advocacy for homeless persons is a strength with programs provided by Blair Senior Services, Home Nursing Agency, Family Services of Blair County and Blair County Community Action.

Areas of weaknesses would include Legal Assistance where services are limited because of reductions in funding; public transportation where bus routes and times of operation have been reduced and in shelter beds which cannot keep up with the demand and there is a current shortage of emergency shelter beds in the community.

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## SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority		
2	HS-2 Housing Construction	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority		
3	HS-3 Fair Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority		
4	HS-4 Housing Counseling	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority		
5	HO-1 Operation/Support	2015	2019	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority		
6	HO-2 Prevention and Housing	2015	2019	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority		
7	HO-3 Continuum of Care	2015	2019	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority		
8	SN-1 Housing	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Other Special Needs Priority		
9	SN-2 Social Services	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Other Special Needs Priority		
10	CD-1 Community Facilities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority		
11	CD-2 Accessibility	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority		
12	CD-3 Public Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority		

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
13	CD-4 Public Safety	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority		
14	CD-5 Code Enforcement	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority		
15	CD-6 Slum and Blight	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority		
16	ED-1 Employment	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority		
17	ED-2 Business Development	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority		
18	ED-3 Redevelopment Program	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority		
19	AM-1 Overall Coordination	2015	2019	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority		
20	AM-2 Special Studies/Management	2015	2019	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority		

Table 53 – Goals Summary

## Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, accessible and sanitary housing through the rehabilitation of existing owner-occupied and rental housing stock in the City.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	HS-2 Housing Construction
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Encourage the development of new housing by private developers and non-profits that is affordable, decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	HS-3 Fair Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Promote fair housing choice for all protected classes through education, and outreach.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	HS-4 Housing Counseling
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Promote low- and moderate-income households to become home-owners by encouraging them to enroll in credit counseling, housing counseling and financial assistance programs.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	HO-1 Operation/Support
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Encourage local agencies to apply for funds to expand their operations and support services by creating additional units for emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	HO-2 Prevention and Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Encourage non-profit organizations and governmental agencies in their pursuit of funds for the development of housing for the homeless and disabled.
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	HO-3 Continuum of Care
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Cooperate and participate in the planning efforts of the various homeless organizations to coordinate their policies and procedures to address homelessness.

8	<b>Goal Name</b>	SN-1 Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Increase the supply of decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation and new construction by developers, and non-profit agencies.
9	<b>Goal Name</b>	SN-2 Social Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Support social services, programs, and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs.
10	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-1 Community Facilities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve the City's public facilities and infrastructure through rehabilitation and new construction.
11	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-2 Accessibility
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve the physical, visual, and handicapped accessibility of community facilities and infrastructure.
12	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-3 Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve and increase public safety, programs for youth, the elderly and the disabled, including recreational programs, city services, and social service programs throughout the City.
13	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-4 Public Safety
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Continue neighborhood policing to reduce the incidences of crime and violations of public safety in low- and moderate-income areas.
14	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-5 Code Enforcement
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Continue a systematic code enforcement program to ensure that the existing housing stock will be decent, safe, and sanitary.
15	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-6 Slum and Blight
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions throughout the City through demolition and clearance.

16	<b>Goal Name</b>	ED-1 Employment
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Support and encourage non-profits, for-profit entities, and government agencies to create new jobs, retention of job, and job training opportunities.
17	<b>Goal Name</b>	ED-2 Business Development
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Encourage business and commercial growth through expansion and new development in the City.
18	<b>Goal Name</b>	ED-3 Redevelopment Program
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of vacant commercial and industrial sites in the City.
19	<b>Goal Name</b>	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of federal, state, and local funded programs.
20	<b>Goal Name</b>	AM-2 Special Studies/Management
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide planning services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

**Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)**

## **SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)**

### **Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)**

There is a need for accessible housing accommodations for the elderly applicants on the Section 8 waiting list. The Housing Authority reported that 3.3% of the persons on the waiting list (26 persons) are in need of accessibility accommodations. The Housing Authority has been working to make reasonable accommodations to its public housing units to satisfy the Section 504 requirements for persons with physical disabilities such as mobility, visual, and hearing impairments.

The Altoona Housing Authority meets Section 504 compliance.

### **Activities to Increase Resident Involvements**

The Altoona Housing Authority is improving public safety and crime prevention at its public housing communities. Safety measures are a high priority due to the increase in violent and drug-related crimes. Based on interviews with the Housing Authority staff and Board, if patrolling were increased in and around the housing developments, safety would be increased and crime would decrease. If officers were patrolling on the ground, on foot or on bikes, it would create a more noticeable presence of law enforcement in the public housing communities, which could decrease incidences of crime and violence.

