



CITY of ALTOONA

1301 12th Street

Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601

FY 2020 – 2024

Five-Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan & Analysis of Impediments

*For Submission to HUD for the
Community Development Block Grant Program &
HOME Investment Partnership Program*

May 2020

Honorable Matthew A. Pacifico
Mayor, City of Altoona



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 for the period of FY 2020, beginning July 1, 2020, through FY 2024, ending June 30, 2024. The Five Year 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 Five Year 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 roundtable discussions, community surveys, statistical data, and reviews of previous community development plans.

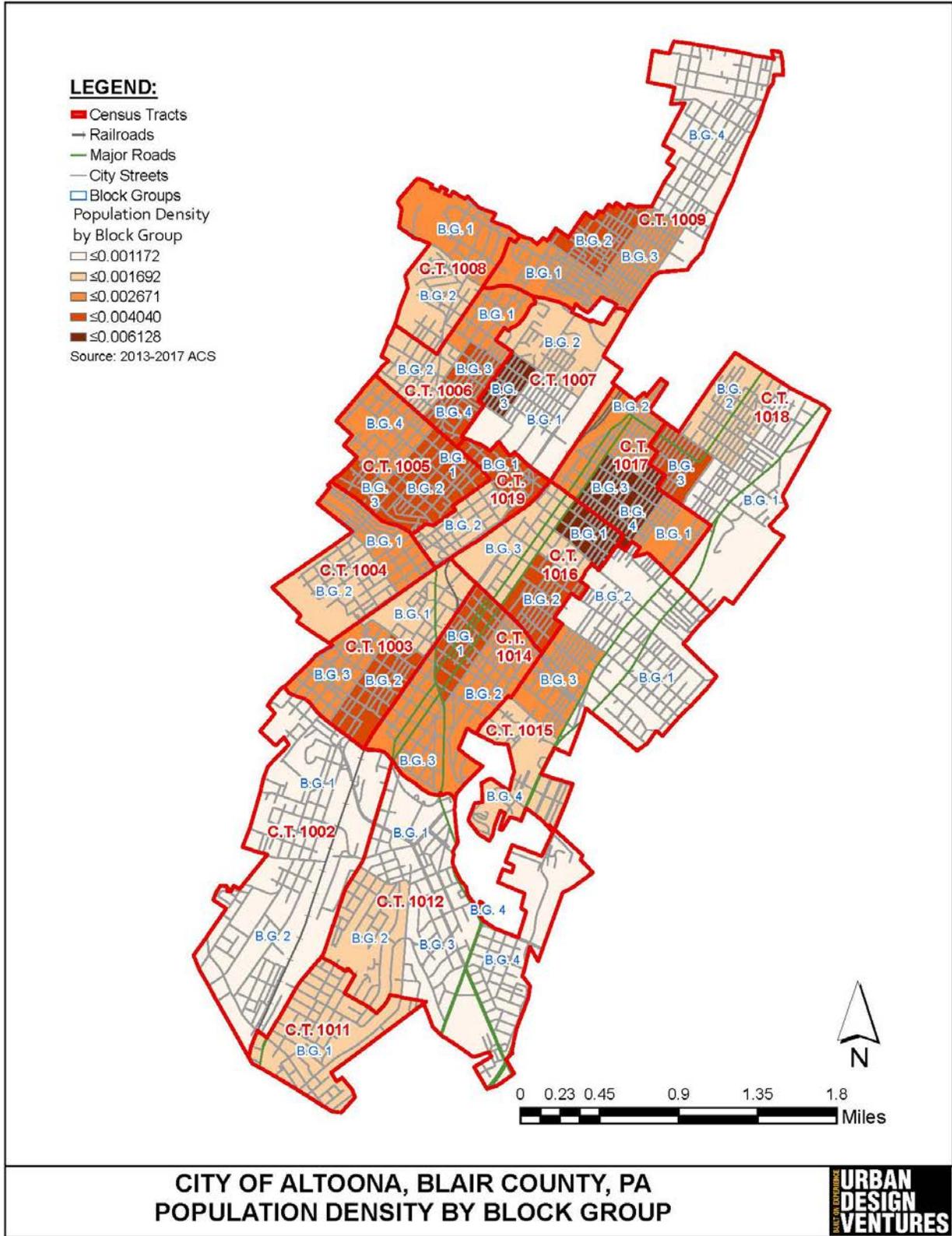
Maps:

The following maps which illustrate the demographic characteristics of the City of Altoona:

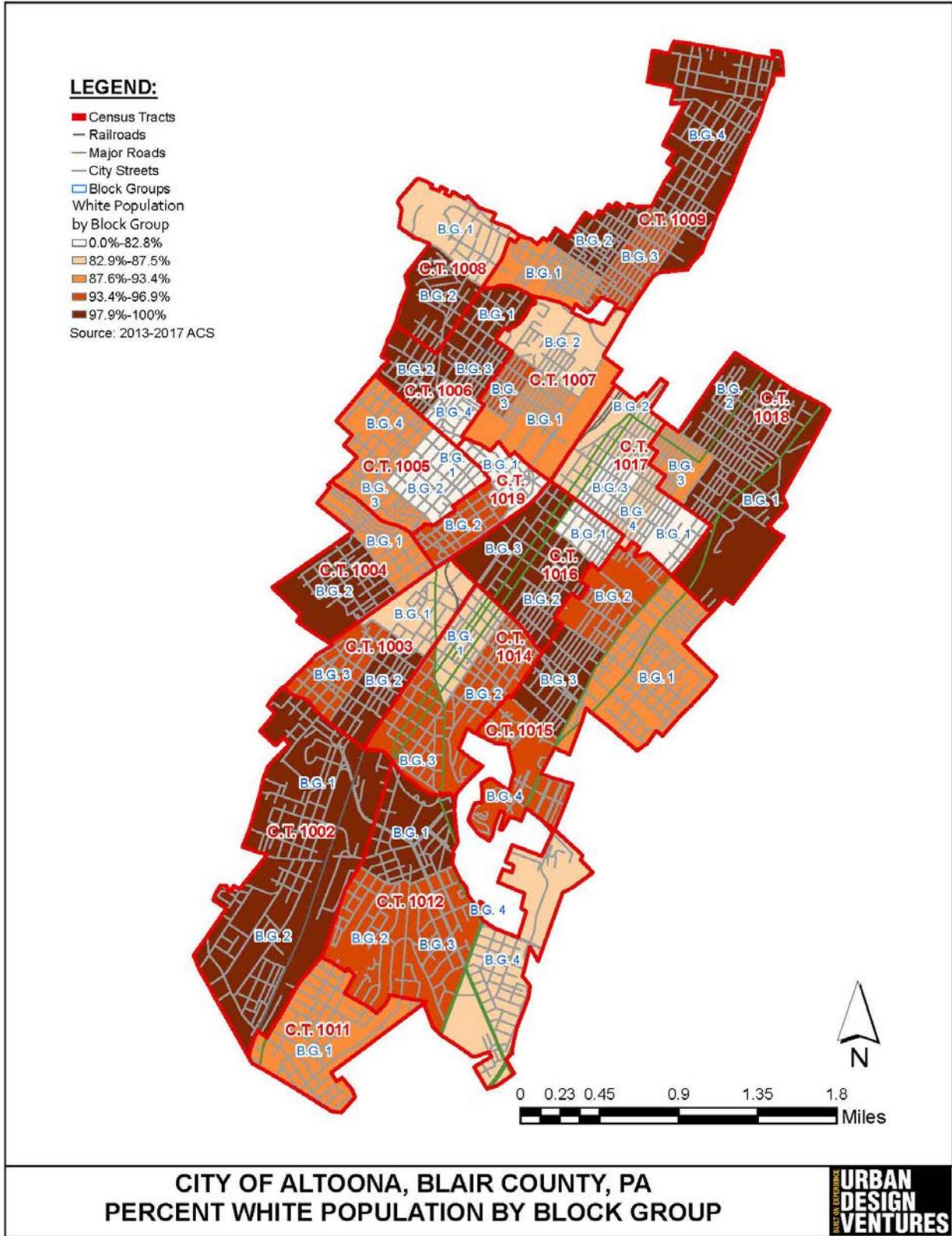
- Population Density by Block Group
- Percent White Population by Block Group
- Percent Minority Population by Block Group
- Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group
- Population Age 65+ by Block Group
- Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group
- Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group

Demo

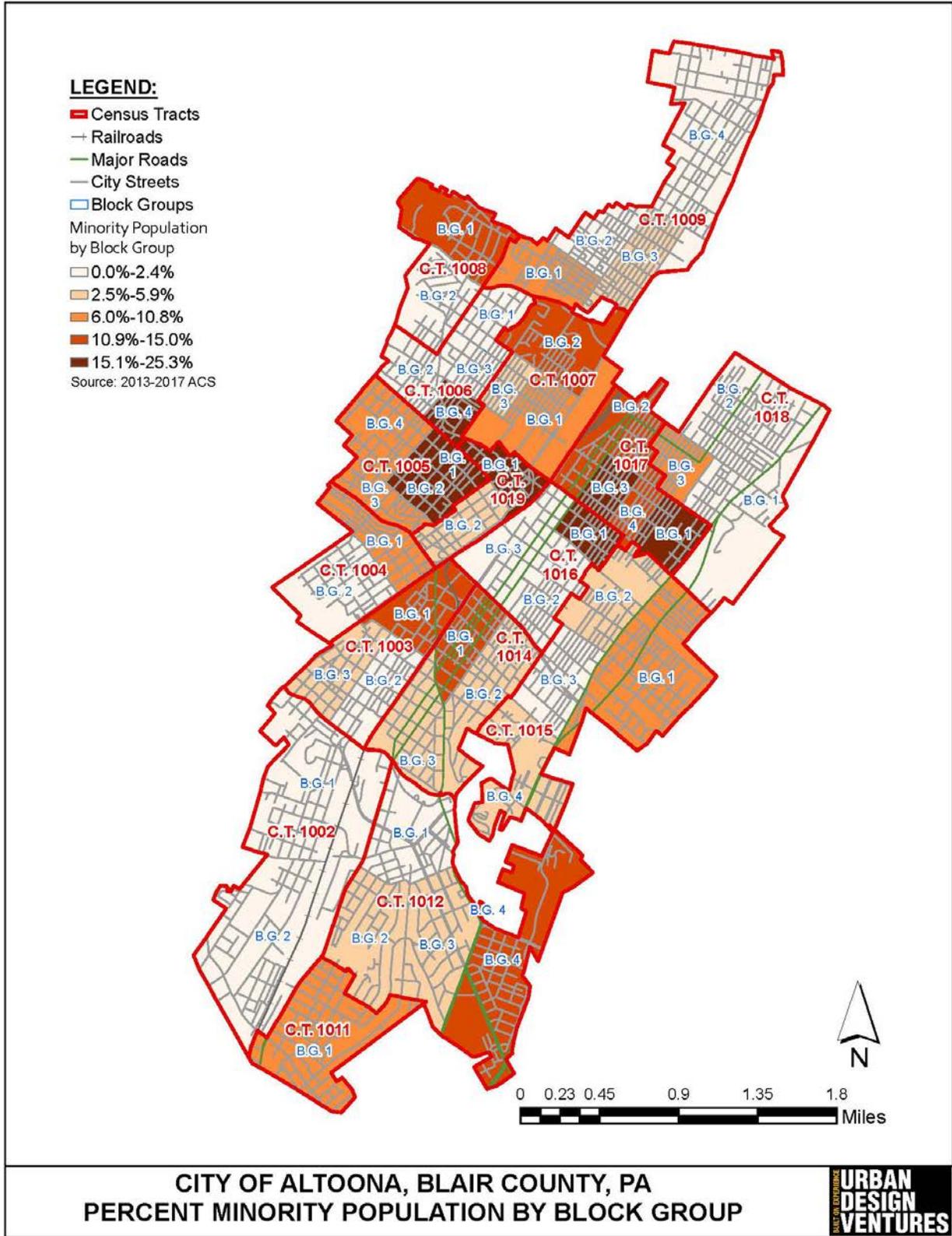
- Low/Moderate Income Percentage Overlay by Block Group
- Low/Moderate Income with Minority Percentage Overlay by Block Group