A goal of the Altoona Housing Authority is to instill a sense of pride in their residents so that they want to engage in "community policing". The Housing Authority will continue its Neighborhood Watch Program in an effort to incorporate residents in increasing public safety within public housing communities. The Altoona Housing Authority wants to make their housing developments are suitable places for families and children to reside.

### **Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?**

No

### **Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation**

Not Applicable. The Altoona Housing Authority is designated as a "high performer."

## **SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)**

### **Barriers to Affordable Housing**

The City of Altoona in its most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice has identified the following changes to the City's Zoning Ordinances:

- Add under Title Three, Article 1, Section 101. Purpose, a new subsection titled, "Fostering Housing Choice and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing."
- Add a definition for, "Accessibility" and "Visibility" to the definition section of the Zoning Ordinance.

There are no known public policies in the City of Altoona that are barriers to affordable housing. The City Planning and Community Development monitors the following:

- Tax policies affecting land and other properties
- Land use controls
- Zoning Ordinance
- Building Code
- Fees and charges

### **Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing**

#### **Impediment 1: Fair Housing Education and Outreach**

**Goal:** Improve the public's knowledge and awareness of the Federal Fair Housing Act, and related laws, regulations, and requirements to affirmatively further fair housing in the region.

**Strategies:** In order to meet this goal, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **1-A:** Continue to promote Fair Housing awareness through the media, seminars, and training to provide educational opportunities for all persons to learn more about their rights under the Fair Housing Act and Americans With Disabilities Act.
- **1-B:** Continue to make available and distribute literature and informational material concerning fair housing issues, an individual's housing rights, and landlord's responsibilities to affirmatively further fair housing.
- **1-C:** Educate and promote that all residents have a right to live outside impacted areas.
- **1-D:** Include a link on the City's website concerning the Fair Housing Act and information on filing a fair housing complaint.
- **1-E:** Contract with an outside Fair Housing Agency to provide fair housing services.

#### **Impediment 2: Continuing Need for Affordable Housing**

**Goal:** Promote the conservation of the existing housing stock and development of additional housing units for lower income households through new construction, in-fill housing, and rehabilitation of houses throughout the City.

**Strategies:** In order to meet this goal, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **2-A:** Continue to support and encourage plans from both private developers and non-profit housing providers to develop and construct new affordable housing.
- **2-B:** Continue to support and provide financing for the rehabilitation of the existing housing stock to become decent, safe, and sound housing that will remain affordable to lower income owner occupied households.
- **2-C:** Continue to support homebuyer education and training programs to improve homebuyer awareness and increase the opportunities for lower-income households to become home owners.

### **Impediment 3: Continuing Need for Accessible Housing Units**

**Goal:** Increase the number of accessible housing units through new construction and rehabilitation of existing housing units for the physically disabled and developmentally delayed.

**Strategies:** In order to meet this goal, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **3-A:** Promote programs to increase the amount of accessible housing through the rehabilitation of the existing owner occupied housing stock by making accessibility improvements.
- **3-B:** Encourage the development of accessible housing through new construction of handicap units that are accessible and visitable through financial or development incentives on available vacant and developable land in the City.
- **3-C:** Encourage landlords to make “reasonable accommodations” to their rental properties so they become accessible to tenants who are disabled.
- **3-D:** Promote programs to assist elderly homeowners in the City to make accessibility improvements to their properties in order for these residents to remain in their own homes.

### **Impediment 4: There is a Lack of Financial Resources**

**Goal:** Increase Federal funding for the CDBG and housing programs to pre- FY 2010 budget levels which will allow entitlement communities to better achieve their housing and community development goals.

**Strategies:** In order to meet this goal, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **4-A:** Work with the national housing and community development organizations to increase the appropriations for the CDBG program, as well as other HUD housing programs.

- **4-B:** Encourage and support non-profit housing agencies to apply for funding for housing from Federal, state, and private foundation resources to promote and develop affordable housing throughout the City of Altoona.
- **4-C:** The local Housing Authority should promote, sponsor, and partner with private developers to build affordable housing using the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program in the City.

#### **Impediment 5: Economic Issues Affecting Housing Choice**

**Goal:** The local economy will improve, creating new job opportunities, which in turn will increase household income, and will promote fair housing choice.

**Strategies:** In order to meet this goal, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **5-A:** Strengthen partnerships and program delivery that enhances the City’s business base, expands its tax base, and creates a more sustainable economy for residents and businesses.
- **5-B:** Support and enhance workforce development and skills training that result in a “livable” wage and increases job opportunities.
- **5-C:** Support programming that enhances entrepreneurship and small business development, expansion, and retention within low- and moderate-income areas and minority neighborhoods.
- **5-D:** Promote and encourage economic development with local commercial and industrial firms to expand their operations and increase employment opportunities.

#### **Impediment 6: Public Policy**

**Goal:** The City Zoning Ordinance will affirmatively further fair housing.

**Strategies:** In order to meet this goal, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **6-A:** Add under Title Three, Article I, Section 101. Purpose, a new subsection titled, “Fostering Housing Choice and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.”
- **6-B:** Add a definition for, “Accessibility” and “Visitability” to the definition section of the Zoning Ordinance.

## **SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)**

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

The CoC annually funds a Supportive Services Only Program that is operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Blair County Community Action Agency. The grant provides \$105,966 to operate the program. Services are provided to both sheltered and unsheltered persons. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the program served 163 adults and 90 children. All persons served are assessed to determine their individual needs.

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

The Family Shelter in Altoona is operated by Family Services Inc. The annual budget to operate the shelter is \$193,147. During the program year of 7/1/2013-6/30/2014 148 persons representing 5756 shelter days were served by the shelter. It is widely recognized in the community that there are insufficient shelter beds to meet the need. Family Services Inc. is actively searching for a larger facility to address this unmet need.

**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 CoC annually funds two transitional housing programs that are operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Blair County Community Action Agency. One is named simply “The Transitional Housing Program” and serves the general public. The second program is named the “Journey Program” and is targeted to 18-25 year olds who have a mental or physical disability but are able to live independently. These two programs offer a variety of supportive services to clients to assist them in the transition to permanent housing. These services include; life skills, employment services, clothing, furniture, general case management, housing search, budget counseling etc. The Transitional Housing Program (THP) grant annually provides \$361,937 to operate the program. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the THP program served 67 adults and 58 children. Of the persons who exited the program 78% exited into permanent housing. The Journey Program grant annually provides \$181,668 to operate the program. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the Journey program served 32 adults and 15 children. Of the persons who exited the program 59% exited into permanent housing.

**Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from**

**a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs**

There are no specific programs designed to address individuals and families who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care. The Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) has been operated to help low-income families from becoming homeless. Both the City of Altoona and Blair County operated the ESG program in the past. One subcontractor (Blair County Community Action) used \$58,386 in ESG funds to provide Homeless Prevention Services to 38 families from becoming homeless between 10/01/2013 and 09/30/2014.

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## **SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)**

### **Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards**

The City plans to continue the other two facets of the lead paint program. The first is to provide educational materials explaining the dangers of lead exposure, particularly in children. The second facet is to ensure the City makes proper referrals for health screening and care when lead is discovered in a unit which is being rehabilitated with HUD monies.

The City will also continue its lead based paint abatement program through household rehabilitation.

### **How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?**

It is anticipated that the age of the housing stock alone indicates a lead hazard in Altoona. That being said, independent consultations with the Altoona office of the Pennsylvania Department of Health made in preparing this plan confirm that many cases are found each year in our City. The new Federal regulations that took effect in September of 2000 establish environmental procedures that must be used when rehabilitating a building. The City of Altoona Planning and Community Development Department has integrated lead based paint notification, inspection, testing and abatement or interim control procedures into all of its housing programs.

### **How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?**

The City's housing rehabilitation program has integrated lead paint remediation into every application funded where lead paint has been found. There are no plans to alter this approach to lead remediation. The approach includes notification, inspection, testing, and remediation procedures concerning lead paint in accordance with federal regulation. The average cost of this program is \$8,000 per unit.

## **SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)**

### **Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families**

According to the 2009-2013 American Community Survey Data, approximately 19.5% of the City of Altoona's residents live in poverty while only 13.3% of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania residents live in poverty. Female-headed households with children are particularly affected by poverty at 40.4%. The City's goal is to reduce the extent of poverty by 5%, based on actions the City can control and work with other agencies/organizations.

The City's anti-poverty strategy is based on attracting a range of businesses and supporting workforce development including job-training services for low income residents. In addition, the City's strategy is to provide supportive services for target income residents.

Planned economic development programs include:

- **ED-1 Employment** - Support and encourage non-profits, for-profit entities, and government agencies to create new jobs, retention of job, and job training opportunities.
- **ED-2 Business Development** - Encourage business and commercial growth through expansion and new development in the City.
- **ED-3 Redevelopment Program** - Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of vacant commercial and industrial sites in the City.

### **How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan**

Providing access and increasing the supply of affordable housing is integrally tied to the City's anti-poverty strategy. The most successful way to implement this is through job training/creation activities while providing affordable housing.

## **SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230**

**Describe the standards and procedures that the jurisdiction will use to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and will use to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements**

The Planning and Community Department staff engages in monthly meetings to review the status of the program as a whole as well as each individual project. Staff checks our expenditure rates at these monthly meetings as well. Problems are identified and a plan of action formulated to correct any matters requiring such action.

The City staff prepares purchase orders prior to the payment of any invoice. Each invoice is reviewed by at least three people in the Department before it is paid, and if an inconsistency is detected, payment is withheld until it is rectified. All invoices submitted must be accompanied by backup documentation so the staff is able to ascertain whether the funds requested are for legitimate purposes. Subrecipients are also required to submit quarterly reports.