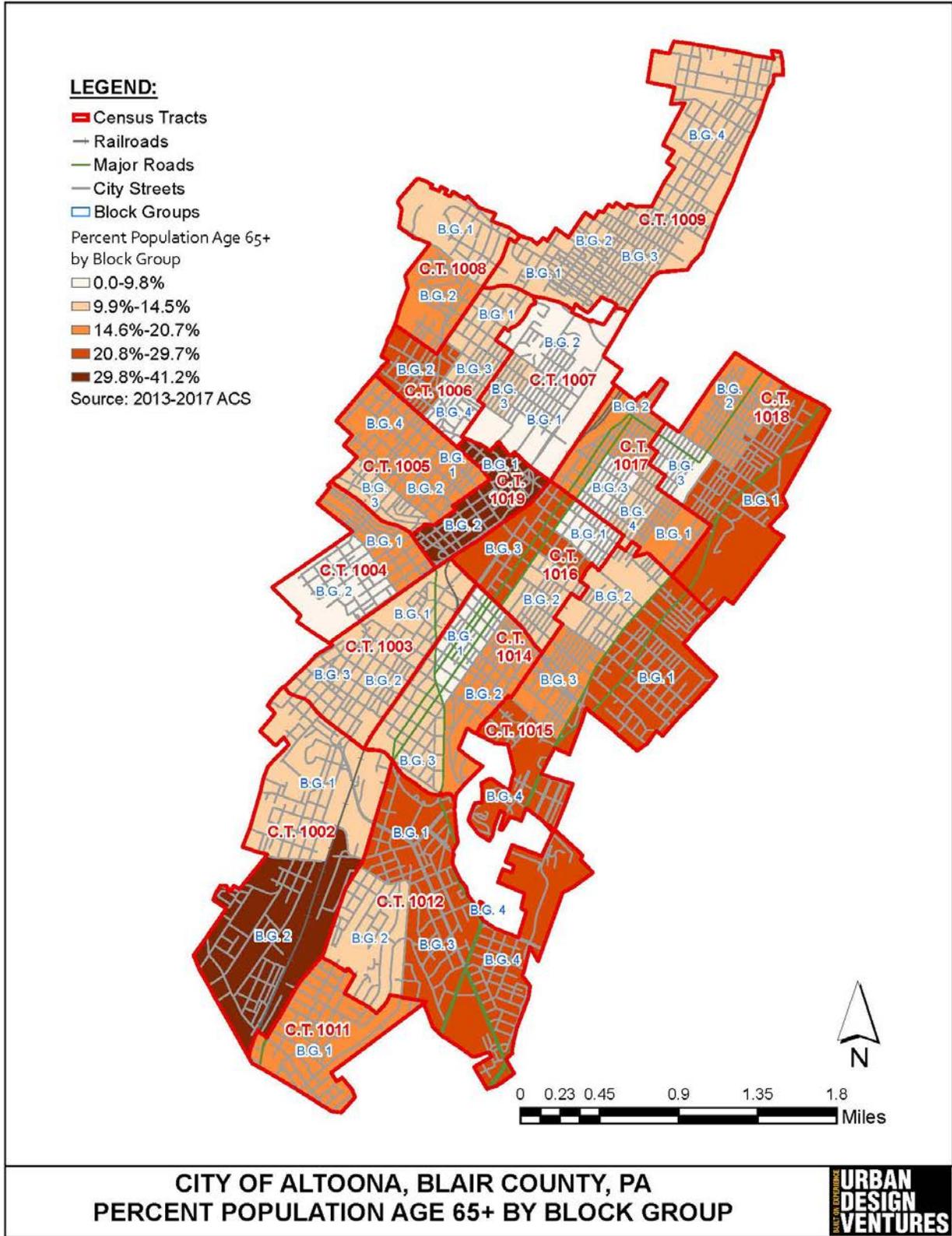
Population Density by Block Group



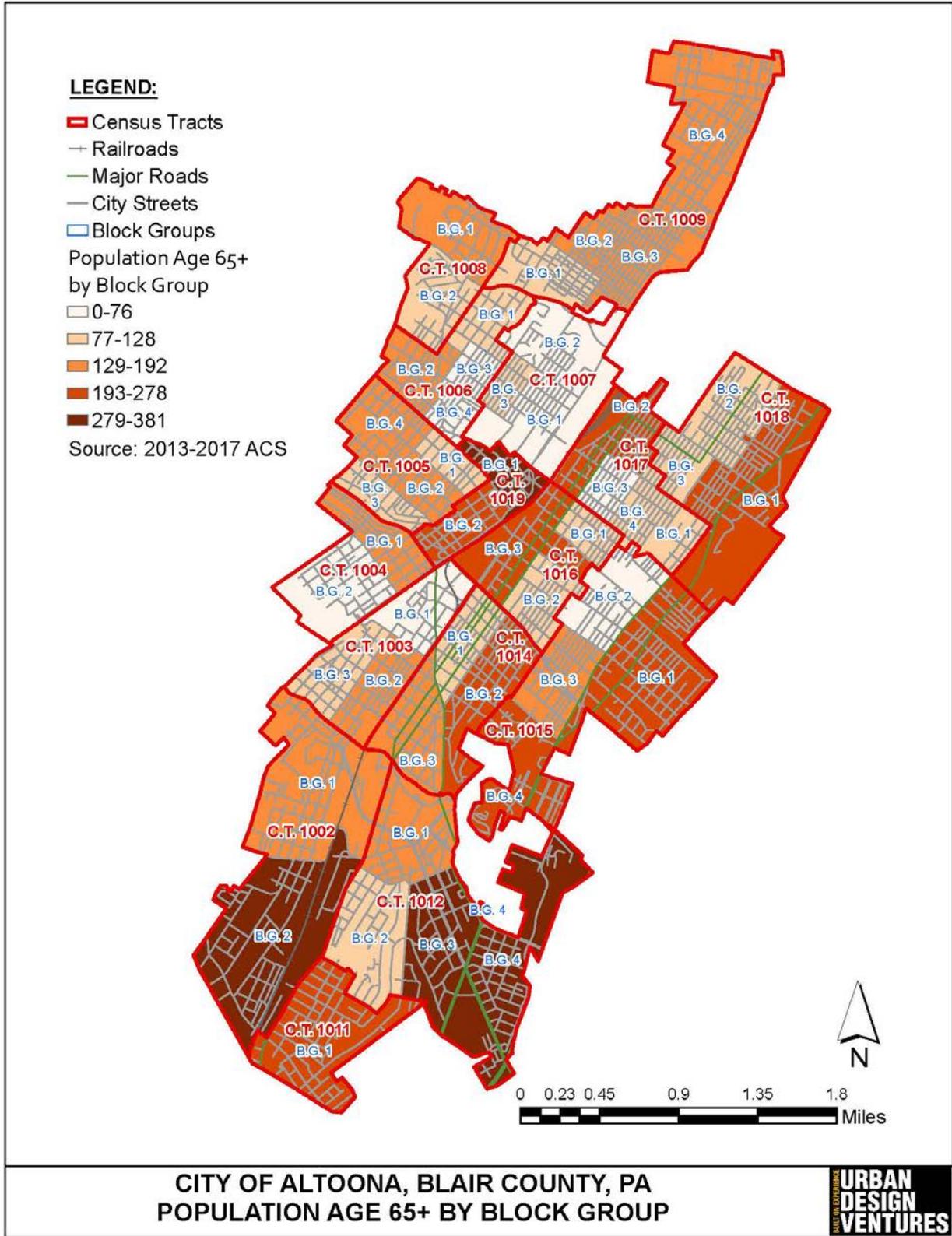
Percent White Population by Block Group



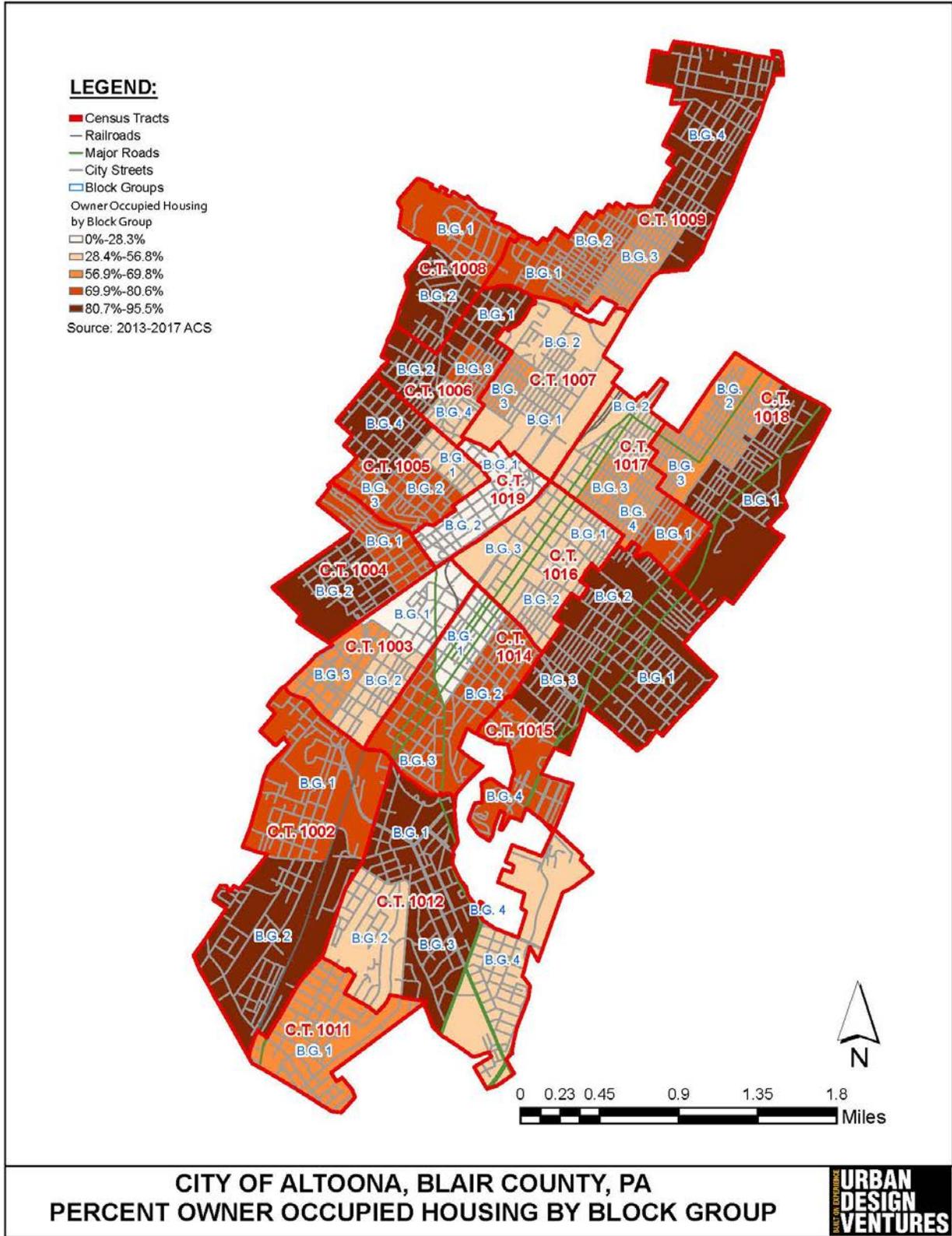
Percent Minority Population by Block Group



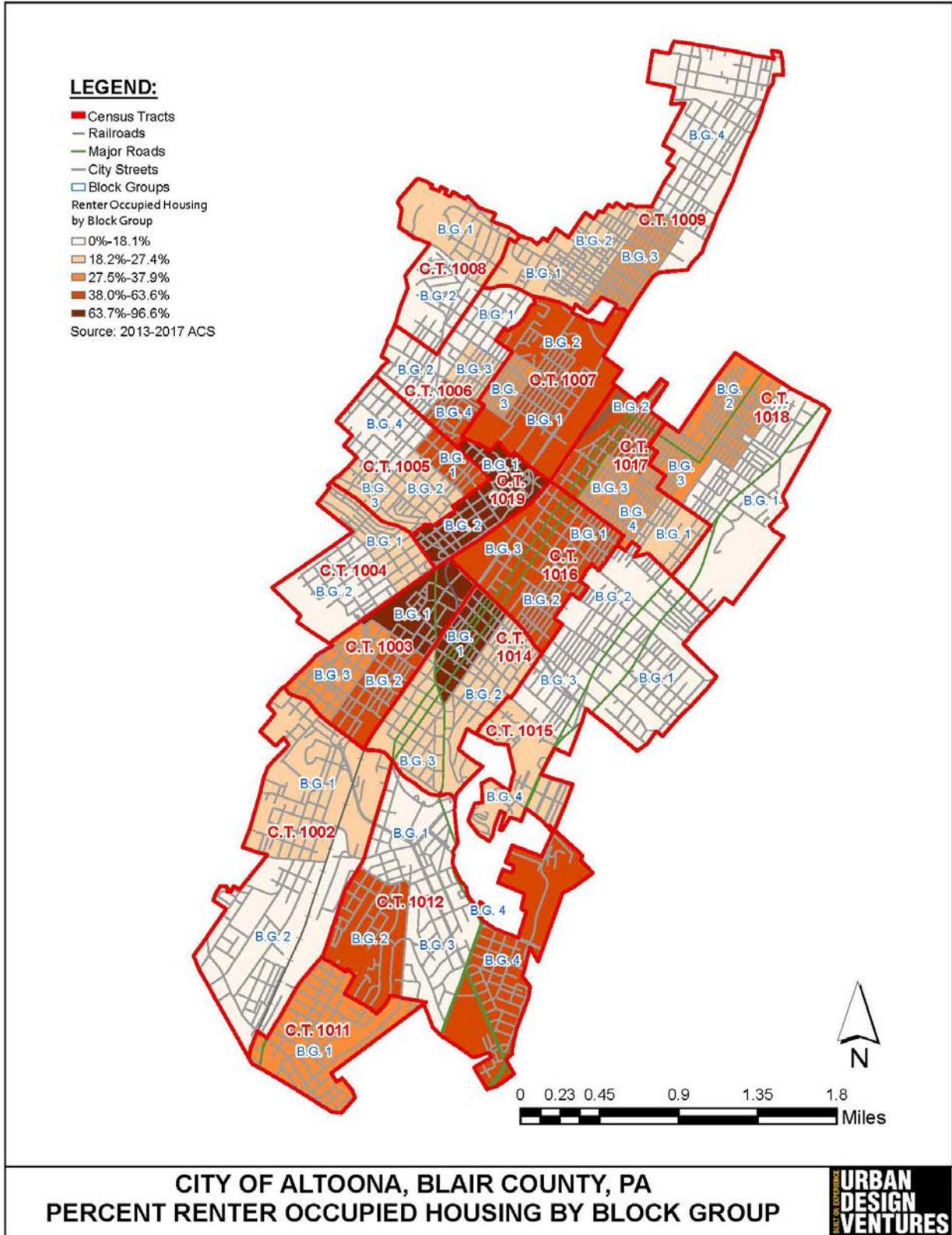
Percent Population Age 65+ by Block Group



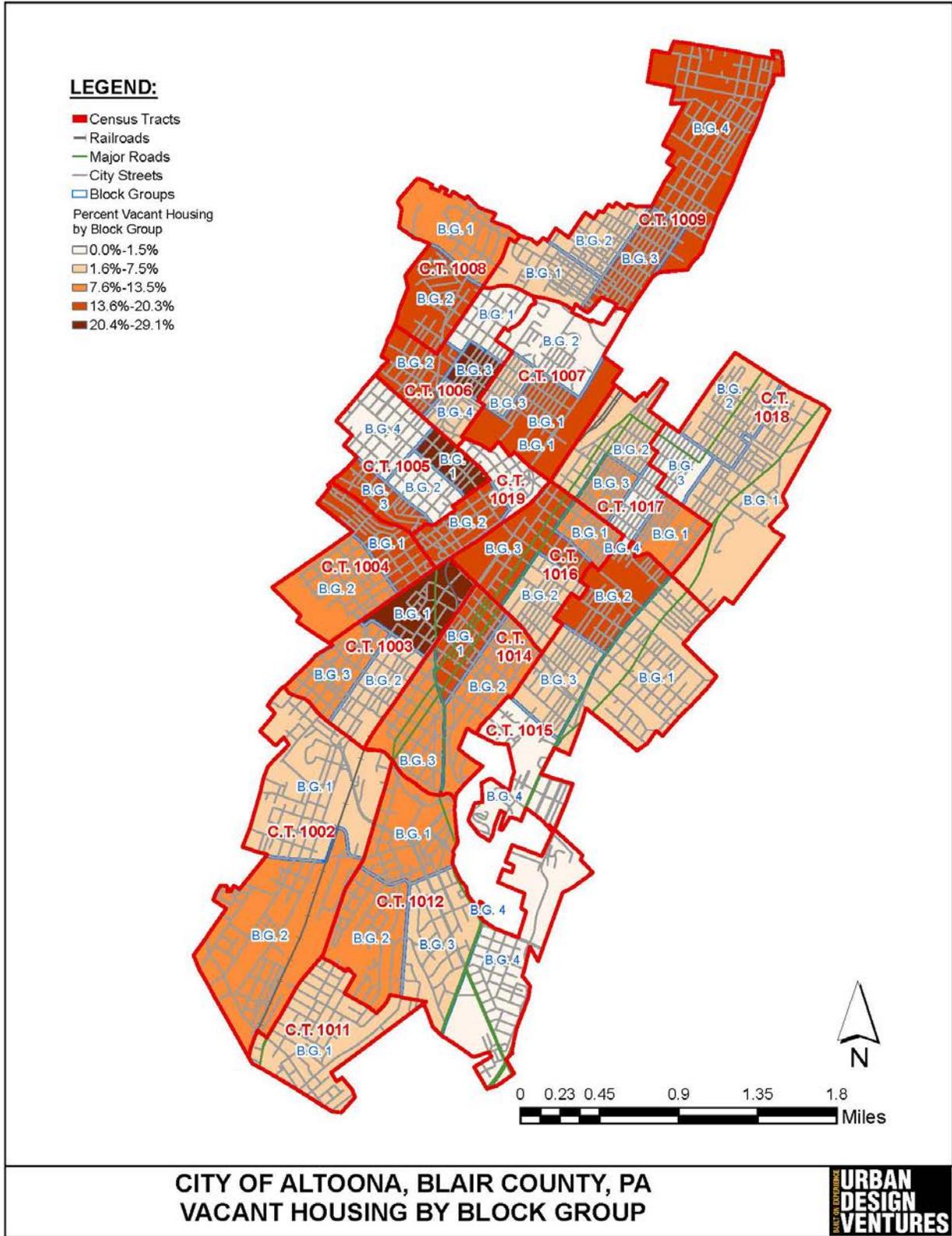
Population Age 65+ by Block Group



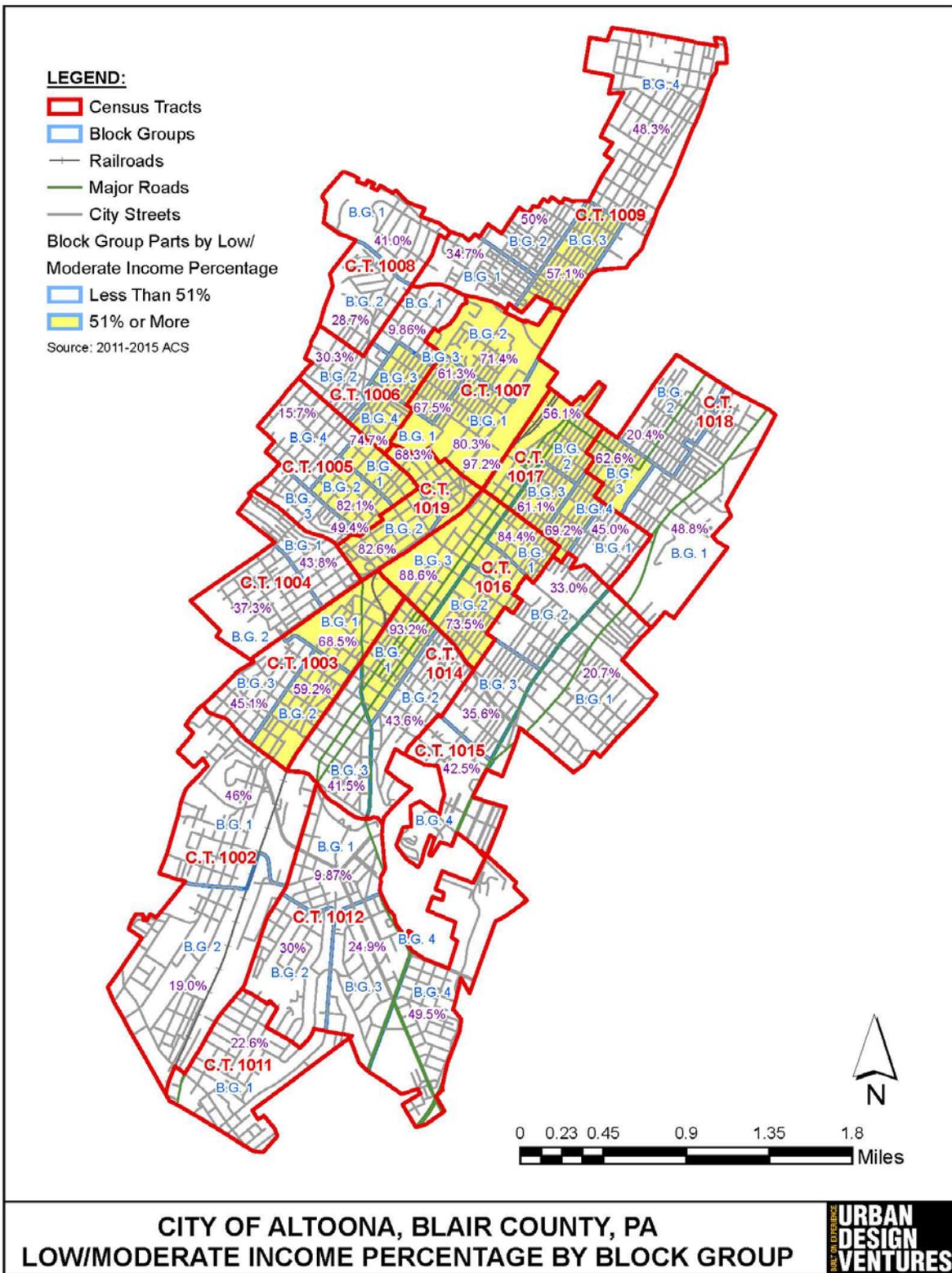
Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group



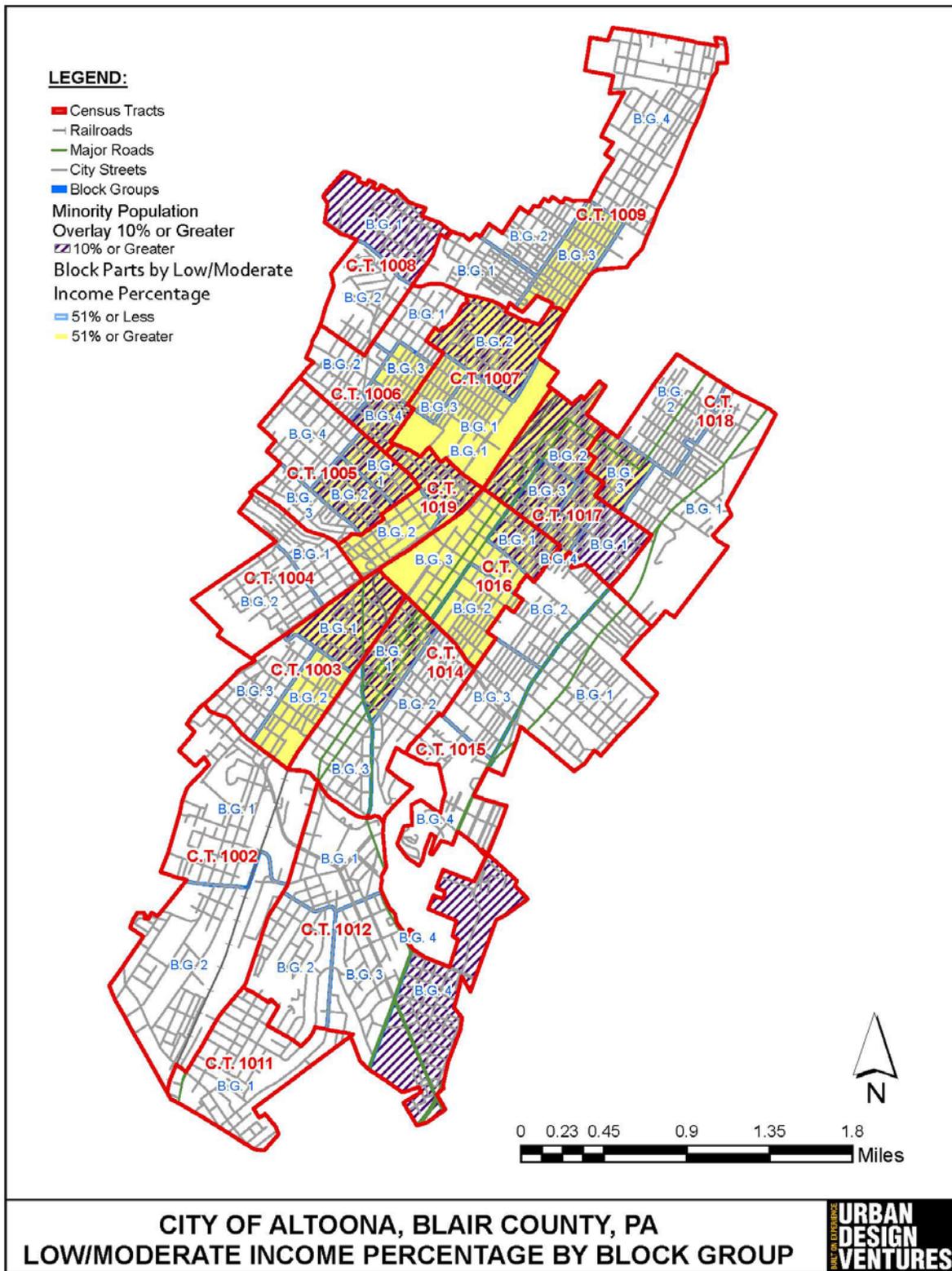
Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Group



Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group



Low/Moderate Income Percentage Overlay by Block Group



Low/Moderate Income with Minority Percentage Overlay by Block Group

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 2020 through FY 2024:

Housing Strategy High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need to increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for homeowners and renters.

Objective: Improve, preserve, and expand the supply of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income persons and families.

Goals:

- **HSS-1 Housing Construction** – Encourage the development of new housing by private developers and non-profits that is affordable, decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary.
- **HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation** – Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the community by addressing code violations, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility for persons with disabilities.
- **HSS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance** – Provide short term rental assistance or security deposit assistance for low- and moderate-income renters.

Homeless Strategy (Low Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need for services and housing opportunities for homeless persons and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless.

Objective: Improve the living conditions and support services available for homeless persons, families, and those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Goals:

- **HMS-1 Housing** – Support the Continuum of Care's efforts to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing opportunities.
- **HMS-2 Operation/Support** – Support providers who operate housing and/or provide support services for the homeless and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless.
- **HMS-3 Prevention and Re-Housing** – Support the Continuum of Care's efforts in prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.

Other Special Needs Strategy (Low Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need to increase housing opportunities, services, and facilities for persons with special needs.

Objective: Improve the living conditions and services for those residents with special needs, including the disabled population.

Goals:

- **SNS-1 Housing** – Increase the supply of affordable, accessible, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing buildings and new construction.
- **SNS-2 Social Services** – Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.

Community Development Strategy (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need to upgrade and improve community facilities, infrastructure, public services.

Objective: Improve the community facilities, infrastructure, public services, public safety, and transportation, along with the elimination of blighting influences in the City of Altoona.

Goals:

- **CDS-1 Community Facilities** – Improve parks, recreational facilities, neighborhood facilities, and trails including accessibility improvements to public buildings and all community facilities in the City.
- **CDS-2 Infrastructure** – Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of streets; sidewalks; bridges, curbs; walkways; water; storm water management; sanitary sewers; lighting; handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers; etc.
- **CDS-3 Public Services** – Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, along with general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons and households.
- **CDS-4 Clearance/Demolition** – Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures.
- **CDS-5 Accessibility Improvements** – Improve handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers to public and community facilities.

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- **CDS-6 Transportation** – Support the expansion of transportation options for low- and moderate-income residents, the disabled and elderly to access services, shopping and employment.

Economic Development Strategy (High Priority)

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

Objective: Improve and expand employment opportunities in the City for low- and moderate-income persons and families.

Goals:

- **EDS-1 Employment** – Support and encourage job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities.
- **EDS-2 Development** – Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development.
- **EDS-3 Redevelopment** – Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of vacant and underutilized commercial and industrial sites.
- **EDS-4 Financial Assistance** – Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), tax abatements (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, etc.
- **ED-5 Access to Transportation** – Support the expansion of public transportation and access to bus and automobile service and facilities serving alternate modes of transportation to assist residents to get to work or training opportunities.

Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy (High Priority)

Priority Need: There is a need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of Federal, State, and local funded programs to address the housing and community and economic development needs.

Objective: Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight and management of Federal, State, and local funded programs and activities.

Goals:

- **AMS-1 Overall Coordination** – Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five year consolidated plans, substantial amendments,

consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

- **AMS-2 Fair Housing** – Promote fair housing choice through education, training and outreach to affirmatively furthering fair housing.

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 and 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 2018 CAPER, which was the fourth CAPER for the FY 2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, was approved by HUD. In the FY 2018 CAPER, the City of Altoona expended 81.10% of its CDBG funds to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The City expended 1.13% of its funds during the FY 2018 CAPER period on public service, which is below the statutory maximum of 15%. The City expended 19.43% 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. In Program Year 2018 the City received \$292,194.00. Total HOME funds expended for Program Year consisted of \$24,637.82 for administrative costs and \$178,593.87 in project costs.

The City was not required to provide a match for FY 2019'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 to be placed on display on the City's website at <http://www.altoonapa.gov> and copies of the plan were available for review at the locations below. However, the City was not able to publicly place the plans on public display at the locations referenced in the Citizen Participation Plan, so

the City placed the draft plans on the City's website at (<http://www.altoonapa.gov>). Upon request, the City would email an electronic copy of the draft plans to any person who will request such a copy of the plans via email or by calling (814) 949-2470, or 711 for the hearing impaired.

Additionally, the City developed and disseminated an online citizen's survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Altoona2019>.

The City developed the Five Year 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 Wednesday August 7, 2019 at 5:00 PM. Comments received at that public hearing 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 community, and economic development needs of the residents.

The Five-Year Consolidated Planning process requires the City to state its strategies 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. The document provides direction to other partners working to address 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.

8. FY 2020 CDBG and HOME Budget

The following CDBG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan:

1. Community Development Administration - \$327,270.00
2. Fair Housing - \$25,000.00
3. Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation - \$487,540.00
4. Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program - \$10,000.00
5. Altoona Housing Authority's Fairview Hills Playgrounds Revitalization - \$65,500.00

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6. 6th Avenue Playground Installation Phase II - \$101,543.00
7. 2020 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project - \$200,500.00
8. Washington Avenue Storm Drainage Installation - \$385,581.00
9. Blighted Property Program - \$164,311.00

Total FY 2020 CDBG Funds for Project Activities = \$1,767,245.00

The following HOME activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan:

1. HOME Program Administration - \$35,312.90
2. HOME Rental Rehabilitation - \$156,816.10
3. IDA-CDC Union Avenue Apartments - \$161,000.00

Total FY 2020 HOME Funds for Project Activities = \$353,129.00

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	ALTOONA	Department of Community Development
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator	ALTOONA	Department of Community Development
HOPWA-C 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 and Evaluation Reports (CAPER), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, and oversight of the programs on a day to day basis. Additionally, the City of Altoona has access to a private planning consulting firm available to assist the City on an as needed basis.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

PR-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(I) and 91.315(I)

1. Introduction

The City of Altoona held a series of meetings with non-profit groups, 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 community 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 Consolidated 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 by 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 organizations 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, roundtable discussions, 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 Eastern Pennsylvania CoC (PA-507) is comprised of 33 Counties, including Blair County and the City of Altoona. For planning purposes, the CoC is divided into five regions and managed by a Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB). Altoona is a member of the Central RHAB and takes an active role in

supporting the RHAB by addressing homelessness and breaking the cycle. This structure provides a variety of local services ranging from outreach and assessment to emergency and transitional housing to permanent housing services. All persons are assessed to determine their individual needs and referred appropriately.

The Altoona/Blair County Community Action Agency (CAP) provides a HUD approved Housing Counseling Program offering one-on-one counseling services and workshops in the following areas: pre-purchase, post-purchase, mortgage delinquency, rental and near homeless.

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 participates in the Blair County Local Housing Options Team (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 and these local needs are reported to the greater CoC. The Healthy Blair County Coalition (HBCC) conducts a regular Community Health Needs Assessment. While this assessment is not specifically geared toward homeless people, it does address the social, economic, emotional, and physical well-being of area residents which many of the issues that many homeless persons experience. The most recent version of this needs assessment was completed in June of 2019.

The Point in Time survey of sheltered and unsheltered homeless is conducted annually on the date prescribed by HUD. The count from the most recent completed survey in 2019 indicated that there were 27 people in 20 families that were considered homeless. Of those, 14 individuals in 10 households were in emergency shelter; 4 persons in 4 households were in transitional housing; and 9 persons in 6 households were unsheltered.

The CoC does not directly receive ESG funds. ESG funds for member counties and cities in the Altoona/Eastern 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	Agency/Group/Organization	UPMC Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency Regional organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	UPMC Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies was consulted to ascertain the social service, and homeless needs in the City.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services - Victims Child Welfare Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Family Services, Inc. was consulted to ascertain information regarding victims of domestic violence and non-housing special needs.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis Community Development Strategy

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	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs of the City of Altoona.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair Drug and Alcohol
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Blair Drug and Alcohol was consulted to ascertain the social service and homeless needs of the City of Altoona.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Altoona Housing Authority was consulted to ascertain the Housing needs of the City of Altoona.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair County Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Planning organization Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Community Development Financial Institution Private Sector Banking / Financing

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	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Blair County Chamber of Commerce was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs of the City of Altoona.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Curve
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Altoona Curve was consulted to ascertain the economic development needs for the City of Altoona.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Catholic Charities was consulted to ascertain the fair housing and housing needs of the City of Altoona.

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9	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair County Community Action
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing Regional organization Planning organization Correction Facilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	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 Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Blair County Community Action was consulted to ascertain the fair housing, housing, and homeless needs of the City of Altoona.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Central PA Landlord's Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Regional organization Planning organization Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Central PA Landlord's Association was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.

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11	Agency/Group/Organization	BLAIR SENIOR SERVICES, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Blair Senior Services Inc. was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	HOME NURSING AGENCY (AIDS INTERVENTION PROJECT)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Home Nursing Agency was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	UPMC Hospital - Altoona
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Community Development Strategy

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	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	UPMC Hospital-Altoona was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	ALTOONA BLAIR COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COPORATION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Regional organization Planning organization Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Altoona Blair County Development Corp was consulted to ascertain the economic and community development needs of the City of Altoona.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGING
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Pennsylvania Department of Aging was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Area School District
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Planning organization Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Education

Demo

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

Demo

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Center for Independent Living was consulted to ascertain the housing and social service needs of the City of Altoona.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	The Nehemiah Project, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Nehemiah Project was consulted to ascertain the community development needs of the City of Altoona.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	IMPROVED DWELLINGS ALTOONA, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Fair Housing

Demo

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Improved Dwellings of Altoona, Inc. was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	ALTOONA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Local Regional organization Planning organization Civic Leaders Grantee Department Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Altoona Department Heads were consulted to identify the needs in the City over the next five years.

24	Agency/Group/Organization	PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Regional organization Planning organization Lead
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Community Development Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	PA Dept of Health was contacted for Lead numbers and HIV/AIDS statistics and information.

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	Blair County Community Action Agency	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
5-Year Plan	Altoona Housing Authority	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
Positively Altoona	Altoona Department of Planning and Community Development	Positively Altoona Altoona Department of Planning and Community Development They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.
2018 Childhood Lead Surveillance Annual Report	Pennsylvania Department of Health	They are incorporated in the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans.

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 all City Departments.

Development policies are promoted by the City Manager with approval and oversight by the Mayor and City Council. The City works 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 – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)

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

The FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2020 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 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 20 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 FY 2020-2024 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.

Demo

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 Meeting	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies	A Public Meeting was held on Wednesday August 7, 2019 to discuss the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. There was a total of 1 attendee.	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 Agencies	There was a total of 20 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.	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Altoona2019

Demo

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	Agencies/Organizations survey	Agencies/Organizations	There was a total of 9 organizations that completed surveys. In addition, the City met with local agencies/organizations.	A summary of the survey responses and meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Five Year Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.
5	Agencies/Organizations survey	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	A summary of meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of Five Year Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.

Demo

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)
6	Public Meeting	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/Organizations	A Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the Five Year Consolidated Plan, the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.	Meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Five Year 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 estimates, 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 Eastern PA Continuum of Care which includes thirty-three (33) counties in Eastern PA. Blair County is a member of the South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board which includes nine (9) 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 Eastern PA 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.

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

Summary of Housing Needs

Based on a comparison between the 2009 and 2015 population, the City of Altoona had a 1% decrease in population of 505 persons. The number of households decreased by 581 or -3%. This indicates that size of households has decreased. Furthermore, the median income of the area increased by 8%. 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 2009 and 2015, the cumulative inflation rate was 10.5%, meaning that the \$33,623.00 median income in 2009 would be \$37,146.15 if it were expressed in 2015 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: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Population	46,320	45,815	-1%
Households	19,316	18,735	-3%
Median Income	\$33,623.00	\$36,215.00	8%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	3,230	3,205	3,530	1,905	6,860
Small Family Households	955	940	1,385	705	3,580
Large Family Households	120	140	210	210	535
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	620	610	805	435	1,680
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	370	775	600	240	475
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	690	420	520	305	539

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2011-2015 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
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	70	75	0	4	149	15	15	0	0	30
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	20	0	15	20	55	30	20	15	0	65
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,295	210	35	0	1,540	420	230	155	20	825

Demo

	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)	365	710	255	40	1,370	250	510	415	170	1,345
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	140	0	0	0	140	30	0	0	0	30

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2011-2015 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
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	1,385	290	50	30	1,755	465	265	170	20	920
Having none of four housing problems	905	1,465	1,025	445	3,840	305	1,190	2,285	1,410	5,190
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	140	0	0	0	140	30	0	0	0	30

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2011-2015 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
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	620	355	134	1,109	195	180	235	610
Large Related	75	29	15	119	24	75	35	134
Elderly	335	250	55	640	340	340	159	839
Other	720	310	100	1,130	145	175	140	460
Total need by income	1,750	944	304	2,998	704	770	569	2,043

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2011-2015 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
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	510	45	4	559	130	60	50	240
Large Related	60	25	0	85	4	0	25	29
Elderly	250	75	0	325	185	100	34	319
Other	515	70	30	615	120	75	45	240
Total need by income	1,335	215	34	1,584	439	235	154	828

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2011-2015 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
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	20	0	15	24	59	30	10	0	0	40

Demo

	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	4	15	0	19
Other, non-family households	10	25	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	30	25	15	24	94	30	14	15	0	59

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data Source: 2011-2015 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 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS), there were 18,835 households in 2017 in the City of Altoona. Based on this number of households, 6,289 (33.3%) of all households were single person households living alone. Single person households aged 65 and over comprised 2,566 households or (13.6%) of all single person households. Based on the ACS estimates, 40.8% 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 – Many of the elderly and disabled are on fixed or limited incomes and are unable to afford costs to maintain their homes. The lack of affordable housing that is decent, safe, and sound forces them into below code standards housing that is often inaccessible.

Demo

Of the 8,390 individuals who have a disability: 20.3% have a hearing difficulty; 9.8% have a vision difficulty; 24.5% have a cognitive difficulty; 32.9% have an ambulatory difficulty; 12.1% have a self-care difficulty; and 22.1% have an independent living difficulty.

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 of the 1,427 9-1-1 calls for domestic violence, 365 required an incident report and victims were referred for services for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and/or housing assistance. The local shelters offer programs to assist those experiencing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and serve approximately 4,000 people each year through shelter programs, peer to peer groups, confidential counseling, Civil Protection Orders, and legal assistance.

What are the most common housing problems?

The largest housing problem in the City of Altoona is housing affordability. According to the 2011-2015 CHAS data, 65.8% of all renter households are cost overburdened by 30% or more, and 24.1% of all owner households are cost overburdened by 30% or more.

In consultations, interviews and surveys, the lack of affordable and 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 section of the City contains the oldest housing stock and some is multi-stories in height and not easily accommodated for the needs of the disabled. For those who own their home, the cost to make accommodations is often a burden that many are unable to afford without additional assistance.

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

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

Yes, the elderly and disabled populations are the most affected by the cost of housing in the City of Altoona. The elderly and disabled are often on fixed or limited incomes making it difficult to make necessary repairs and accommodations to live comfortably. 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

The South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) reports to the Larger Eastern PA Continuum of Care – PA-507. The South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care and contains nine (9) member counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset Counties.

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.

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:

According to the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care, the methodology used to generate estimates is based on historical incidence, such as the yearly Point in Time Counts and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data, which is an information technology system used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. Providers participating in the PA HMIS are required to collect and record certain data elements for all new and continuing clients in the HMIS data base. Data entry is to be completed weekly with the exception of Emergency Shelter, which should be completed daily. All weekly records are to be up to date every Monday for clients served during the prior week. The PA HMIS is an “open” system which allows for the sharing of client-level data electronically between collaborating agencies. All participating agencies must adhere to the PA HMIS privacy policy as well as the policies and operating procedures. Agencies may also be able to share information through other methods unrelated to the PA HMIS, as outlined in their specific program policies. Data shared outside of PA HMIS is not able to be controlled or monitored by DCED; therefore, this data is not covered by the PA HMIS privacy policy. DCED is the System Administrator for the PA HMIS and as such is the only entity with access to all client-level information, including personal identifiers, contained in the PA HMIS.

According to the HUD/HAP Standards and Operating Procedures Handbook, the definition of At-Risk of Homelessness has three categories:

Category 1: Individuals and families who

Demo

- Have annual incomes below 30% AMI; AND
- Do not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent literal homelessness; AND

Meet at least one of 7 conditions:

- Moved 2 or more times due to economic reasons in 60 days prior to application for assistance;
- Living in home of another due to economic hardship;
- Losing housing within 21 days after application date;
- Live in hotel/motel. Hotel/motel not paid for by charitable organizations or Federal/state/local government program;
- Lives in severely overcrowded unit as defined by the US Census Bureau (Lives in a SRO or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 persons per room as defined by the US Census Bureau.);
- Exiting publicly funded institution or system of care (e.g. health care facility, mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility or correction program or institution.);
- Lives in housing associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness as defined in the Consolidated Plan.

Category 2: Children/youth who do not qualify under other federal statute;

- Runaway and Homeless Youth Act; Section 637 (11) of the Head Start Act; Section 41403(6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994; Section 330(h) (5) (A) of the Public Health Service Act; Section 3 (m) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008; Section 17 (b) (15) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

Category 3: Unaccompanied children and youth and their families who:

- Qualify as homeless under the Education for Children and Youth (Section 725 (2)) of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a (2) and parent or guardian of that child or youth if living with her or him.