In addition to the above review, staff conducts annual risk assessment evaluations on all CDBG, ESG and HOME projects and activities. Desk-top reviews or on-site monitoring visits are determined based on the risk assessment. These reviews are conducted once a year unless issues arise during the program year requiring more intense supervision. These subrecipients are informed in writing before the visit takes place informing them of the areas that will be reviewed. During the review, the areas monitored are project eligibility, project progress, project documentation such as low/moderate income compliance of clients and job creation, regulatory compliance such as procurement procedures, and Davis Bacon Wage compliance, where appropriate. Also reviewed are financial management, audit submissions, Section 504 compliance, ADA compliance, and Fair Housing Regulations.

The City of Altoona also undergoes an annual audit to ensure compliance with federal and state regulations, local practice, as well as established accounting practices. Issues discovered in the audit are presented to the Department, which then responds with appropriate steps to address the finding.

On-site inspections shall be conducted by City staff to ensure compliance with income and rent requirements as well as local property standards during a project's period of affordability. Inspections will comply with the following schedule.

- 1-4 units – Every 3 years
- 5-25 units – Every 2 years
- 26+ units - Annually

Where projects may utilize other state or federal funding sources requiring inspections, the City may accept such reports to ensure compliance with applicable standards. Regardless of the source of funding, all inspections shall uphold local code requirements as a minimum.

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

The City of Altoona is receiving \$1,418,161 from CDBG funds and \$194,238 from HOME funds for the FY 2015 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2019. Based on a 5% cut in funds, the Municipality projects the following anticipated resources:

- **FY 2015** = \$1,418,161 CDBG + \$194,238 HOME
- **FY 2016** = \$1,347,253 CDBG + \$184,526 HOME
- **FY 2017** = \$1,279,890 CDBG + \$175,300 HOME
- **FY 2018** = \$1,215,896 CDBG + \$166,535 HOME
- **FY 2019** = \$1,155,101 CDBG + \$158,208 HOME
- **Total** = **\$6,416,301 CDBG + \$878,807 HOME**

The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2015 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report

(CAPER).

**Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition					6,416,301	Five years of funding at 95% reduced level each year.
		Admin and Planning						
		Economic Development						
		Housing						
		Public Improvements						
		Public Services	1,418,161	0	0	1,418,161		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition					878,807	Five years of funding at 95% reduced level each year.
		Homebuyer assistance						
		Homeowner rehab						
		Multifamily rental new construction						
		Multifamily rental rehab						
		New construction for ownership						
		TBRA	194,238	0	0	194,238		

**Table 54 - 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 of Altoona will work with the Altoona Housing Authority on projects to upgrade the Housing Authority's housing stock. The Altoona Housing Authority will contribute funds to these projects.

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

Not Applicable.

**Discussion**

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## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$314,976 HOME: \$49,814	
3	CD-1 Community Facilities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$481,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 15165 Persons Assisted
4	CD-4 Public Safety	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$215,176	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 18656 Persons Assisted
5	CD-5 Code Enforcement	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$55,377	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 14190 Household Housing Unit
6	CD-6 Slum and Blight	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$228,000	Buildings Demolished: 15 Buildings

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	AM-1 Overall Coordination	2015	2019	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$323,632 HOME: \$19,424	

Table 55 – Goals Summary

**Goal Descriptions**

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, accessible and sanitary housing through the rehabilitation of existing owner-occupied and rental housing stock in the City.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-1 Community Facilities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve the City's public facilities and infrastructure through rehabilitation and new construction.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-4 Public Safety
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Continue neighborhood policing to reduce the incidences of crime and violations of public safety in low- and moderate-income areas.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-5 Code Enforcement
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Continue a systematic code enforcement program to ensure that the existing housing stock will be decent, safe, and sanitary.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	CD-6 Slum and Blight
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions throughout the City through demolition and clearance.

<b>7</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of federal, state, and local funded programs.

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## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

The City of Altoona proposes to undertake the following activities with the FY 2015 CDBG and HOME funds:

#### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Planning and Community Development Administration
2	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation
3	Safe Housing/Healthy Living
4	Blighted Property Program
5	Street Reconstruction
6	Street Light Enhancement
7	Broad Avenue Curb and Sidewalk Project Phase II
8	Neighborhood Police Patrol
9	Altoona Housing Authority Pleasant Village Rehabilitation
10	HOME Program Administration
11	HOME Rental Rehabilitation
12	CHDO Project - Improved Dwellings for Altoona

Table 56 – Project Information

**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

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1	<b>Project Name</b>	Planning and Community Development Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$215,176
	<b>Description</b>	Operational budget for the Planning and Community Development Department for general management, monitoring, coordination, oversight and evaluation of projects within the Community Development Block Grant Program and monitoring of activities necessary for effective planning implementation such as update of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Fair housing activities including eliminating housing discrimination through the promotion of fair housing using educational programs, monitoring, research and community involvement.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	N/A
	<b>Location Description</b>	This activity will take place at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is: Administration. The HUD Matrix Code is: 21A General Program Administration 570.206.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$250,376
	<b>Description</b>	The continued funding of citywide rehabilitation loans to low and moderate income homeowners. Funding for lead-based paint remediation to assist low/moderate income homeowners as part of the City's rehabilitation program.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 10 units will be rehabilitated.
	<b>Location Description</b>	This activity will take place in low- and moderate-income areas throughout the City of Altoona.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing, 570.208(a)(3)(i)(C). The HUD Matrix Code is 14A Rehab; Single-Unit Residential, 570.202.
3	<b>Project Name</b>	Safe Housing/Healthy Living
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CD-5 Code Enforcement
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$55,377
	<b>Description</b>	In order to prevent slum and blight, daily routine inspections of low/moderate income areas of the City to identify and address property maintenance, housing violations, health-related violations, etc.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 14,190 people will benefit from this activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The activity will take place in the following census tracts: C.T. 1003, BG1; C.T. 1004 BG 1; C.T. 1005 BG 2; C.T. 1007 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1009 BG 3; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1019 BG 1,2 64% L/M
<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 15, Code Enforcement, 570.202(c).	
4	<b>Project Name</b>	Blighted Property Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CD-6 Slum and Blight

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$228,000
	<b>Description</b>	Prevention or elimination of spot blight through property acquisition, relocation, safeguarding, demolition and disposition activities.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 15 properties will be addressed.
	<b>Location Description</b>	This activity will take place citywide.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Slum/Blight 570.208(b)(2). The Matrix Code is 04, Clearance and Demolition, 570.201(d).
5	<b>Project Name</b>	Street Reconstruction
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CD-1 Community Facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$200,500
	<b>Description</b>	Revitalize existing public roadways in low to moderate income areas within the City of Altoona. The project will benefit residents to the immediate area improved by providing safer and easier access to their place of residence and also provide a means to the City of Altoona to keep public roadways from deterioration. Project will be administered by the City's Department of Engineering. Actual locations will be advertised for public review prior to project initiation.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 4,960 people will benefit from this activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The activity will take place in low/moderate income areas of the City. C.T. 1007 BG 3; C.T. 1009 BG 2,3. C.T. 1017 BG 3 and C.T. 1019 BG 1, 2 Serving a total of 4960 people - 3275 L/M or 64.62%

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
6	<b>Project Name</b>	Street Light Enhancement
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CD-1 Community Facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$30,000
	<b>Description</b>	Upgrade 100 watt high pressure sodium to LED dusk to dawn fixtures in low/moderate income areas of the City. Project administered by the Department of Engineering.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 10,205 people will benefit from this activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The activity will take place in low/moderate income areas of the City. C.T. 1003 BG: 1,2; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1015 BG 3; C.T 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1018 BG 3 - serving 10,205 –people – 6245 L/M or 61.20%.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K, Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
7	<b>Project Name</b>	Broad Avenue Curb and Sidewalk Project Phase II
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CD-1 Community Facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$250,500
	<b>Description</b>	New concrete curb, sidewalk and roadway restoration, along with tree improvements, topsoil and seeding. Project administered by the Department of Engineering.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 260 people will benefit from this activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The activity will take place on Broad Avenue between 26th and 31st Streets.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective Low/Mod Area, 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
8	<b>Project Name</b>	Neighborhood Police Patrol
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CD-4 Public Safety
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Community Development Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$215,176
	<b>Description</b>	Community policing program in the low and moderate income neighborhoods of the City. Also providing service to the Evergreen Manors low/moderate income housing development.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 18,656 people will benefit from this activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	This activity will take place in the following Census Tracts: C.T. 1003 BG 1,2; C.T. 1004 BG 1; C.T. 1005 BG 2; C.T. 1007 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1009 BG 2,3; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1015 BG 3; C.T. 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1018 BG 3; C.T. 1019 BG 1,2 Total persons 18,280 with 11,490 l/m or 63% L/M and Evergreen Manors 5919 Evergreen Court 376 l/m persons.
<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 05I, Crime Awareness, 570.201(e).	
9	<b>Project Name</b>	Altoona Housing Authority Pleasant Village Rehabilitation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing Priority