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 30% of their income for housing.

Demo

The other housing characteristic is the lack of housing supportive services. For example, predatory lending practices, purchasing a house on a “land contract,” renting homes on a “verbal agreement” 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 18,065 households (95.9%); the number of Black/African American Households is 422 households (2.3%); the number of Asian Households is 13 households (0.07%); and the number of Hispanic Households is 252 households (1.4%).

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	2,465	595	170
White	2,285	560	170
Black / African American	114	4	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	25	0

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2011-2015 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%

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	1,775	1,425	0

Demo

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	1,700	1,355	0
Black / African American	25	45	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	20	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2011-2015 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	890	2,640	0
White	840	2,555	0
Black / African American	14	40	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	14	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2011-2015 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	260	1,640	0
White	215	1,575	0
Black / African American	4	45	0
Asian	10	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	20	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2011-2015 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 2013-2017 American Community Survey data, was 93.6% White; 2.8% African American; 0.2% Asian. The Hispanic or Latino population was 1.7%. There were three racial/ethnic groups disproportionately affected by housing problems: in the 0-30% AMI group the Black/African American population makes up 3.6% of households but 96.6% of households are affected by housing problems; in the 50-80% AMI group the Hispanic population makes up 1.2% of households but 68.8% are affected by housing problems and; in the 80-100% AMI group Asian households make up 0.5% of households but 100% of Asian households in this income group are affected by housing problems. Note that these proportions can largely be attributed to the fact that minorities make up such a small portion, 7.5%, of the overall population of the City of Altoona.

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 2013-2017 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	1,850	1,210	170
White	1,690	1,155	170
Black / African American	95	30	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	25	0

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2011-2015 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%

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	555	2,655	0

Demo

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	535	2,525	0
Black / African American	4	65	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	20	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2011-2015 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	220	3,310	0
White	205	3,185	0
Black / African American	0	50	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	15	35	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2011-2015 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	50	1,855	0
White	25	1,765	0
Black / African American	0	50	0
Asian	10	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	20	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2011-2015 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 2013-2017 American Community Survey data, was 93.6% White; 2.8% African American; 0.2% Asian. The Hispanic or Latino population was 1.7%. There were three racial/ethnic groups disproportionately affected by housing problems: in the 0-30% AMI group the Black/African American population makes up 3.8% of households but 76.0% of households are affected by housing problems; in the 50-80% AMI group the Hispanic population makes up 2.6% of households but 30.0% are affected by housing problems and; in the 80-100% AMI group Asian households make up 0.5% of households but 100% of Asian households in this income group are affected by housing problems. Note that these proportions can largely be attributed to the fact that minorities make up such a small portion, 7.5%, of the overall population of the City of Altoona.

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: 12,715 White households were cost overburdened by less than 30%, 2,790 White households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 2,245 White households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 200 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by less than 30%; 90 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 70 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 35 Asian households were cost overburdened by less than 30%; 4 American Indian/Alaskan Native households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50% and lastly, 150 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by less than 30%, 15 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 15 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	13,165	2,955	2,429	180
White	12,715	2,790	2,245	180
Black / African American	200	90	70	0
Asian	35	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	150	15	15	0

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

Discussion:

About 5,035 White households (28.4%) out of a total of 17,750 computed White households were considered cost overburdened by 30% and greater in the City of Altoona. Of the total Black/African American households in the City, there were 160 Black/African American households (44.4%) that were

Demo

cost overburdened by 30% and greater. In addition, there were no Asian households and 30 (16.7%) Hispanic households that were cost overburdened by 30% and greater.

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 2013-2017 American Community Survey, the racial composition of households in the City of Altoona, according to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey data, was 93.6% White; 2.8% African American; 0.2% Asian. The Hispanic or Latino population was 1.7%.

There were three groups that were disproportionately affected by both housing problems and severe housing problems. For housing problems, these are: the 0-30% AMI group the Black/African American population makes up 3.6% of households but 96.6% of households are affected by housing problems; in the 50-80% AMI group the Hispanic population makes up 1.2% of households but 68.8% are affected by housing problems and; in the 80-100% AMI group Asian households make up 0.5% of households but 100% of Asian households in this income group are affected by housing problems.

For severe housing problems, these are: the Black/African American population makes up 3.8% of households but 76.0% of households are affected by housing problems; in the 50-80% AMI group the Hispanic population makes up 2.6% of households but 30.0% are affected by housing problems and; in the 80-100% AMI group Asian households make up 0.5% of households but 100% of Asian households in this income group are affected by housing problems.

Note that these proportions can largely be attributed to the fact that minorities make up such a small portion, 7.5%, of the overall population of the City of Altoona.

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?

The City of Altoona has a minority population of 7.5% of its total population. The City uses the definition of an Area of Minority Concentration as a Census Tract or Block Group where at least 50% of the population who reside in that area are identified as being a minority person. Based on this definition there are no Census Tracts or Block Groups that are considered an Area of Minority Concentration.

Attached to this Plan are maps which illustrate the City of Altoona's demographics.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

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

- Continue to reduce public housing vacancies through collaboration efforts between Management and Maintenance to reach 98% occupancy.
- Increase level of landlord participation in the Section 8 Voucher Program through landlord educational workshops and recruitment efforts.
- Continue to lease up Section 8 Vouchers for those applicants needing assistance through the Voucher Program based upon funding.
- Maintain Public Housing Assessment System score with High-Performer status.
- Maintain Section 8 Management Assessment Program score with High-Performer status.
- Continuation of customer service training for staff and conduct resident customer satisfaction surveys to determine areas for improvement.
- Continuation of work with the City of Altoona on Code Enforcement, Fair Housing, workshops and work on expansion of home-ownership programs working with the City's Planning and Community Development Office.
- Renovate and modernize public housing units through Capital Fund modernization.
- Dispose of scattered site public housing properties and utilize proceeds of sale of scattered sites to expand the Authority's Home Buyer program and upgrades at our Fairview Hills Development. Received approval from the Special Applications Center for removal of 20 units (10 properties) from public housing. Utilize said funding to expand home ownership program. Properties are currently being sold. These include: 114 Lexington Avenue; 504 Crawford Avenue; 705 6th Avenue; 820 6th Avenue; 1407 1st Street; 1501 15th Street; 1904 6th Avenue; 2021 811 Avenue; 2114 7th Avenue; and 2514 West Chestnut Avenue (Vacant Lot)
- Continue to work with Blair County Housing Authority in housing VASH participants within the City of Altoona limits.
- Continue to update and monitor Authority's Physical Needs Assessment
- Continue the educational community workshops with surrounding agencies to meet the needs of clients with housing assistance.
- Continue security services to keep safety of our residents a top priority.
- Install additional security cameras and conduct staff training on safety protocols.
- Continue to hold resident and staff training on Emergency Procedures

Demo

- Continue to provide a Head Start/ Day Care Facility on site at public housing family development for the residents needing day care services.
- Continue health awareness programs for the residents.
- Recruit residents to become active in Resident Organizations in their housing community.
- Continue education for residents and staff on Fair Housing regulations.
- Update Maintenance and Prevention Maintenance Plans.
- Continue promoting self-sufficiency through the ROSS-Family Self Sufficiency Coordination Program.
- Continue to partner with the Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation to provide an After-School Enrichment Program for public housing family development.
- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or disability.
- Continue marketing the rental units through the Authority with advertisements and open houses.
- Effectively manage and continue of upgrades for ADA compliance deficiencies.
- Continue to promote a healthy living environment for the residents residing in public housing.
- Continue to monitor Section 8 funding to house as many participants as possible within the PHA funding level.
- Continue to upgrade Section 8 Vouchers and Public Housing policies on regulatory changes.
- Continue staff training on regulatory changes to maintain compliance requirements.
- Continue internal staff cross training for employees.

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

Demo

*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)

NA-35 Introduction

Demo

-
- Continue to work with Blair County Housing Authority in housing VASH participants within the City of Altoona limits.
- Continue to update and monitor Authority's Physical Needs Assessment (PNA)
- Continue the educational community workshops with surrounding agencies to meet the needs of clients with housing assistance.
- Continue security services to keep safety of our residents a top priority.
- Install additional security cameras and conduct staff training on safety protocols.
- Continue to hold resident and staff training on Emergency Procedures
- Continue to provide a Head Start/ Day Care Facility on site at public housing family development for the residents needing day care services.
- Continue health awareness programs for the residents.
- Recruit residents to become active in Resident Organizations in their housing community.
- Continue education for residents and staff on Fair Housing regulations.
- Update Maintenance and Prevention Maintenance Plans.
- Continue promoting self-sufficiency through the ROSS-Family Self Sufficiency Coordination Program.
- Continue to partner with the Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation to provide an After-School Enrichment Program for public housing family development.
- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or disability.
- Continue marketing the rental units through the Authority with advertisements and open houses.
- Effectively manage and continue of upgrades for ADA compliance deficiencies.
- Continue to promote a healthy living environment for the residents residing in public housing.
- Continue to monitor Section 8 funding to house as many participants as possible within the PHA funding level.
- Continue to upgrade Section 8 Vouchers and Public Housing policies on regulatory changes.
- Continue staff training on regulatory changes to maintain compliance requirements.
- Continue internal staff cross training for employees.

Race of Residents

Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				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	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				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

Demo

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's waitlist for housing choice vouchers is currently closed. In addition, there are 238 families/individuals on the waiting list for public housing. The waiting list for Public Housing, excluding 1-bedroom units in Fairview Hills housing, is still open and is expanding as the need for public housing grows. The following housing needs are for the applicants on the waiting list for public housing:

- **Elderly Highrise Apartments** = 50
- **One Bedroom Apartments** = 69
- **Two Bedroom Apartments** = 79
- **Three Bedroom Apartments** = 27
- **Four Bedroom Apartments** = 10
- **Five Bedroom Apartments** = 3

There is a need for accessible housing accommodations for the elderly applicants on the waiting list. It is estimated that there are 50 applicants on the wait list specifically for elderly/disabled housing.

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 there are 50 applicants on the wait list for senior/disabled housing communities. 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 immediate needs of the Housing Choice Voucher holders are similar. They need housing units that are close to public transportation or their place of employment, and access to community services. 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. Members of the population at large in the lower income brackets needs include quality and affordable housing that is close to their places of employment or has access to quality public transportation.

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 is not rated as a “troubled” agency by HUD and is instead designated a “high performer”. The Housing Authority’s biggest challenges are the lack of sufficient Housing Choice Vouchers to meet the demand for housing by low income persons, and renovating the existing public housing units. There is a total of 236 people on waiting lists for Fairview Hills, Pleasant Village, and Green Avenue and 11th Street Tower. At least 50 persons on the waiting list are elderly or disabled persons indicating a need for additional accessible housing units and 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 working to recruit additional landlords to expand the Section 8 Voucher Program. The Housing Authority offers landlords training and resource guides to help educate and guide landlords on policies and procedures, such as the inspection, payment, and termination of the Section 8 process, as well as Fair Housing laws. The Housing Authority also offers several workshops and trainings to tenants throughout the year to educate about available programming, such as the Family Self-Sufficiency program, and Fair Housing laws.

The Housing Authority’s FY 2020 Capital Fund Grant Budget is as follows:

- **Operations = \$50,000**
- **Site Improvement = \$716,614**
- **Dwelling Improvement = \$169,659**
- **Total = \$936,273**

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

The City of Altoona is a member of the Eastern PA Continuum of Care – PA-507. The Southern Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board reports to the larger Eastern Continuum of Care. The RHAB contains nine (9) member counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset. The Homeless Needs Assessment table illustrates the PIT data for Blair County, the Nature and Extent of homelessness table illustrates data for the entire CoC.

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)	14	6	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Children	11	6	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	3	0	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Individuals	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Child	3	0	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Data Source Comments:

Demo

Indicate if the homeless population is: Has No Rural Homeless

If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):

For all categories of individuals and families experiencing homelessness the biggest challenge faced is the lack of affordable housing and the high cost of available housing.

Chronically Homeless: Chronically homeless individuals often lack access to basic needs such as food, shelter, health and mental health services. When a person cannot access these basic services other aspects of life are heavily impacted and create situations such as gaps in employment and unmanageable chronic health conditions.

Families with Children: Families with children face difficulties finding affordable housing that can accommodate the needs of families such as an appropriate number of bedrooms, safe and sound housing conditions etc. Children experiencing homelessness often miss more school days and fall behind on grades and test scores ultimately leaving them to catch up to their peers.

Veterans: There were no homeless veterans counted during the Point-in-Time counts for 2019.

Unaccompanied Youth: There were no unaccompanied youth counted during the Point-in-Time counts for 2019.

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	0	34
Black or African American	356	291
Asian	5	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	8	2
Pacific Islander	7	0
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	303	25
Not Hispanic	1,203	312

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 2019 Point-In-Time data, 3 families with children (7 individuals) were in various states of homelessness in Blair County. It is estimated that of 2 parenting youth (age 18-24) households were homeless during 2019.

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 mental health issues and/or substance abuse disorders. Service providers indicate that they are serving more families than any other 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). Those who are unsheltered in the City of Altoona are generally living in a vehicle or abandoned building.

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. 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 27 than unsheltered at 6.

Discussion:

According to the 2019 Point-In-Time data for Blair County of the 27-total homeless, 0 (0.0%) were considered “Severely Mentally Ill,” 3 (11.1%) experienced “Chronic Substance Abuse,” 10 (37.0%) had a disability, and 3 (11.1%) were “Victims of Domestic Violence.”

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 substance abuse disorders
- 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 2013-2017 American Community Survey, elderly persons represent 20.2% of the City's total population. Approximately 4.4% of the elderly population are age 80 years and older. In addition, 13.6% 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 38.3% of the total elderly population are frail elderly.
- Persons with mental, physical, and development and disabilities, according to the ACS data for 2013-2017, comprise 18.9% 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" for 2018 reports by county the number of HIV/AIDS diagnosis. As of December 31, 2018, there were 84 persons living with HIV in Blair County. There was 1 reported HIV/AIDS diagnosis in Blair County in 2018.

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** – 20 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 84 persons living with HIV/AIDS diagnosis in Blair County with 1 new case in 2018. 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 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 its high level of public safety to its residents.
- 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 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 support increased access to mental health and drug and alcohol services.
- 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 2013-2017 American Community Survey Data, there are 20,813 housing units in the City of Altoona, of which 18,835 (90.5%) are occupied; this leaves a vacancy rate of 9.5% in the City. Most of the vacant units are located in the center of the City.

Based on the 2013-2017 American Community Survey Data, the City of Altoona's housing stock is considered older, since 48.4% of it was constructed prior to 1939, and 25.8% was constructed between 1940 and 1959. Therefore, over half of the City's housing stock (74.2%) 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 1.1% of their housing stock.

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

Introduction

According to the 2013-2017 ACS data, there are 20,813 total housing units. There are 18,835 occupied housing units (11,870 owner-occupied and 6,965 renter-occupied), which means there are 1,978 vacant housing units. The majority of the owner-occupied houses are 3 or more bedrooms (79.6% of all owner-occupied houses). The majority of renter-occupied households are studio (no bedroom), 1, 2, or 3 bedrooms (59.8%).

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	14,965	72%
1-unit, attached structure	960	5%
2-4 units	2,250	11%
5-19 units	1,320	6%
20 or more units	1,105	5%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	165	1%
Total	20,765	100%

Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	15	0%	410	6%
1 bedroom	250	2%	1,880	29%
2 bedrooms	2,185	18%	1,780	27%
3 or more bedrooms	9,760	80%	2,455	38%
Total	12,210	100%	6,525	100%

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2011-2015 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 27 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 11,870 owner-occupied housing units, 6,965 renter-occupied housing units, and approximately 1,978 vacant units; for a total of 20,813 housing units. There are 18,835 households in the City of Altoona. The population over the past ten years has steadily declined as has the total number of households. There is approximately a 2:1 ratio of owner occupied housing units to renter occupied units which limits the choice for affordable, decent, safe, and sound rental housing units.

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. Particularly, 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 and the styles of the aging housing stock create difficulties for making accommodations, such as ramps. The City is willing to cooperate with private developers and not for profit housing development agencies to construct new for sale 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 six years in the City of Altoona. In 2009, based on the 2005-2009 American Community Survey, the median home value was \$77,100 which has increased by 11% to \$85,400 in 2015 according to the 2011-2015 American Community Survey data. Median rent has also increased from \$396/month to \$445/month. 63.3% of all rental housing units were in the less than \$500 per month category.

According to Trulia.com, median sales price for a single-family home in Altoona, PA was \$112,500 according to data from September 2019. Homes spent approximately 142 days on the market during that time period.

According to the 2011-2015 American Community Survey, 4,405 renter housing units were affordable to persons who were 50% or less of Housing Affordability Median Family Income (HAMFI). For home owners, there were 1,895 housing units that were affordable to households with 50% or less HAMFI.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Median Home Value	77,100	85,400	11%
Median Contract Rent	396	445	12%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	4,130	63.3%
\$500-999	2,365	36.2%
\$1,000-1,499	30	0.5%
\$1,500-1,999	0	0.0%
\$2,000 or more	0	0.0%
Total	6,525	100.0%

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	1,045	No Data
50% HAMFI	3,360	1,895

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
80% HAMFI	5,295	4,615
100% HAMFI	No Data	6,120
Total	9,700	12,630

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	584	623	774	970	1,054
High HOME Rent	584	623	774	970	1,054
Low HOME Rent	570	610	732	846	945

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 = 2,790 or 15.0% of all households
- Black/African American households = 90 or 0.48% of all households
- American Indian, Alaska Native = 4 or 0.02% of households
- Hispanic households = 15 or 0.08% of all households

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

- White households = 2,245 or 12.1% of households
- Black/African American households = 70 or 0.38% of households
- Hispanic households = 15 or 0.08% of households

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

Between 2009 and 2015 the median home value increased by 8% and the median contract rent increased by 12%. However, during that same time period, the median income only increased by 8%

and has not kept up with inflation. 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 Rent Jungle (www.rentjungle.com), it is estimated that the average rent for an apartment is \$595 which is an 8.2% increase from last year when the rent was an average of \$546. There was a limited amount of data by bedroom size on Rent Jungle and other similar websites such as Rent-O-Meter (www.rentometer.com). Other sources such as Trulia and Zillow show the median rent as \$745 over the past 12 months but do not offer information on the average rent or by bedroom size. Listings on websites and classifieds advertise rental rates in the low \$500's to a high of approximately \$1,200 for various types of housing and number of bedrooms. The drastically differing sources of data make it difficult to determine if rental rates are below, on par, or above fair market rents which can impact the overall affordability of housing for the City's residents and create drastic differences in the quality and upkeep of available and desirable housing.

Discussion

While housing may appear affordable in the City of Altoona the sources of rental rates differ drastically. Several City residents negotiate rents on a verbal contract putting them at risk of rent hikes or evictions. The biggest housing need is for decent, safe, and accessible housing in the City.

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 2,135 (19%) owner-occupied housing units with conditions out of 12,210 owner-occupied housing units.
- There are 3,010 (46%) renter-occupied housing units with conditions out of 6,520 renter-occupied housing units.
- There are 8,110 (66%) of all owner-occupied housing units built before 1950 out of 12,209 owner-occupied housing units.
- There are 3,025 (46%) of all renter-occupied housing units built before 1950 out of 6,533 renter-occupied housing units.
- There is a risk of lead-based paint hazard in 11,480 (94%) of all owner-occupied housing units.
- There is a risk of lead-based paint hazard in 5,675 (87%) of all renter-occupied housing units.

Definitions

The following definitions are used in the table below:

- **"Standard Condition"** - The condition of a housing unit that is in compliance with the local codes and ordinances and which does not need any rehabilitation work or maintenance work.
- **"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	2,315	19%	3,010	46%
With two selected Conditions	60	0%	160	2%
With three selected Conditions	10	0%	10	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
No selected Conditions	9,825	80%	3,340	51%
Total	12,210	99%	6,520	99%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	114	1%	108	2%
1980-1999	615	5%	750	11%
1950-1979	3,370	28%	2,650	41%
Before 1950	8,110	66%	3,025	46%
Total	12,209	100%	6,533	100%

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2011-2015 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	11,480	94%	5,675	87%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	244	2%	105	2%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Total Units) 2011-2015 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 75.1% 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, seniors, and/or people with disabilities, who often have limited financial resources, is a need that must 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 11,480 (94%) owner-occupied and 5,675 (87%) 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 7 homes in foreclosure in January 2020, which is a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 7,177 housing units. Blair County experienced a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 5,005 housing units, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania had a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 2,188 housing units. The number of foreclosures for the City of Altoona was at its highest in October 2019 with six (6) foreclosures.

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

Introduction

The Altoona Housing Authority owns and operates three (3) public housing communities with a total of 536 housing units in the public housing communities.

In addition, the Housing Authority administers 974 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 February of 2020.

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)

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:

The Authority administers 536 public housing apartments, 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. Due to the age of the public housing units, regular maintenance is required to improve dwellings.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Fairview Hills	96
Green Avenue Tower	96
Eleventh Street Tower	96

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 public housing units and publicly assisted housing units in the following public housing communities:

- **Fairview Hills** – 150 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 for tenants with disabilities.

In addition, the Housing Authority's FY 2020-2024 Five-Year Plan for the Capital Fund Grant Program indicated the following as needed capital improvements in the public housing developments: landscaping, countertops, concrete/sidewalk repairs, replacement and refinishing of tubs, roof drain stack replacements, window replacements, toilet replacements, black top repair, siding replacement, playground upgrades, dumpsters, replacement of hot water heaters, line stripping, installation and upgrading of security cameras, appliance replacement, roof replacement, asbestos abatement, outside lighting, and storm door replacement.

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

- Continue to reduce public housing vacancies through collaboration efforts between Management and Maintenance to reach 98% occupancy.
- Increase level of landlord participation in the Section 8 Voucher Program through landlord educational workshops and recruitment efforts.
- Continue to lease up Section 8 Vouchers for those applicants needing assistance through the Voucher Program based upon funding.
- Maintain PHAS score with High-Performer status.
- Maintain SEMAP score with High-Performer status.
- Continuation of customer service training for staff and conduct resident customer satisfaction surveys to determine areas for improvement.

- Continuation of work with the City of Altoona on Code Enforcement, Fair Housing, workshops and work on expansion of home-ownership programs working with the City of Altoona Planning and Community Development Office.
- Renovate and modernize public housing units through Capital Fund modernization.
- Dispose of scattered site public housing properties and utilize proceeds of sale of scattered sites to expand the Authority's Home Buyer program and upgrades at our Fairview Hills Development. Received approval from the Special Applications Center (SAC) for removal of 20 units (10 properties) from public housing. Utilize said funding to expand home ownership program. Properties are currently being sold. These include: 114 Lexington Avenue; 504 Crawford Avenue; 705 6th Avenue; 820 6th Avenue; 1407 1st Street; 1501 15th Street; 1904 6th Avenue; 2021 811 Avenue; 2114 7th Avenue; and 2514 West Chestnut Avenue (Vacant Lot)
- Continuing to work with Blair County Housing Authority in housing VASH participants within the City of Altoona limits.
- Continue to update and monitor Authority's Physical Needs Assessment (PNA)
- Continuation of educational community workshops with surrounding agencies to meet the needs of our clients with housing assistance.
- Continuation of security services to keep safety of our residents a top priority.
- Install additional security cameras and conduct staff training on safety protocols.
- Continue to hold resident and staff training on our Emergency Procedures
- Continue to provide a Head Start/ Day Care Facility on site at our public housing family development for the residents needing day care services.
- Continuation of health awareness programs for the residents.
- Recruit residents to become active in Resident Organizations in their development.
- Continuation of education for residents and staff on Fair Housing regulations.
- Update Maintenance and Prevention Maintenance Plans in 2019.
- Continuation of promoting self-sufficiency through the ROSS-Family Self Sufficiency Coordination Program.
- Continuation of partnership with the Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation to provide an After-School Enrichment Program at our public housing family development.
- Undertake affirmative measure to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, and disability.
- Continuation of marketing the rental units through the Authority with advertisements and open houses.
- To effectively manage and continuation of upgrades for ADA compliance deficiencies.
- Continue to promote a healthy living environment for the residents residing in public housing.
- Continue to monitor Section 8 funding to house as many participants as possible within our funding level.
- Continue to upgrade Section 8 Vouchers and Public Housing policies on regulatory changes.
- Continuation of staff training on regulatory changes to maintain compliance requirements.
- Continuation of internal staff cross training for employees.

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.

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)	7	0	21	0	0
Households with Only Adults	7	0	50	0	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	0	50	0	0
Unaccompanied Youth	9	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, and SNAP, 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.

Additionally, the Eastern Pennsylvania CoC has undertaken the following projects in Blair County in 2019:

- Blair County Community Action – Rapid Rehousing

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, peer-to-peer support, legal assistance, education and job training, financial counseling, and access to victims counseling.

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

The City of Altoona will assist in coordination 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 support services needed for a smooth transition back into society.

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 works with healthcare providers 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 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.

There are no programs which target persons coming out of mental or physical health institutions. However, there is a strong network of agencies and service 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 2020, the City will support the efforts of agencies that serve the special needs populations in Altoona. The City will provide assistance to Catholic Charities for their Emergency Financial Assistance Program to provide emergency rent assistance to low-and moderate-income renters to help prevent homelessness.

For entitlement/consortia grantees: 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. (91.220(2))

Not Applicable.

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

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

In its previous Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice the City of Altoona identified and implemented 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" 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

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	98	2	1	0	-1
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	1,856	1,779	12	12	0
Construction	868	979	6	6	0
Education and Health Care Services	3,790	4,728	25	31	6
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	668	663	4	4	0
Information	265	436	2	3	1
Manufacturing	1,763	1,079	11	7	-4
Other Services	749	886	5	6	1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	1,068	1,452	7	9	2
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	2,642	2,261	17	15	-2
Transportation and Warehousing	870	350	6	2	-4
Wholesale Trade	748	689	5	5	0
Total	15,385	15,304	--	--	--

Table 40 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Workers), 2015 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	21,695
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	19,860
Unemployment Rate	8.45
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	19.92
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.43

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	2,960
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	855
Service	2,605
Sales and office	5,320
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,595
Production, transportation and material moving	1,065

Table 42 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	16,545	87%
30-59 Minutes	1,945	10%
60 or More Minutes	575	3%
Total	19,065	100%

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2011-2015 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	830	145	1,155

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	6,965	680	3,245
Some college or Associate's degree	4,435	390	1,260
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,810	70	590

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	29	30	29	190	425
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	375	645	440	800	830
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	2,105	2,365	2,450	6,080	4,255
Some college, no degree	1,250	980	1,055	1,855	790
Associate's degree	250	495	700	1,005	265
Bachelor's degree	260	1,000	785	1,390	530
Graduate or professional degree	24	325	345	625	305

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	14,086
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	23,125
Some college or Associate's degree	29,694
Bachelor's degree	40,788
Graduate or professional degree	44,330

Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2011-2015 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** – 4,728 jobs
- **Retail Trade** – 2,261 jobs
- **Arts, Entertainment & Accommodations** – 1,779 jobs
- **Total = 8,768 jobs**

These three categories represent 57.2% of the total number of jobs in the City.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor 2nd quarter report for 2019 the top ten employers for Blair County are:

- UPMC – Altoona Health System
- Sheetz, Inc.
- State Government
- Federal Government
- Altoona Area School District
- Wal-Mart Associates Inc
- Sheetz Distribution Services
- DelGrosso's Amusement Park
- Blair County
- Blair Medical Associates Inc.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

According to the 2011-2015 American Community Survey data, the City of Altoona has an unemployment rate of 8.5% which is higher than the unemployment rate of Pennsylvania (7.9%). In Altoona, there are 15,304 available jobs and 15,385 workers.

Some companies, such as the Norfolk Southern Railroad and Sheetz, are major employers in the area whereas other major employers such, as retailers, are being lost. Roundtable discussions indicated there is a shortage in qualified and trained employees to fill necessary positions. Roundtable discussion and resident survey data also indicated the need for job training and skills programs to help build technical expertise and fill the gaps in employment available. Non-profits and service agencies are working together to help partner in job training opportunities.

Altoona and Blair County Economic Development Corporation (ABCD) work as catalysts for business expansion in Blair County, and Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAPDC)

serves several Counties, including Blair, to encourage the creation and retention of jobs and improve overall quality of life. Representatives from these agencies indicated a lack of access to capital and land as a barrier for attracting new businesses and jobs to the City. Previous programs that assisted businesses and development initiatives ended due to the complexity of the program.

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 2011-2015, there are 21,695 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 (4,728 persons) and the Retail Category (2,261 persons). This corresponds to the attained educational levels of 17,255 persons who are a high school graduate (or equivalency) and 5,589 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 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.

- 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.

Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

Yes

If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy addresses the objective of supporting entrepreneurial initiatives designed to attract businesses, industries, and professionals to downtown areas. One of these strategies mentions attracting young entrepreneurs engaged in the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) research and development. Potential partners for these initiatives would include entities such as the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and Penn State University as well as other private lenders, and economic development organizations.

Current partners that address issues of economic development include the Altoona-Blair County Economic Development Corporation. The agency is “a private non-profit corporation working as a catalyst for business expansion in Blair County, Pennsylvania through regional partnerships along the I-

99 Innovation Corridor.” The Altoona-Blair County Economic Development Corporation provides financial, entrepreneurship and business development, workforce development, and expansion and retention services to businesses in the region.

The City of Altoona also works closely with Penn State University and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), on workforce development and expansion, since both have locations in Altoona and are major employers in the region.

Discussion

As of the end of December 2015, the City's unemployment rate was 8.5% while the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was 7.9% for the same period. The need for new business growth and job opportunities and to retain existing businesses and jobs remains a prime concern in Altoona.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

Households with multiple housing problems are located throughout the City of Altoona. Cost burden in the CHAS data is only available for low- and moderate-income families. Using other data sources, it is evident that cost burden is located everywhere in the City of Altoona. The CHAS data however does reveal information regarding housing problems for specific minority groups and areas of minority concentration are already defined and mapped in this report.

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, (6.4%).

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

These areas have the oldest housing stock in the City of Altoona. It is the most affordable place in the City of Altoona to rent, own or become a landlord.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Since housing problems exist throughout the City of Altoona, all of the services and community assets exist in these areas. This area contains the City Hall, fire and police stations, schools, churches, etc. The City of Altoona collaborates with service providers to continue to deliver services to low- and moderate-income households throughout the City, especially those households with housing problems.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

The City of Altoona offers a robust rental and homeowner housing rehabilitation program. This program offers low- and moderate-income households an opportunity to address housing problems associated with the housing unit. However, this program does not address cost overburdened issues.

MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)

Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

In 2018 the Federal Communications Commission estimated that 1 million Pennsylvanians lack broadband internet access in their homes, 520,000 living in rural areas. Meaning 480,000 are living in urban areas like Altoona. The Governor's Office of Broadband Initiatives created the "Restore Pennsylvania" plan to address critical infrastructure needs across Pennsylvania. The lack of broadband access is prominent in Rural areas of Pennsylvania but for low- and moderate-income households across the state, including Altoona, the cost of internet access is a burden.

The Restore Pennsylvania Plan has identified the following goals for expanding broadband:

- Bridge the digital divide in every community across the commonwealth, ensuring that every Pennsylvanian has access to high speed, reliable, and affordable internet service.
- Encourage and support the expansion of at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload (the federal definition of broadband) to unserved and underserved regions.

Access to broadband services increases opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons by connecting them with, housing opportunities (classifieds), educational resources, and job opportunities.

Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

Having multiple service providers in an area stimulates innovation as companies compete with each other to have the optimal product for end users. The growth of these companies would also stimulate local economies as job opportunities become available to deploy and expand broadband infrastructure, and to install, improve, and/or expand broadband systems.

MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

In 2006 the Blair County Department of Emergency Service hired the engineering consulting firm, URS Corporation to complete the Blair County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Altoona was identified as being at great risk of flooding, flash flooding, and severe weather such as winter storms, windstorms, and tornadoes.

Climate change intensifies these weather events putting the community at risk of severe loss, damages, and infrastructure failures and the consequences are worse for communities located downstream from major dams.

The topography of the area (steep slopes, paved surfaces) contribute to the location and severity of floods. Since Altoona is an urbanized area there is less vegetation than asphalt or concrete which contribute to increased flooding. Additionally, the aging sanitary and storm sewers become overloaded with storm water causing flooding and pollution issues.

Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.

Low-income households are also more likely to live in areas with greater exposure to natural hazards and less likely to live and work in structures that are resilient to these natural hazards. Immediately following disasters, FEMA aid is more oriented towards homeowners than to renters, and the increased demand for rental properties drives up the cost of rent.

Climate change will also have adverse effects on health by increasing the intensity and frequency of natural disasters that indirectly cause health problems, especially among low-income individuals who are already more likely to have chronic health conditions and greater exposure to harmful pollution.

The Hazard Vulnerability Assessment estimates a total of \$141 million in losses from a 100-year flood in 2006; based on inflation this cost would now be \$178.81 million.

Between 1998 and 2007 the City of Altoona purchased 22 properties to demolish and remain as open space (deed restricted) in order to prevent future disasters in those areas. The City will need to regularly identify areas of risk to mitigate future disasters.

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

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 44.95%. 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 2020-2024 Five Year 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
- Consultation with City staff and officials
- Interviews and meetings with community 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 Five Year 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

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

Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	Area Name:	CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Other
	Other Revital Description:	NEIGHBORHOOD
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	
2	Area Name:	Citywide
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	

	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	
3	Area Name:	Garfield Area
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Housing
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	
4	Area Name:	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA
	Area Type:	Strategy area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	2/13/2001
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	

Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
Identify the needs in this target area.	
What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	

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 2020-2024 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.

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

Priority Needs

Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Housing Strategy
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	Geographic Areas Affected	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide
	Associated Goals	HSS-1 Housing Construction HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation HSS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance
	Description	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 homeowners, renters, and home buyers.
	Basis for Relative Priority	29.2% of all households are cost overburdened by 30% or more. The housing stock is older and is not all accessible.
	2	Priority Need Name
Priority Level		Low

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide
	Associated Goals	HMS-1 Housing HMS-2 Operation/Support HMS-3 Prevention and Re-Housing
	Description	There is a need for housing opportunities and services for homeless persons and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.
	Basis for Relative Priority	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
3	Priority Need Name	Other Special Needs Strategy
	Priority Level	Low

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle 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
	Geographic Areas Affected	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide
	Associated Goals	SNS-1 Housing SNS-2 Social Services
	Description	There is a need for housing opportunities, services, and facilities for persons with special needs.
	Basis for Relative Priority	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
4	Priority Need Name	Community Development Strategy
	Priority Level	High

<p>Population</p>	<p>Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth 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 Non-housing Community Development</p>
<p>Geographic Areas Affected</p>	<p>NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide</p>
<p>Associated Goals</p>	<p>CDS-1 Community Facilities CDS-2 Infrastructure CDS-3 Public Services CDS-4 Clearance/Demolition CDS-5 Accessibility Improvements CDS-6 Transportation</p>
<p>Description</p>	<p>There is a need to improve the community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life in the City of Altoona.</p>

	Basis for Relative Priority	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
5	Priority Need Name	Economic Development Strategy
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents 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 Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide
	Associated Goals	EDS-1 Employment EDS-2 Development EDS-3 Redevelopment EDS-4 Financial Assistance EDS-5 Access to Transportation
	Description	There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, educational training, and empowerment for residents of the City of Altoona.
	Basis for Relative Priority	This priority was determined through consultations with social service agencies, residents, and City staff.
6	Priority Need Name	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Priority Level	High

Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth 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 Non-housing Community Development
Geographic Areas Affected	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide
Associated Goals	AMS-1 Overall Coordination AMS-2 Fair Housing
Description	There is a continuing need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of federal, state, and local funded programs.
Basis for Relative Priority	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.

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 has four (4) national historic districts. 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 \$1,643,245 from CDBG funds and \$353,129 from HOME funds for the FY 2020 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024. The Municipality projects the following anticipated resources:

- **FY 2020** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **FY 2021** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **FY 2022** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **FY 2023** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **FY 2024** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **Total** = \$8,21,225 CDBG + \$1,765,645 HOME

The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,643,245	124,000	0	1,767,245	7,068,980	The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	353,129	0	0	353,129	1,412,516	HOME is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. HOME funds are awarded annually as formula grants to participating jurisdictions.

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 Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) administers several programs related to affordable housing. The Housing and Community Development (HCD) Program provides loans and grants for acquisition and development of housing for low- and moderate-income persons.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources funds have been and will continue to be used to leverage CDBG funds for streetscape and tree planting projects.

PRIVATE RESOURCES

Private investment, in the form of cash equity, private mortgage and other financing that may be available for housing. These resources can take many forms and may even be raised through obtaining either Low-Income Housing Tax Credits or Historic Tax Credits. Qualifying all of the activities of the private market far exceed the scope of the Consolidated Plan.