	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$64,600
	<b>Description</b>	The Altoona Housing Authority will utilize CDBG funding to assist with window replacement in 120 units at Pleasant Village Housing Development.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 120 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	This activity is located at 2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing, 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14C Public Housing Modernization 570.202(a)(2).
	<b>10</b>	<b>Project Name</b>
<b>Target Area</b>		Citywide
<b>Goals Supported</b>		AM-1 Overall Coordination
<b>Needs Addressed</b>		Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
<b>Funding</b>		CDBG: \$19,424
<b>Description</b>		Administration costs to provide for staffing to oversee HOME funded projects.
<b>Target Date</b>		6/30/2019
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>		N/A
<b>Location Description</b>		This activity will take place at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601.
<b>Planned Activities</b>		The National Objective is Administration. The Matrix Code is 21H Administration/Planning Costs of PJ.
<b>11</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME Rental Rehabilitation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing Priority

	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$49,814
	<b>Description</b>	This rehab program consists of a 50/50 financial match. Units will be made available to income eligible tenants and comply with HOME affordable period requirements. Structures located within the City's limits which contain substandard rental units are eligible.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 3 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	This activity will take place citywide.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14B, Rehabilitation; Multi-Unit Residential, 570.202.
<b>12</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	CHDO Project - Improved Dwellings for Altoona
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing Priority
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$125,000
	<b>Description</b>	Lexington Park rehabilitation of 6 affordable housing units.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 6 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	This activity will take place at the following addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1112 14th Avenue, Altoona</li> <li>• 1124 14th Avenue, Altoona</li> </ul>
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The National Objective is 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14B, Rehabilitation; Multi-Unit Residential, 570.202.

## Affordable Housing

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

#### Introduction

The City of Altoona will utilize its CDBG and HOME funds to rehabilitate affordable housing units. The one year goals for affordable housing in the City of Altoona for FY 2015 are the following:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	139
Special-Needs	0
Total	139

**Table 57 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	139
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	139

**Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**  
**Discussion**

The City of Altoona will undertake the following activities to address affordable housing:

- **CD-15-02 Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation** - The continued funding of citywide rehabilitation loans to low and moderate income homeowners. Funding for lead-based paint remediation to assist low/moderate income homeowners as part of the City's rehabilitation program.
- **CD-15-09 Altoona Housing Authority Pleasant Village Rehabilitation** - The Altoona Housing Authority will utilize CDBG funding to assist with window replacement in 120 units at Pleasant Village Housing Development.
- **HOME-15-02 HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program** - This rehabilitation program consists of a 50/50 financial match. Units will be made available to income eligible tenants and comply with HOME affordable period requirements. Structures located within the City's limits which contain substandard rental units are eligible.
- **HOME-15-03 CHDO Project** - Improved Dwellings for Altoona - Lexington Park rehabilitation of 6 affordable housing units.

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

### **Introduction**

The Altoona Housing Authority is the public housing agency that serves the City of Altoona. The mission of the Housing Authority of the City of Altoona is to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing to the residents receiving assistance through the Public Housing and Section 8 Housing Choice Programs in an efficient and professional manner.

The Housing Authority owns and manages 536 units of public housing, of which 27 units are accessible. In addition, the Housing Authority administers 985 Vouchers Housing Choice Vouchers. The Housing Authority secured an additional 140 Housing Choice Vouchers on June 1, 2014. A total of 89 Enhanced Vouchers were under contract on June 1, 2014, and the remaining vouchers are being issued to applicants from the waiting list. In addition, the Altoona Housing Authority manages 10 Veterans Affairs Affordable Housing (VASH) Vouchers.

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

The Altoona Housing Authority is improving public safety and crime prevention at its public housing communities. Safety measures are a high priority due to the increase in violent and drug-related crimes. Based on interviews with the Housing Authority staff and Board, if patrolling were increased in and around the housing developments, safety would be increased and crime would decrease. If officers were patrolling on the ground, on foot or on bikes, it would create a more noticeable presence of law enforcement in the public housing communities, which could decrease incidences of crime and violence.

A goal of the Altoona Housing Authority is to instill a sense of pride in their residents so that they want to engage in "community policing". The Housing Authority will continue its Neighborhood Watch Program in an effort to incorporate residents in increasing public safety within public housing communities. The Altoona Housing Authority wants to make their housing developments are suitable places for families and children to reside.

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

Not Applicable. The Altoona Housing Authority is designated as a "high performer."

### **Discussion**

Not Applicable.

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

### **Introduction**

The City of Altoona is a member of the Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) Continuum of Care – PA-507. The Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care contains twenty-one (21) member counties: Lycoming, Clinton, Union, Columbia, Northumberland, Centre, Snyder, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, Lebanon, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Franklin, Somerset, Bedford, Fulton, and Montour.

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

The CoC annually funds a Supportive Services Only Program that is operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Blair County Community Action Agency. The grant provides \$105,966 to operate the program. Services are provided to both sheltered and unsheltered persons. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the program served 163 adults and 90 children. All persons served are assessed to determine their individual needs.