LOCAL RESOURCES

Operation "Our Town" a local philanthropy often contributes funds to the Altoona Law Enforcement Community to assist in dealing with the illegal drug trade issues. City capital planning and general funds are used to leverage Federal funds for various public works projects, including street paving, streetscaping, code/zoning enforcement, planning and policing. Approximately \$20,000 per year is budgeted for the Shade Tree Commission, which plants and maintains trees that compliment CDBG funded streetscaping 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

The City provides an ongoing 50% matching funds through its HOME program for private landlords to upgrade or rehabilitate housing units that are rented to low income families and individuals.

Discussion

The City of Altoona will continue to use a variety of funds to address and accomplish the goals established in this Five Year Consolidated Plan.

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

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

Community development, housing, and human service needs are provided by a wide variety of agencies and organizations. The City takes the lead in administering the program through its Planning & Community Development Department. The City surveys the human service agencies and public and private housing providers and other nonprofit organizations to determine the unmet needs of clients eligible for CDBG, HOME and the State’s Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) ESG program. Project applications for unmet needs are invited from these agencies. These agencies are encouraged to identify service gaps and recommend methods for filling those gaps. The consolidated plan is implemented through the human service agencies in Blair County, the Altoona Housing Authority, the Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation, the Altoona Redevelopment Authority, the Altoona Department of Public Works, and Improved Dwellings for Altoona (CHDO). This is a large portion of our regional cooperation efforts.

Other participating agencies include Altoona Blair County Development Corporation, Altoona Center for Nursing Care, Altoona Housing Authority, Altoona School District, AMTRAN, Blair County Community, Action Agency, Blair County Drug and Alcohol Services, Blair County Senior Services, Catholic Charities, Center for Independent Living of South Central PA, Family Services, Inc., Improved Dwellings of Altoona, NAACP, The Nehemiah Project, Twenty-Eighth Street church of the Brethren, UPMC-Altoona, and UPMC-Behavioral Health.

Additionally, there are other federal, state, county, and regional governmental efforts to meet these needs independent of Altoona’s program. Efforts are made to eliminate duplication and contradiction of efforts and to coordinate and/or enhance these services and projects to maximize the impact on the community.

The City of Altoona contracts with the agencies most experienced and capable of meeting the identified needs in the delivery system. Duplication of efforts and programs is avoided.

Altoona City Council appoints the members to the Altoona Housing Authority Board. The Housing Authority Board provides an annual report to City Council on its activities including its capital improvements and proposed development initiatives. There is an informative and cooperative relationship between the City of Altoona, its departments, and the Altoona public housing authority.

The major strength in the delivery system rests in the fact that the human service agencies, housing agencies, and the City of Altoona operate in a small geographic, demographic, and socioeconomic environment. As a direct result of this, routine communication and coordination are relatively easy.

The Planning and Community Development Department is aware of a few minor gaps in delivery of services in Altoona. These gaps are not related to institutional capabilities, but rather in insufficient funding of the services. The staff and agencies are aware of these areas and are working with providers and agencies to develop appropriate solutions.

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
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	
Legal Assistance	X		
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X		
Utilities Assistance	X		
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X		
Mobile Clinics			
Other Street Outreach Services			
Supportive Services			
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	
Other			

Table 52 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)

Special supportive housing needs have been identified by local focus groups and resident surveys. These include mental health treatment centers and transitional/supportive housing for people with mental health needs and substance use disorders.

The City does not intend to use HOME Funds or any other tenant based rental assistance to assist the above mentioned sub-populations.

To summarize, services for homeless populations and special need non-homeless population categories overlap. By meeting/networking locally and participating in the regional Continuum of Care network (for planning, administration, and monitoring), the Blair County human service agencies work together in both a locally coordinated and regionally coordinated manner. Referrals are made to help both the homeless and special needs populations, and their needs are anticipated and planned for.

The homeless issue recognizes no municipal boundaries and the role of the City of Altoona is limited to enhancing the existing services provided for the homeless by existing County wide human service agencies. Both CDBG and ESG funds are used to address the homelessness issues.

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 and service providers in Altoona and 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 as needed basis for 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 in which services are limited because of reductions in funding; public transportation where bus routes and times of operation are limited, especially on weekends, and in shelter beds which cannot keep up with the demand; there is a current shortage of shelter beds in the community especially for homeless families with children.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs

The Planning and Community Development Department is aware of a few minor gaps in delivery of services in Altoona. These gaps are not related to institutional capabilities, but rather in insufficient funding of the services. The staff and agencies are aware of these areas and are working with providers and agencies to develop appropriate solutions.

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	HSS-1 Housing Construction	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Housing Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Rental units constructed: 0 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 0 Household Housing Unit
2	HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Housing Strategy	CDBG: \$2,437,700 HOME: \$1,589,080	Rental units rehabilitated: 91 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 50 Household Housing Unit
3	HSS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Housing Strategy	CDBG: \$50,000 HOME: \$0	Homelessness Prevention: 100 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	HMS-1 Housing	2020	2024	Homeless	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Homeless Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 0 Persons Assisted Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added: 0 Beds Homelessness Prevention: 0 Persons Assisted Housing for Homeless added: 0 Household Housing Unit Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added: 0 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	HMS-2 Operation/Support	2020	2024	Homeless	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Homeless Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 0 Persons Assisted Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added: 0 Beds
6	HMS-3 Prevention and Re-Housing	2020	2024	Homeless	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Homeless Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 0 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 0 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	SNS-1 Housing	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Other Special Needs Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted Rental units constructed: 0 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 0 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 0 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 0 Household Housing Unit
8	SNS-2 Social Services	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Other Special Needs Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	CDS-1 Community Facilities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$835,215 HOME: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10835 Persons Assisted
10	CDS-2 Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$2,930,405 HOME: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4713 Persons Assisted
11	CDS-3 Public Services	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
12	CDS-4 Clearance/Demolition	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$821,555 HOME: \$0	Buildings Demolished: 50 Buildings

13	CDS-5 Accessibility Improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	<p>Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted</p> <p>Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted</p> <p>Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted</p> <p>Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted</p> <p>Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 0 Business</p> <p>Rental units rehabilitated: 0 Household Housing Unit</p>
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Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
								Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 0 Household Housing Unit Other: 0 Other
14	CDS-6 Transportation	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Other: 0 Other
15	EDS-1 Employment	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Economic Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Jobs created/retained: 0 Jobs Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted Other: 0 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
16	EDS-2 Development	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Economic Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 0 Business Jobs created/retained: 0 Jobs Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted Other: 0 Other
17	EDS-3 Redevelopment	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Economic Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 0 Business Brownfield acres remediated: 0 Acre Other: 0 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
18	EDS-4 Financial Assistance	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Economic Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted Other: 0 Other
19	EDS-5 Access to Transportation	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Economic Development Strategy	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Other: 0 Other
20	AMS-1 Overall Coordination	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy	CDBG: \$1,636,350 HOME: \$176,565	Other: 10 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
21	AMS-2 Fair Housing	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA Garfield Area Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy	CDBG: \$125,000 HOME: \$0	Other: 5 Other

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	HSS-1 Housing Construction
	Goal Description	Encourage the development of new housing by private developers and non-profits that is affordable, decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary.
2	Goal Name	HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the community by addressing code violations, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility for persons with disabilities.
3	Goal Name	HSS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance
	Goal Description	Provide short term rental assistance or security deposit assistance for low- and moderate-income renters.

4	Goal Name	HMS-1 Housing
	Goal Description	Support the Continuum of Care's efforts to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing opportunities.
5	Goal Name	HMS-2 Operation/Support
	Goal Description	Support providers who operate housing and/or provide support services for the homeless and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless.
6	Goal Name	HMS-3 Prevention and Re-Housing
	Goal Description	Support the Continuum of Care's efforts in prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.
7	Goal Name	SNS-1 Housing
	Goal Description	Increase the supply of affordable, accessible, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing buildings and new construction.
8	Goal Name	SNS-2 Social Services
	Goal Description	Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.
9	Goal Name	CDS-1 Community Facilities
	Goal Description	Improve parks, recreational facilities, neighborhood facilities, and trails including accessibility improvements to public buildings and all community facilities in the City.
10	Goal Name	CDS-2 Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of streets; sidewalks; bridges, curbs; walkways; water; storm water management; sanitary sewers; lighting; handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers; etc.

11	Goal Name	CDS-3 Public Services
	Goal Description	Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, along with general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons and households.
12	Goal Name	CDS-4 Clearance/Demolition
	Goal Description	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures.
13	Goal Name	CDS-5 Accessibility Improvements
	Goal Description	Improve handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers to public and community facilities.
14	Goal Name	CDS-6 Transportation
	Goal Description	Support the expansion of transportation options for low- and moderate-income residents, the disabled and elderly to access services, shopping and employment.
15	Goal Name	EDS-1 Employment
	Goal Description	Support and encourage job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities.
16	Goal Name	EDS-2 Development
	Goal Description	Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development.
17	Goal Name	EDS-3 Redevelopment
	Goal Description	Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of vacant and underutilized commercial and industrial sites.

18	Goal Name	EDS-4 Financial Assistance
	Goal Description	Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), tax abatements (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, etc.
19	Goal Name	EDS-5 Access to Transportation
	Goal Description	Support the expansion of public transportation and access to bus and automobile service and facilities serving alternate modes of transportation to assist residents to get to work or training opportunities.
20	Goal Name	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
21	Goal Name	AMS-2 Fair Housing
	Goal Description	Promote fair housing choice through education, training and outreach to affirmatively furthering fair housing.

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)

It is estimated that the City of Altoona will assist:

- **Extremely low-income** – 25 households
- **Low-income** – 86 households
- **Moderate-income** – 130 households

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 there are 50 applicants on the waitlist for housing that specifically serves the elderly, and people with disabilities, in addition to the 186 applicants on waiting lists for public housing. 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 Housing Authority offers several programs to increase resident involvement such as resident groups, community workshops, and educational and training opportunities.

Residents are asked to completed resident satisfaction surveys to help the Housing Authority identify needs in the public housing communities, the PHA offers several workshops to educate residents on Fair Housing laws, and the PHA continues to operate activities such as the Police Stop and Talk Program, after school and day care activities, and offers amenities such as parks and public spaces to hold community events.

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

No

Plan to remove the ‘troubled’ designation

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

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

Barriers to Affordable Housing

In its previous Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice the City of Altoona identified and implemented 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" 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

There is a continuing need to educate residents of the community concerning their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act and to raise awareness that all residents of the City of Altoona have a right under Federal Law to fair housing choice.

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 partnerships, 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 and to make reasonable accommodations.
- **1-C:** Continue to affirmatively further fair housing and continue working with Southwestern PA Legal Services to provide fair housing services.

Impediment 2: Continuing Need for Affordable Housing

The median value and cost to purchase and maintain a single-family home in Altoona that is decent, safe, and sound is \$87,600, which limits the choice of housing for lower income households. About 24.1% of homeowners and 65.7% of renters in the City are cost overburdened by more than 30% of their household income.

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 and renter 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 homeowners.
- **2-D:** Continue to promote the rental rehabilitation program through outreach to landlords and partnership with the CHDO.

SP-55 Remove Barriers cont.

Impediment 3: Continuing Need for Accessible Housing Units

As an older built-up urban environment with a varied terrain, there is a lack of accessible housing units and developable sites in the City of Altoona, since 74.2% of the City's housing units were built over 50 years ago and do not have accessibility features, and 18.9% of the City's population is classified as disabled.

Goal: Increase the number of accessible housing units through new construction and rehabilitation of existing housing units for people with disabilities and those who are 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 available accessible housing through the rehabilitation of the existing owner-occupied housing stock by making accessibility improvements.

- **3-B:** Encourage private and non-profit development of accessible housing through new construction of 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 with disabilities.
- **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: Economic Issues Affecting Housing Choice

The City of Altoona is experiencing a slow but steady decline in population, and companies are unable to fill employment positions due to low pay and an underqualified work force. There is a gap in the type of employment available and the employability of the City’s working age population. This prevents low-income households from improving their income and ability to live outside areas with concentrations of low-income households, thus creating a fair housing concern.

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:

- **4-A:** Support and enhance workforce development and technical skills training that result in more opportunities to earn a “livable” wage and increases job opportunities.
- **4-B:** 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.
- **4-C:** Support programming that enhances entrepreneurship and small business development, expansion, and retention within low- and moderate-income areas and minority neighborhoods.
- **4-D:** Promote and encourage economic development with local commercial and industrial firms to expand their operations and increase employment opportunities.
- **4-E:** Explore opportunities for improving public transportation through expansion of existing routes and times, or partnerships with third parties to allow residents to access new employment opportunities.

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. Services are provided to both sheltered and unsheltered persons. 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. 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.

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 ESG funds to provide Homeless Prevention Services to families from becoming homeless.

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 to implement lead-based paint best practices in its housing programs.

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. Independent consultations with the Altoona office of the Pennsylvania Department of Health confirm that many cases are found each year in the City of Altoona. 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, 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 typical cost of this program is \$6,000 to \$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 2011-2015 American Community Survey Data, approximately 22.1% of the City of Altoona's residents live in poverty while only 13.5% of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania residents live in poverty. Female-headed households with children are particularly affected by poverty at 58.3%. The City's goal is to reduce the extent of poverty by 5%, based on actions the City can control and through working 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:

- **EDS-1 Employment** – Support and encourage job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities.
- **EDS-2 Development** – Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development.
- **EDS-3 Redevelopment** – Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of vacant and underutilized commercial and industrial sites.
- **EDS-4 Financial Assistance** – Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), tax abatements (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, etc.
- **EDS-5 Access to Transportation** – Support the expansion of public transportation and access to bus and automobile service and facilities serving alternate modes of transportation to assist residents to get to work or training opportunities.

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

Increasing the supply of and providing access to affordable housing is integrally tied to the City's anti-poverty strategy. The most successful way to implement this is through job training and 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 also checks the expenditure rates at these monthly meetings. If any problems are identified a plan of action is formulated to correct any matters requiring 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 Planning and Community Development 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 staff is able to ascertain whether the funds requested are for legitimate purposes. CDBG subrecipients are also required to submit quarterly reports.

In addition to the above review, staff conducts annual risk assessment evaluations on all CDBG 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 intensive supervision. These subrecipients are informed in writing before the visit takes place informing them of the areas that will be under 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. Financial management, audit submissions, Section 504 compliance, ADA compliance, and Fair Housing Regulations is also reviewed.

The City of Altoona also undergoes an annual audit to ensure compliance with Federal and State regulations, local practices, as well as established accounting practices. Issues discovered in the audit are presented to the Planning and Community Development 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 \$1,643,245 from CDBG funds and \$353,129 from HOME funds for the FY 2020 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024. The Municipality projects the following anticipated resources:

- **FY 2020** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **FY 2021** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **FY 2022** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **FY 2023** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **FY 2024** = \$1,643,245 CDBG + \$353,129 HOME
- **Total** = **\$8,21,225 CDBG + \$1,765,645 HOME**

The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report

(CAPER).

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,643,245	124,000	0	1,767,245	7,068,980	The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	353,129	0	0	353,129	1,412,516	HOME is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. HOME funds are awarded annually as formula grants to participating jurisdictions.

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 Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) administers several programs related to affordable housing. The Housing and Community Development (HCD) Program provides loans and grants for acquisition and development of housing for low- and moderate-income persons.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources funds have been and will continue to be used to leverage CDBG funds for streetscape and tree planting projects.

PRIVATE RESOURCES

Private investment, in the form of cash equity, private mortgage and other financing that may be available for housing. These resources can take many forms and may even be raised through obtaining either Low-Income Housing Tax Credits or Historic Tax Credits. Qualifying all of the activities of the private market far exceed the scope of the Consolidated Plan.

LOCAL RESOURCES

Operation “Our Town” a local philanthropy often contributes funds to the Altoona Law Enforcement Community to assist in dealing with the illegal drug trade issues. City capital planning and general funds are used to leverage Federal funds for various public works projects, including street paving, streetscaping, code/zoning enforcement, planning and policing. Approximately \$20,000 per year is budgeted for the Shade Tree Commission, which plants and maintains trees that compliment CDBG funded streetscaping 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

The City provides an ongoing 50% matching funds through its HOME program for private landlords to upgrade or rehabilitate housing units that are rented to low income families and individuals.

Discussion

The City of Altoona will continue to use a variety of funds to address and accomplish the goals established in this Five Year Consolidated Plan.

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	HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Strategy	CDBG: \$487,540 HOME: \$317,816	Rental units rehabilitated: 19 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit
2	HSS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Strategy	CDBG: \$10,000	Homelessness Prevention: 20 Persons Assisted
3	CDS-1 Community Facilities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$167,043	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10835 Persons Assisted
4	CDS-2 Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$586,081	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4713 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	CDS-4 Clearance/Demolition	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Strategy	CDBG: \$164,311	Buildings Demolished: 10 Buildings
6	AMS-1 Overall Coordination	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy	CDBG: \$327,270 HOME: \$35,313	Other: 2 Other
7	AMS-2 Fair Housing	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy	CDBG: \$25,000	Other: 1 Other

Table 55 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the community by addressing code violations, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility for persons with disabilities.
2	Goal Name	HSS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance
	Goal Description	Provide short term rental assistance or security deposit assistance for low- and moderate-income renters.
3	Goal Name	CDS-1 Community Facilities
	Goal Description	Improve parks, recreational facilities, neighborhood facilities, and trails including accessibility improvements to public buildings and all community facilities in the City.

4	Goal Name	CDS-2 Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of streets; sidewalks; bridges, curbs; walkways; water; storm water management; sanitary sewers; lighting; handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers; etc.
5	Goal Name	CDS-4 Clearance/Demolition
	Goal Description	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures.
6	Goal Name	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
7	Goal Name	AMS-2 Fair Housing
	Goal Description	Promote fair housing choice through education, training and outreach to affirmatively furthering fair housing.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Altoona proposes to undertake the following activities with the FY 2020 CDBG and HOME funds:

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Planning and Community Development Administration
2	Fair Housing
3	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation
4	Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program
5	Altoona Housing Authority - Fairview Hills Playgrounds Revitalization
6	6th Avenue Playground Installation Phase II
7	2020 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project
8	Washington Avenue Storm Drainage Installation
9	Blighted Property Program
10	HOME Program Administration
11	HOME Rental Rehabilitation
12	IDA-CDC - Union Avenue Apartments

Table 56 – Project Information

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

The allocations and priorities were established by an online survey, stakeholder meetings, follow-up surveys from service providers, and public meetings. Obstacles to addressing underserved needs include finding more federal funding resources to accomplish activities and having local resources to pair with them to make successful projects.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Planning and Community Development Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$327,270
	Description	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. Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight and management of Federal, State, and local funded programs and activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	This activity will take place at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is: Administration. The HUD Matrix Code is: 21A General Program Administration 570.206.
2	Project Name	Fair Housing
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AMS-2 Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight and management of federal, state, and local funded program and activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not Applicable.

	Location Description	This activity will take place at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is: Administration. The HUD Matrix Code is: 21A General Program Administration 570.206.
3	Project Name	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$487,540
	Description	Rehabilitation loans to low-and -moderate income homeowners. Funding for lead-based paint remediation to assist low/moderate income homeowners as part of the Citys rehabilitation program.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 income eligible families
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is low/mod housing 570.208(a)(3)(i)(C) The Matrix Code is 14A Rehab; Single-Unit Residential 570.202
4	Project Name	Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Providing emergency rental assistance for families in jeopardy of being evicted and becoming homeless.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 families

	Location Description	City Wide
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is low/mod concentration 570.208(a)(2)(A) 05Q Subsistence Payments 570.207(b)(4)- Rental Assistance
5	Project Name	Altoona Housing Authority - Fairview Hills Playgrounds Revitalization
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$65,500
	Description	Removal of existing unsafe and outdated playground equipment and installing new equipment making the amenities at the playgrounds become enjoyable and more accessible to persons with disabilities.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	400 persons
	Location Description	Fairview Hill Playground - This activity will take place at 1614 1st St, Altoona, PA 16601 (off of 1st St btw. E Beech Ct & E Maple Ave) and 1614 1st St, Altoona, PA 16601 (Kettle Street and E Spruce Ct)
Planned Activities	The National Objective is low/mod concentration 570.208(a)(2)(A) The Matrix Code is 03F Parks, Recreational Facilities 570.201(c).	
6	Project Name	6th Avenue Playground Installation Phase II
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$101,543
	Description	Phase II will include the installation of a Bank Shot Basketball Court, parking lot, sidewalk installation and site amenities such as benches and tables.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10,435 people
	Location Description	6th Avenue Playground - 2300-08 6th Avenue. C.T. 1003 BG 1, BG 2, BG 3; C.T. 1014 BG 1, 2, 3; C.T. 1015 BG 3, BG 4, C.T. 1016 BG 2, BG 3. Serving 10,435 people, 6,325 being low/mod or 60.61%.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03F Parks, Recreational Facilities 570.201(c)
7	Project Name	2020 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-2 Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,500
	Description	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. Specific locations will be advertised for public review prior to project initiation.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4,367 people
	Location Description	The activity will take place in low/moderate income areas of the City. C.T. 1006, BG 3; C.T. 1014, BG 1; C.T. 1017, BG 2,3,4 4,675 people 3,235 people being low/mod or 69.20%
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K, Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
8	Project Name	Washington Avenue Storm Drainage Installation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-2 Infrastructure

	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$385,581
	Description	Installation of a stormwater system located along Washington Avenue from 20th Avenue to 25th Avenue. This project will address seasonal stormwater and icing concerns which have been a problem for this area.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	38 people
	Location Description	Washington Avenue between 20th and 25th Avenue (income survey conducted – area is 63% low/mod)
	Planned Activities	The National Objective Low/Mod Area, 570.208(a)(2)(B) The Matrix Code is 03J Water/Sewer Improvements 24CFR 570.201(c)
9	Project Name	Blighted Property Program
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDS-4 Clearance/Demolition
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy
	Funding	CDBG: \$164,311
	Description	Prevention or elimination of spot blight through property acquisition, relocation, safeguarding, demolition and disposition activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 units will be demolished
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is SBS 570.208(b)(2) 04 Clearance and Demolition 570.201(d)
10	Project Name	HOME Program Administration
	Target Area	Citywide

	Goals Supported	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$35,313
	Description	Administration costs to provide for staffing to oversee HOME funded projects.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not Applicable.
	Location Description	This activity is located at 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Administration. The Matrix Code is 21H Administration/Planning Costs of PJ.
11	Project Name	HOME Rental Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
	Funding	HOME: \$156,816
	Description	Improvements to the rental units City-wide that house eight low-income households. These improvements will allow continued safe, decent and affordable housing.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8 income eligible families
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14B, Rehabilitation; Multi-Unit Residential, 570.202.
12	Project Name	IDA-CDC - Union Avenue Apartments
	Target Area	Citywide

Goals Supported	HSS-2 Housing Rehabilitation
Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy
Funding	HOME: \$161,000
Description	Improvements to the Union Avenue Apartments structure that houses eleven apartment units to low-income chronically ill persons. These improvements will allow continued safe, decent and affordable housing.
Target Date	6/30/2021
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	11 income eligible families
Location Description	Union Avenue Apartments - 1911 Union Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601
Planned Activities	The National Objective is 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14B, Rehabilitation; Multi-Unit Residential, 570.202.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The following information provides a profile of the population, age, and racial/ethnic composition of the City of Altoona. This information was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau American Factfinder website, <http://factfinder.census.gov>. The 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates were used to analyze the social, economic, housing, and general demographic characteristics of the City of Altoona. The 5-year estimates are the most recent data available for the City. The 2010 U.S. Census data is included where possible.

Population:

Key points are:

- Between 2010 and 2017, the population decreased by approximately 4.5%
- The City population was 44,749 in 2017.

Age:

Key points are:

- Median age in Altoona is 38.0 years old
- Youth under age 20 account for 26.3% of the population
- Seniors age 65 or over are 15.2% of the population

Race/Ethnicity:

Composition from 2013-2017 American Community Survey Data:

- 2.8% are Black or African American
- 93.6% are White
- 0.2% are Asian
- 0.6% Some Other Race
- 2.8% are Two or More Races
- 1.7% are Hispanic or Latino

Income Profile:

The Median Income for a family of four (4) in the Altoona, Pennsylvania HMFA is \$57,250 for 2017. The

following is a summary of income statistics for the City of Altoona:

At the time of the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, median household income in the City of Altoona was \$38,592 which was significantly lower than Blair County (\$46,644) and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (\$56,951).

- 38.2% of households have earnings received from Social Security income.
- 5.8% of households have earnings received from public assistance.
- 18.1% of households have earnings, received retirement income.
- 47.9% of female headed households were living in poverty.
- 34.3% of all youth under 18 years of age were living in poverty.

Low/Mod Income Profile:

The low- and moderate-income profile for City of Altoona is a measurement of the area's needs. The City of Altoona has an overall low- and moderate-income percentage of 44.95%.

Economic Profile:

The following illustrates the economic profile for the City of Altoona as of the 2013-2017 American Community Survey:

- 28.7% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as management, business, science, and arts.
- 27.3% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as sales and office.
- 21.7% were in the service sector.
- 13.7% of workers were considered in the government class.

According to the U.S. Labor Department, the preliminary unemployment rate for Altoona was 5.3% compared to a preliminary rate of 5.0% in Blair County, a preliminary rate of 4.5% for the and a national unemployment rate of 3.5% in December 2019.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA	0
CENTRAL ALTOONA NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY AREA	0
Garfield Area	0
Citywide	100

Table 57 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City is not only attempting to meet the needs of the community but also affirmatively further fair housing. It is essential to engage in not only community building activities and fund needed improvements in low- and moderate-income areas but also to provide opportunities for residents to live in non-impacted areas.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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 2020 are the following:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	49
Special-Needs	0
Total	49

Table 58 - 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	49
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	49

Table 59 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

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

- **CD-20-03 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.
- **HOME-20-11 HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program** - Rental 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-20-12 IDA-CDC Union Avenue Apartments** - Improvements to the Union Avenue Apartments structure that houses eleven apartment units to low-income chronically ill persons. These improvements will allow continued safe, decent and affordable housing.

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 Authority administers 536 public housing apartments, 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.

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

During FY 2020, the Altoona Housing Authority will complete site work including concrete and sidewalk repairs as well as interior work of countertop replacements and tub replacements and refinishing.

The Housing Authority will also continue to work with the City on Code Enforcement, Fair Housing workshops and the expansion of home-ownership programs. Ten properties are being sold and those funds will be used to help expand the homeownership program.

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

The Altoona Housing Authority offers several programs for residents to be involved in and promote self-sufficiency and homeownership.

The Altoona Housing Authority is improving public safety and crime prevention at its public housing communities through community policing programs such as a Stop and Talk Program. Police also patrol on foot and bicycle to create a more notable presence of law enforcement. The Housing Authority also offers after school and day care programs, food banks, and summer programming for youth. The Residents organization meetings are held monthly to encourage residents to meet and talk about community activities and improvements in their communities.

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 Eastern PA CoC is comprised of 33 counties organized by geography into five Regional Homeless Advisory Boards (RHABs). The City of Altoona is a member of the South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) Continuum of Care – PA-507. The Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care contains nine (9) member counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset.

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

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

The CoC annually funds a Supportive Services Only Program that is operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Blair County Community Action Agency. Services are provided to both sheltered and unsheltered persons. 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. 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.

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.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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

Introduction:

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

Not Applicable.

Discussion:

Specific to the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, the City of Altoona will use the following activities to assist in removing barriers to affordable housing as well as implement the updates of the Analysis of impediments to Fair Housing Choice as outlined above:

- **CD-20-02 Fair Housing** - Provide sound and professional planning, administration, oversight and management of federal, state, and local funded program and activities.
- **CD-20-03 Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program** - Providing emergency rental assistance for families in jeopardy of being evicted and becoming homeless.
- **CD-20-04 Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation** - 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.
- **HOME-20-11 HOME Rental Rehabilitation** - Improvements to the rental units City-wide that house eight low-income households. These improvements will allow continued safe, decent and affordable housing.
- **HOME-20-12 HOME Rental Rehabilitation** - Union Avenue Improvements - Improvements to the Union Avenue Apartments structure that houses eleven apartment units to low-income chronically ill persons. These improvements will allow continued safe, decent and affordable housing.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Altoona has developed the following actions which addresses obstacles to meeting underserved needs, fosters affordable housing, reduces lead-based hazards, reduces the number of poverty families, develops institutional structures, and enhances coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The primary action taken in addressing obstacles to meeting underserved needs is identifying additional financial resources and leveraging funds with available state and local fund resources. An additional strategy for meeting unmet needs is to coordinate with other local service providing organizations so to minimize duplication of service and maximize collaborative efforts to meet identified needs. These are the primary strategies utilized in meeting unmet needs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

With the limited CDBG and HOME funding available, the City intends to continue to increase its supply of affordable housing by rehabilitating homes for eligible homeowners and constructing new homes through its CHDO. Given the resources available, this will reduce, although not eliminate, barriers to affordable housing. Our support for code enforcement and policing services also helps preserve housing units, keeping them in the market and reducing prices.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City will continue to reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards through housing rehabilitation activities using CDBG and HOME funds.

Below are the City's activities to reduce lead-based paint hazards are related to rehabilitation programs.

Rehabilitation Programs:

The City of Altoona will continue to ensure that:

- Applicants for rehabilitation funding receive the required lead-based paint information and understand their responsibilities.
- Staff properly determines whether proposed projects are exempt from some or all lead-based paint requirements.
- The level of Federal rehabilitation assistance is properly calculated and the applicable lead-based paint requirements determined.
- Properly qualified personnel perform risk management, paint testing, lead hazard reduction,

and clearance services when required.

- Required lead hazard reduction work and protective measures are incorporated into project rehabilitation specifications.
- Risk assessment, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance work are performed in accordance with the applicable standards established in 24 CFR Part 35, Subpart R.
- Required notices regarding lead-based paint evaluation, presumption, and hazard reduction are provided to occupants and documented.
- Program documents establish the rental property owner's responsibility to perform and adhere to ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.
- Program staff monitors owner compliance with ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Virtually all of the City's housing activities, programs, and projects are intended to benefit low-to-moderate income persons, and moreover, to reduce the number of poverty-level families. One of the City's primary anti-poverty components of the CDBG program is to provide safe and sanitary housing for the low- and moderate-income individuals residing in the City. Because two-thirds of City residents own their home, a high percentage in comparison with State and National figures, maintaining low-to-moderate-income residents in their own home is a primary component of the City's antipoverty program. The City addresses this through its ongoing single-family housing rehabilitation program, rental assistance program, and rental rehabilitation assistance program.

Providing safe and affordable housing opportunity for the low-to-moderate income population is a major deterrent to poverty.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Planning and Community Development Department is aware of a few minor gaps in delivery of services in Altoona. These gaps are not related to institutional capabilities, but rather in insufficient funding of the services. The staff and agencies are aware of these areas and are working with providers and agencies to develop appropriate solutions.

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

The City of Altoona created the Altoona Housing Authority (AHA), a body independent of City government whose members are appointed for staggered terms of office by the Mayor with a concurring vote from Altoona City Council. This organizational relationship is determined by Pennsylvania law.

The administrative activities of the agency are determined in accordance with Pennsylvania law and

agency policy, including hiring, contracting and procurement. The relationships between the Altoona Housing Authority and the City of Altoona can be delineated by contract for specific projects. The City and the Housing Authority cooperate in providing police protection to the housing projects and provide funding assistance for specific housing projects. The City also reviews and concurs on capital improvements conducted by the AHA and provides annual inspections on rental units under the City's rental inspection program. The construction of new developments or the demolition or disposition of existing developments is within the exclusive purview of the Housing Authority, although the authority consults routinely with the City of Altoona on these matters.

Discussion:

Not Applicable.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The City of Altoona receives an annual allocation of CDBG and HOME funds. Since the City receives these Federal allocations, the questions below have been completed as they are applicable. The City of Altoona anticipates that it will receive up to \$124,000 in program income from the repayment of Housing Rehabilitation Loans. These funds have been included in the FY 2020 Program Year Budget. There are no existing Program Income Funds that have been received and which have not been programmed.

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	124,000
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	124,000

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	88.69%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

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

The City of 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 by HUD, 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.

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 pro-rata 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-1/60th per month, ten (10) year- 1/120th per month, fifteen (15) year-1/180th 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 down payment 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:

Continued in Discussion Box

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 Market Limit as established and provided by HUD for the Altoona area.

Lease-purchase. The lease-purchase agreement must be ratified within nine (9) months of the date of completion of construction or rehabilitation. The homebuyer must qualify as a low-income family at the time the lease-purchase agreement is signed. The homebuyer must provide completion certification of housing counseling training. The housing must be purchased by the homebuyer within thirty-six (36) months of signing. If the housing is not transferred to a homebuyer within this time frame the unit must be rented to an income eligible tenant in accordance with HOME affordability requirements for rental housing.

Contract to purchase. The sales contract must be ratified within nine (9) months of the date of completion of construction or rehabilitation. The homebuyer must qualify as a low-income family at the time the contract is signed. The homebuyer must provide completion certification of housing counseling training. If the housing is not transferred to a homebuyer within this time frame the unit must be rented to an income eligible tenant in accordance with HOME affordability requirements for rental housing.

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:

HOME funds may be used to refinance existing debt of multi-family properties that were developed by locally based housing organizations and in which HOME funds are also being used for eligible rehabilitation costs, consistent with 24 CFR 92.206(b)(2), subject to meeting the following conditions:

1. Refinancing is necessary to permit or continue affordability under 24 CFR 92.252.
2. The amount of HOME funds provided for refinancing costs cannot exceed 51% of the combined total cost for eligible rehabilitation costs and refinancing costs. The funds to be used for rehabilitation and refinancing may include sources other than HOME funds, but a minimum level of \$2,000 per unit of HOME funds must be used for eligible rehabilitation costs.
3. Before providing HOME funds, the City shall review the management practices of the owner to ensure that disinvestment in the property has not occurred, that the long-term needs of the project can be met, and that the refinancing will help to ensure the affordability of the units to very low and low-income households over the period of affordability.
4. In its written approval of the HOME funds, the City shall specify that the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units.
5. Refinancing will be limited to projects that have previously received an investment of public funds.
6. Refinancing of multi-family properties shall be eligible anywhere in the City of Altoona.
7. The minimum period of affordability for refinancing of multi-family properties shall be 15 years.
8. The HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multi-family loans made or insured by any other federal program, including CDBG funds.

2 Cont.

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 remains 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:
4. The Owner must contact the City of Altoona Planning and Community Development Department or its representative in writing if intending to sell the home prior to the end of the affordability period;
5. 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
6. 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:
3. Any additions to the home such as a bedroom, bathroom, or garage;
4. Replacement of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems;
5. 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
6. Outdoor improvements such as a new driveway, walkway, retaining wall, or fence.

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

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 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.

Attachments

Citizen Participation Comments





FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

Heat hampers travel in Europe

The Associated Press

LONDON — The temperature's dropping but Europe's troubles aren't over: A record-busting heat wave gave way Friday to thunderstorms and hailstorms, bringing the Tour de France to a dramatic halt and causing trouble at British airports and beyond on one of the most hectic travel days of the year.

In addition, travelers at London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports faced delays because air traffic controllers grounded flights over a technical problem.

It marked the second day of travel disruptions in European capitals after one of the hottest days in memory, when many places in Western Europe saw temperatures soar above 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Compounding that, the weekend is a big travel moment across Europe as families head off for their summer holidays now that schools have broken up for the academic year.

After several hours of flight restrictions over U.K. airspace Friday, the national air traffic controller



A woman cools off in a public fountain in front of the Sforza Castle in Milan, Italy, on Friday.

NATS said it had fixed the technical issue and would be able to safely increase traffic flow.

"Weather is continuing to cause significant unrelated disruption across the country and more widely across Europe, which has further complicated today's operation," NATS said in a statement.

In France, suffocating heat turned into slippery storms Friday — including a hailstorm on the Tour de France route in the Alps that was so

sudden and violent that organizers ordered a stop to the world's premier cycling event.

As riders careened down hairpin turns after mounting a 9,000-foot peak, a storm lashed the valley below. A snowplow worked desperately to clear the route of slush, but organizers deemed it too dangerous to continue.

Weather almost never stops the three-week race, and the decision came on a day of high-drama in which race leader Julian Alaphilippe lost

his top spot and accompanying yellow jersey just ahead of Sunday's finale.

British rail commuters were also facing delays after the heat wave prompted Network Rail to impose speed restrictions in case the tracks buckled. Engineers from the company have been working to get the network back to normal after the track temperatures soared to up to 68 degrees F more than the air temperature.

"With the railway being made of metal and moving parts, the sustained high temperatures took their toll in places," said Phil James of Network Rail. "Everything was done to keep trains moving where possible, and last night hundreds of staff were out fixing the damage and repairing the railway ready for today."

Passengers using Eurostar services to and from Paris were also facing "severe disruption" due to overhead power line problems in the French capital, which on Thursday recorded its hottest day ever with the temperature rising to 108.7 F.

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IRAN: Won't accept program limits

(Continued from Page A8)

Iran has openly exceeded the uranium enrichment levels set in the accord to try to pressure Europe into offsetting the economic pain of U.S. sanctions.