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

The Family Shelter in Altoona is operated by Family Services Inc. The annual budget to operate the shelter is \$193,147. During the program year of 7/1/2013-6/30/2014 148 persons representing 5756 shelter days were served by the shelter. It is widely recognized in the community that there are insufficient shelter beds to meet the need. Family Services Inc. is actively searching for a larger facility to address this unmet need.

### **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 CoC annually funds two transitional housing programs that are operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Blair County Community Action Agency. One is named simply “The Transitional Housing Program” and serves the general public. The second program is named the “Journey Program” and is targeted to 18-25 year olds who have a mental or physical disability but are able to live independently. These two programs offer a variety of supportive services to clients to assist them in the transition to permanent housing. These services include; life skills, employment services, clothing, furniture, general case management, housing search, budget counseling etc. The Transitional Housing Program (THP) grant annually provides \$361,937 to operate the program. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the THP program served 67 adults and 58 children. Of the persons who exited the program 78% exited into permanent housing. The Journey Program grant annually provides \$181,668 to operate

the program. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the Journey program served 32 adults and 15 children. Of the persons who exited the program 59% exited into permanent housing.

**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**

There are no specific programs designed to address individuals and families who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care. The Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) has been operated to help low-income families from becoming homeless. Both the City of Altoona and Blair County operated the ESG program in the past. One subcontractor (Blair County Community Action) used \$58,386 in ESG funds to provide Homeless Prevention Services to 38 families from becoming homeless between 10/01/2013 and 09/30/2014.

#### **Discussion**

Not Applicable.

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

### **Introduction:**

The City of Altoona in its most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice has identified the following changes to the City's Zoning Ordinances:

- Add under Title Three, Article 1, Section 101. Purpose, a new subsection titled, "Fostering Housing Choice and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing."
- Add a definition for, "Accessibility" and "Visibility" to the definition section of the Zoning Ordinance.

There are no known public policies in the City of Altoona that are barriers to affordable housing. The City Planning and Community Development monitors the following:

- Tax policies affecting land and other properties
- Land use controls
- Zoning Ordinance
- Building Code
- Fees and charges

**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**

Impediment 6: Public Policies

The City's Zoning Ordinance needs additional definitions and provisions concerning Fair Housing.

**Goal:** The City Zoning Ordinance will affirmatively further fair housing.

**Strategies:** In order to meet this goal, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- 6-A: Add under Title Three, Article I, Section 101. Purpose, a new subsection titled, "Fostering Housing Choice and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing."
- 6-B: Add a definition for, "Accessibility" and "Visitability" to the definition section of the Zoning Ordinance.

## Program Specific Requirements

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

#### Introduction:

#### 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	\$200,000.00
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	\$0.00
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	\$0.00
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.	\$0.00
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	\$0.00
Total Program Income	\$200,000.00

#### Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	\$0.00
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#### HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

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

The City of Altoona does not intend to use any other forms of investment other than those described in 24 CFR 92.205(b). Not Applicable.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:
  1. The housing must be single-family housing.
  2. The housing must be modest housing as follows:
    - a. In the case of acquisition of newly constructed housing or standard housing, the housing has a purchase price for the type of single-family housing that does not exceed 95 percent of the

median purchase price for the area.

- b. In the case of acquisition with rehabilitation, the housing has an estimated value after rehabilitation that does not exceed 95 percent of the median purchase price for the area.
- 3. The housing must be acquired by a homebuyer whose family qualifies as a low-income family as determined by the HOME Investment Partnership Program and the housing must be the principal residence of the family throughout the period described in paragraph 4.
- 4. *Periods of affordability.* The HOME-assisted housing must meet the affordability requirements for not less than the applicable period specified in the following table, beginning after project completion. The per unit amount of HOME funds and the affordability period that they trigger are described more fully in paragraph 5 (recapture) of this section.

Affordability requirements will be incorporated into lease-purchase agreements, lien agreements, and through deed restriction.

Homeownership assistance HOME amount per-unit	Minimum period of affordability in years
Under \$15,000	5
\$15,000 to \$40,000	10
Over \$40,000	15

- 5. *Recapture.* The participating jurisdiction (PJ) recoups all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyers, if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the family for the duration of the period of affordability. The period of affordability is based upon the total amount of HOME funds subject to recapture. If the homebuyer or the homeowner breaches the terms and conditions for any reason, e.g. no longer occupies the property as his/her/their/ principal residence, the full amount of the subsidy is immediately due and payable.
  - a. *Reduction during affordability period.* The PJ will reduce the HOME investment amount to be recaptured on a prorata basis for the time the homeowner has owned and occupied the housing measured against the required affordability period at the following rate. Five (5) year period-1/60<sup>th</sup> per month, ten (10) year- 1/120<sup>th</sup> per month, fifteen (15) year-1/180<sup>th</sup> per month.
  - b. *Shared net proceeds.* If the net proceeds are not sufficient to recapture the reduced amount of HOME investment as provided for in paragraph 5 (a) plus enable the homeowner to recover a “Fair Return on Investment”, the amount of the homeowner’s downpayment and any capital improvement investment made by the owner since purchase. The PJ may share the net proceeds. The net proceeds are the sales price minus loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and closing costs. The net proceeds will be divided proportionally as set forth in the

following mathematical formulas:

$\frac{\text{HOME Investment}}{\text{HOME Investment} + \text{Homeowner Investment}}$	x Net Proceeds =	HOME amount to be recaptured
$\frac{\text{Homeowner Investment}}{\text{HOME Investment} + \text{Homeowner Investment}}$	x Net Proceeds =	amount to homeowner

- c. *Amount subject to recapture.* The HOME investment that is subject to recapture is based on the amount of HOME assistance that enabled the homebuyer to buy the dwelling unit. This includes any HOME assistance that reduced the purchase price from fair market value to an affordable price, but excludes the amount between the cost of producing the unit and the market value of the property (i.e. the development subsidy). If the HOME assistance is only used for the development subsidy and therefore not subject to recapture, a resale option must be developed and used.

*Resale Provisions.* The resale policy is enforced through the use of a Restrictive Covenant signed by the homebuyer at closing. The Restrictive Covenant will specify:

1. the length of the affordability period (based on the dollar amount of HOME funds invested in the unit; either 5, 10, or 15 years);
2. that the home remain the Buyer's principal residence throughout the affordability period; and
3. the conditions and obligations of the Owner should the Owner wish to sell before the end of the affordability period, including:
  - a. The Owner must contact the City of Altoona Planning and Community Development Department or it's representative in writing if intending to sell the home prior to the end of the affordability period;
  - b. The subsequent purchaser must be low-income as defined by HOME, and occupy the home as his/her new purchaser's primary residence for the remaining years of the affordability period. (However, if the new purchaser receives direct assistance through a HOME-funded program, the affordability period will be re-set according to the amount of assistance provided); and
  - c. The sales price must be affordable to the subsequent purchaser; affordable is defined as limiting the Principal, Interest, Taxes and Insurance (PITI) amount to no more than 30% of the new purchaser's monthly income.

*Fair Return on Investment.* The City of Altoona will administer its resale provisions by ensuring that the Owner receives a fair return on his/her investment and that the home will continue to be affordable to a specific range of incomes. Fair Return on Investment means the total homeowner investment which includes the total cash contribution plus the approved capital improvements credits as described below:

1. The amount of down payment;

2. The cost of any capital improvements, documented with receipts provided by the homeowner, including but not limited to:
  - a. Any additions to the home such as a bedroom, bathroom, or garage;
  - b. Replacement of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems;
  - c. Accessibility improvements such as bathroom modifications for disabled or elderly, installation of wheel chair ramps and grab bars, and any and all of which must have been paid for directly by the Owner and which were not installed through a federal, state, or locally-funded grant program; and
  - d. Outdoor improvements such as a new driveway, walkway, retaining wall, or fence.

NOTE: All capital improvements will be visually inspected to verify their existence.

3. The percentage of change as calculated by the Housing Price Index (HPI) Calculator of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The HPI Calculator is currently located at [www.fhfa.gov](http://www.fhfa.gov) and projects what a given house purchased at a point in time would be worth today if it appreciated at the average appreciation rate of all homes in the area. The calculation shall be performed for the Altoona, PA Metropolitan Statistical Area.
3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

*Affordability to a Range of Buyers.* The City will ensure continued affordability to a range of buyers, particularly those whose total household incomes range from 65 percent to no greater than 80 percent MFI.

Sales prices shall not be set such that the amount of Principal, Interest, Taxes and Insurance does not exceed 30 percent of the new Buyer's annual income. The affordable sales price shall not exceed the applicable Section 203(b) Mortgage Limit for the Altoona area.

7. *Lease-purchase.* The housing must be purchased by a homebuyer within 36 months of signing the lease-purchase agreement. The homebuyer must qualify as a low-income family at the time the lease-purchase agreement is signed. If HOME funds are used to acquire housing that will be resold to a homebuyer through a lease-purchase program, the HOME affordability requirements for rental housing shall apply if the housing is not transferred to a homebuyer within forty-two months after project completion.
8. *Contract to purchase.* HOME funds that are used to assist a homebuyer who has entered into a contract to purchase housing to be constructed, the homebuyer must qualify as a low-income family at the time the contract is signed.
9. Homeownership is defined as ownership in fee simple title or a 99-year leasehold interest in a one-to-four unit dwelling. The ownership interest may be subject only to the restrictions on mortgages, deeds of trust, or other liens or instruments securing debt on the property as approved by the PJ.

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

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## Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

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