Trump insists that Iran must agree to limits on its ballistic missile program, but Iran thus far has refused.

Nations still party to the nuclear deal plan to meet in Vienna on Sunday to see to what extent the agreement can be saved.

The European Union said the meeting of officials from China, Russia, Britain, France and Germany will be chaired by the EU.

Behnam Ben Taleblu, an expert on Iranian defense at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, said the

"As Iran continues to escalate in response to the maximum-pressure campaign, Washington should expect more missile launches."

Behnam Ben Taleblu,
Foundation for Defense of Democracies

Shahab-3 is a liquid-fueled, medium-range ballistic missile capable of carrying a nuclear weapon.

"The Shahab-3 is the backbone of Iran's class of medium-range ballistic missiles," he said, adding that Iranian news outlets have previously called it one of the country's "Israel-hitting" missiles.

It is derived from a North Korean missile called the Nodong-A and can fly up to

1,242 miles, depending on the variant.

"Iran's continued flight-testing has both political and military applications, functioning as a show of resolve against foreign adversaries and to improve the overall reliability of its missile force, which is the largest in the Middle East," he said. "As Iran continues to escalate in response to the maximum-pressure campaign, Washington should expect more missile launches."

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Altoona, Blair County, PA will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 5:00 PM, prevailing time, in the City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers, 1320 Washington Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601. The City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers are accessible to persons with physical disabilities. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate citizens in order for them to participate in the public hearing, please call Mr. Lee C. Slusser, Director, Department of Planning & Community Development, City of Altoona, at (814) 949-2470 to make those arrangements, or for the hearing impaired call the TTY relay system at 7-1-1.

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather information for the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-2024, the Annual Action Plan for FY 2020, and the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (A.I.), which the City must prepare and submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership Programs. Additionally, the hearing will be used to solicit the views and comments of individuals and organizations concerning any impediments to fair housing choice in the City and what steps should be undertaken to affirmatively further fair housing.

The City of Altoona anticipates based on last fiscal year's allocation that it may receive an estimated CDBG entitlement grant in the amount of approximately \$1,590,000 for FY 2020; and \$275,000 in HOME funds for FY 2020. These funding levels are contingent upon the final approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2020. In order to receive those funds, the City of Altoona must prepare a Five Year Consolidated Plan and a One Year Annual Action Plan for the use of the CDBG and HOME funds. At least 70% of the CDBG funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons living in the City of Altoona. In preparing its CDBG and HOME application the City intends to afford citizens, local agencies, and interested parties the opportunity to become involved in the planning process.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program:

Acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities, including the removal of architectural barriers; demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; home ownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental reviews; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
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The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program: Acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities, including the removal of architectural barriers; demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; home ownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental reviews; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG funds.

The Analysis of Impediments will focus on the status and interaction of six (6) fundamental conditions within the community:

- The sale or rental of dwellings (public or private);
- The provision of housing brokerage services;
- The provision of financial assistance for dwellings;
- Public policies and actions affecting the approval of sites and other building requirements used in the approval process for the construction of publicly assisted housing;
- The administrative policies concerning community development and housing activities, which affect opportunities of minority households to select housing inside or outside areas of minority concentration; and
- Where there is a determination of unlawful segregation or other housing discrimination by a court or a finding of noncompliance by HUD regarding assisted housing in a recipient's jurisdiction, an analysis of the actions which could be taken by the recipient to remedy the discriminatory condition, including actions involving the expenditure of funds made available under 24 CFR Part 570.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the needs of the City of Altoona and the use of CDBG and HOME funds to address those needs over the next five (5) years. Written comments may be addressed to Mr. Lee C. Slusser, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, City of Altoona, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601.

Matt Pacifico, Mayor
City of Altoona



ELIGIBLE CDBG ACTIVITIES

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS	
Eligible Public Facility and Improvement Projects	CDBG Conditions
Sewer and Water Facilities	<p>These projects may be undertaken on an interim basis in areas exhibiting objectively determinable signs of physical deterioration where it was determined that immediate action is necessary to arrest the deterioration and that permanent improvements will be carried out as practicable to repair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Streets; ➤ Sidewalks; ➤ Park; ➤ Playgrounds, ➤ Publicly owned utilities; and ➤ The execution of special garbage, trash, and debris removal, including neighborhood cleanup campaigns, but not the regular curbside collection of garbage or trash in an area.
Streets and Sidewalks	
Curb and Gutters	
Parks and Playgrounds	
Senior Citizens' Center	
Parking Lots or Garages	
Utility Lines	
Recreation Center	
Police or Fire Station in which services to the public are actually provided (as opposed to administrative offices).	<p>Fire protection equipment including fire trucks, fire fighters' protective clothing, "jaws of life," and other life-saving equipment are eligible for CDBG funding under Public Facilities and Improvements as this equipment is integral to the fire protection facility.</p>
Aesthetic amenities on public land such as landscaping (trees, sculptures, pools of water and fountains and other works of art).	<p>These include all improvements and facilities that are either publicly owned or that are traditionally provided by government, or owned by a non-profit, and operated so as to be open to the general public.</p>
Jails or Prisons	<p>Jails are considered to benefit the entire community served by the facility and thus would qualify under the low-moderate income (LMI) benefit national objective only if the percentage of LMI persons in the entire jurisdiction is sufficiently high to meet the "area benefit" test.</p>
Library	<p>Public facilities that serve the entire jurisdiction of the grantee, a main library for example, may qualify under the LMI benefit national objective only if the percentage of LMI persons in the entire jurisdiction is sufficiently high to meet the "area benefit" test.</p>
Special Assessments	<p>Special Assessments are used to recover the capital costs of a public improvement through a fee levied or a lien filed against a parcel of real estate either as, 1) a direct result of a benefit derived from the installation of a public improvement or 2) a one-time charge made as a condition of access to an improvement. Sewer tap-in fees are an example of a special assessment.</p>
Privately Owned Utilities-570.201 (I)	<p>CDBG funds may be used to acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, or install the distribution lines and facilities for privately owned utilities.</p> <p>A privately-owned utility refers to service that is publicly regulated and is provided through the use of physical distribution lines to private properties.</p> <p>Examples of eligible utilities are electricity, telephone, water, sewer, natural gas and cable television.</p>
Other	<p>The City is willing to consider other public facility projects not listed above. It is highly recommended that applicants contact the City to discuss new projects ideas prior to submitting a grant application.</p>

REAL PROPERTY AND HOUSING PROJECTS	
Eligible Real Property & Housing Projects	CDBG Conditions
Acquisitions of land or buildings -570.201 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used for acquisition of real property, either in whole or in part, by purchase, long-term lease, donation, or otherwise for any public purpose. • Examples include land, air rights, easement, water rights, rights-of-way and buildings. • Examples of ineligible activities include costs of moveable equipment and acquisition of newly-constructed housing or an interest in construction of new housing.
Disposition – 570.201 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used to dispose of property acquired with CDBG funds through sale, lease, donation or other means. • Property must have a reuse plan that meets a National Objective. • The property may be disposed at less than fair market value. • Costs may include preparation of legal documents, surveys, marketing, financial services, transfer of taxes or ownership.
Clearance Activities- 570.201 (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demolish buildings and improvements. • Remove rubble and debris after demolition. • Remove environmental contaminants or treat them to make them harmless. • Move structures to other sites.
Code Enforcement – 570.202 (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code enforcement activities are eligible provided that the enforcement takes place in a deteriorated or deteriorating area and the enforcement effort is accompanied by public or private improvements or service and can be expected to arrest the decline of the area. • Eligible costs include costs incurred for inspections for code violations (including salaries and overhead) and the enforcement of code requirements (including legal proceedings). • Both residential and commercial structures may be included in code enforcement activities.
Historic preservation - 570.202 (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used for the rehabilitation, preservation or restoration of historic properties, whether publicly or privately owned. • Historic properties are those sites or structures that are either listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, listed in the Pennsylvania or local inventory of historic places or designated as a Pennsylvania or local landmark or historic district by appropriate law or ordinance. • Examples of eligible activities include historic preservation plans, rehabilitation of the property, relocating residents while preservation work is performed. • Historic preservation is not authorized for buildings used for the general conduct of government.
Renovation of closed buildings – 570.202 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used to renovate closed buildings, such as closed school buildings, for use as an eligible public facility or to rehabilitate or convert closed buildings for residential and commercial uses. • Examples of ineligible activities include creation of secondary housing units attached to a primary unit and costs of equipment, furnishings or other personal property that are not integral structural fixtures, such as window air conditioners or clothes washers.
Lead – based paint (LBP) hazard, evaluation and reduction, and clearance – 570.202 (f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost associated with the evaluation and reduction of LBP. • Examples of eligible activities include inspecting buildings for LBP hazards, testing surfaces abatement of lead hazards and payment of temporary relocation costs for residents on which their home is receiving abatement services.
Handicap Accessibility - 570.201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of materials and architectural barriers that restrict the accessibility or mobility of elderly or handicapped persons. • Activities must take place on existing structures.

Energy Efficiency – 570.201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of eligible activities include weatherization of home or apartment building, installation of solar or wind equipment, finance energy – efficient rehab, provision of free insulation or home energy audits, and preparation of comprehensive community energy use strategies.
Rehabilitation of buildings and improvements eligible for rehabilitation assistance – 570.202 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG may be used to finance the rehabilitation of privately –owned homes, publicly –owned residential housing, nonresidential buildings owned by nonprofits, and manufactured housing when it is part of the permanent housing supply.

PUBLIC SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND “OTHER” ACTIVITIES	
Activities	CDBG Conditions
Relocation – 570.201 (i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation of payments and other assistance for permanently and temporarily relocated individuals, families, businesses, non-profit organizations and farm operations.
Loss of Rental Income- 570.201 (j)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensation to property owners for the loss in rental income incurred while temporarily holding housing units to be used for the relocation of individuals and families displaced by CDBG-assisted activities.
Public Services – 570.201 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used for a wide range of public service activities including, but not limited to, job training, crime prevention, public safety, child care, health services, substance abuse services, fair housing counseling, education programs, energy conservation, senior citizen services, homeless person services, subsistence payment service and recreational services • In order for a first-time public service application to be considered the applicant must prove that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the service is a new initiative for the agency (new service); OR 2) the service existed but was not provided by or on behalf of a government agency with funding from that government agency; OR 3) there was a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service within the 2013 calendar year.
Micro – Enterprise Assistance – 570.201 (o)	<p>The provisions of assistance to facilitate economic development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing credit, including, but not limited to, grants, loans, loan guarantees, and other forms of financial support, for the establishment, stabilization, and expansion of micro-enterprises; • Providing technical assistance, advice, and business support services to owners of micro-enterprises and persons developing micro-enterprises; and • Providing general support to owners of microenterprises and persons developing microenterprises including child care, transportation, counseling and peer support groups. • A microenterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise that has five or fewer employees, one or more of whom owns the microenterprise business.

The table below provides eligible Planning & Administration expenses.

Eligible Planning & Administration Projects 570.205 & 570.206
➤ Preparation of general plans such as the Consolidated Plan
➤ Functional plans such as housing plans
➤ Neighborhood plans and general historic preservation plans
➤ Policy planning, management, and capacity building activities
➤ Monitoring



INELIGIBLE CDBG FUNDED ACTIVITIES

§570.207 Ineligible Activities:	
(a)	General Rule – Any activity that is not authorized as an “eligible activity.”
(b)	Government Buildings – Funds cannot be used for improvements to a public building used for the general conduct of government.
(c)	General Government Expenses – Funds cannot be used for expenses that are considered the regular responsibilities of the local government.
(d)	Political Activities – Funds cannot be used to finance the use of facilities or equipment for political purposes or to engage in other partisan political activities.
(e)	Purchase of Equipment – The purchase of equipment is generally ineligible, which includes construction equipment, motor vehicles, furnishings, or personal property. The only exception is fire equipment assigned to a low- and moderate-income area.
(f)	Operating and Maintenance Expenses – The general rule is that any expense associated with repairing, operating, or maintaining public facilities, improvements, and services is ineligible.
(g)	New Housing Construction – Funds cannot be used for the construction of new permanent residential structures or for any program to subsidize or consist such new construction except by a CBDO. However, the cost of site assemblage, clearance, and site improvements are eligible activities.
(h)	Income Payments – Funds cannot be used for subsistence – type grant payments for food, clothing, housing, or utilities.



MEETING A NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

National Objective Subcategory	Conditions for Eligibility	Example
Low-Moderate Income (LMI) Area Benefit	<p>A facility or improvement will be used for a purpose that benefits all residents in a defined area primarily residential in which at least 51% are LMI households.</p> <p>Paying all or part of a special assessment on behalf of LMI Households qualifies under this objective.</p>	<p>The Installation of paved streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters in a predominantly LMI household neighborhood.</p> <p>CDBG funds pay the assessment made to Low-Mod Income household homeowners when a new water/sewer system is installed in their neighborhood.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Limited Clientele	<p>The majority of public service activities qualify under this national objective.</p> <p>Services provided to a specific group of people who are comprised of at least 51% LMI households.</p>	<p>Home ownership counseling provided to a group of LMI individuals.</p> <p>Renovation or expansion of a food pantry.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Housing	<p>The facility or improvement exclusively benefits housing to be occupied by LMI households.</p>	<p>A parking lot and landscaping are improved on the site of a rental property with 51% LMI households paying affordable rents.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Jobs	<p>Public improvement is for an economic development project that creates or retains permanent jobs.</p> <p>In order for a CDBG funded economic development activity to qualify as an activity that benefits low and moderate income persons, at least 51% of the jobs created or retained (full time equivalent basis) will be held by or made available to low and moderate income persons.</p>	<p>A new water tower will enable factory expansion and owners to commit to hiring at least 51% of new permanent jobs to LMI persons.</p>
Area Blight	<p>Public improvements and facilities are in a designated blighted area and activity addresses conditions that contributed to blight.</p>	<p>An outdated fire hall is rehabilitated and equipment is updated to prevent further loss of life and property due to fires.</p>
Spot Blight	<p>Public improvements or facility is outside designated blighted area and activity is limited to eliminate specific conditions of blight or decay.</p>	<p>Historic library building located outside a designated area is rehabilitated.</p>
Urgent Need	<p>Acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of a public facility or improvement that is designated to alleviate recent serious and imminent threat to public health and safety and no other funds are available.</p>	<p>A storm sewer system is reconstructed after a severe flood damaged it. All other funding sources are unavailable or exhausted.</p>



HOME Investment Partnership Program

☐ Eligible HOME Activities and Costs

- Hard Costs
 - New construction of affordable housing
 - Rehabilitation of affordable housing
 - Reconstruction of affordable housing
 - Conversion to affordable housing
 - Site Improvements related to the development of affordable housing
- Refinancing of existing debt secured by a housing project that is being rehabilitated w/ HOME Funds
 - Refinancing of debt on a single-family (one to four family) owner occupied housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds and the refinancing will reduce the overall monthly housing cost to make it affordable
- Acquisition Costs
 - Improved or unimproved
 - Purchase of property by home buyers
- Soft Costs necessary for the financing, development, rehabilitation or acquisition of housing using HOME Funds
 - Architectural, engineering, and related professional services
 - Costs to process and settle the financing for a project such as lender origination fees, appraisal fees, etc.
 - Project audit costs and certification of costs by a CPA
 - Costs to provide information services such as affirmative marketing and fair housing information
 - Costs of funding an initial operation deficit reserve during the period of initial project rent-up but not to exceed 18 months
 - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out the project such as work specifications, loan processing inspections, housing consultation, etc.
 - Cost for the payment of impact fees that the local jurisdiction charges for all housing projects
 - Cost of environmental review and release of funds

- CHDO Costs
 - o Cost of project-specific technical assistance and site control loans
 - o Project feasibility costs, consulting fees, legal fees, architectural and engineering fees, property options, site control, and title clearance
 - o Project specific seed money loans for preconstruction costs that are customary and reasonable such as costs of obtaining firm financing, construction loan commitments, architectural plans and specifications, zoning approvals, legal fees, etc.
- Relocation costs for displaced households
 - o Relocation payments and other relocation assistance for persons displaced by the housing project
 - o Replacement housing payments, moving expenses and payment for reasonable out-of-pocket costs incurred in the temporary relocation of persons
 - o Other relocation assistance such as staff and overhead costs directly related to providing advisory and other relocation services to displaced persons
- Administrative and planning costs
 - o General management, oversight and coordination
 - o Staff and overhead costs
 - o Public information costs in the planning and implementation of projects
- Other Costs
 - o Fair housing activities to affirmatively further fair housing
 - o Indirect costs as part of a cost allocation plan
 - o Preparation of the consolidated plan
 - o Compliance and reporting in reference to Federal requirements
 - o Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA)
 - o Rental assistance and security deposit payments
 - o Utility deposit assistance only if rental or security deposit payments are made
 - o Cost of inspecting the housing and determining income eligibility of the household
 - o Troubled HOME-assisted rental housing projects
 - Applies to only an existing HOME assisted rental project
 - Project is no longer financially viable during the HOME 20 year affordability period for rental projects

- Operating costs significantly exceed the operating revenue
- HUD must approve this cost to preserve an affordable rental project
- Additional HOME Funds and original HOME Funds may not exceed the maximum amount of per-unit subsidy [Section 221 (d)(3)(ii)]

□ Ineligible HOME Activities

- HOME funds may not be used to:
 - o Provide project reserve accounts, except for new construction or rehabilitation of an initial operating deficit reserve during the period of project read-up (not to exceed 18 months)
 - o Provide tenant-based rental assistance for the special purpose of the existing Section 8 Program
 - o Provide non-Federal matching contribution required under another Federal Programs
 - o Provide assistance for uses authorized by Public Housing Capital and Operating Funds
 - o Prepayment of Low Income Housing Mortgages
 - o Provide assistance to a homebuyer to acquire housing previously assisted with HOME funds during the period of affordability
 - o Provide funds for the acquisition of property owned by the participating jurisdiction (P.J.) except for property acquired by the P.J. with HOME funds, or property acquired in anticipation of carrying out a HOME project
 - o Pay for delinquent taxes, fees or charges on properties to be assisted with HOME funds
 - o Pay for any cost that is not listed as eligible under the HOME Regulations



**PUBLIC HEARING ON NEEDS REGARDING CDBG FUNDS FOR
FY 2020-2024 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
FY 2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN,
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

Wednesday August 7th 2019 at 5:00pm
City Hall Conference Room 1301
12th Street, Fourth Floor, City Hall
Altoona, PA 16601

Opening Remarks – Mr. Lee C. Slusser
Department of Planning and Community Development

Overview – UDV Staff

- What is a Five-Year Consolidated Plan, an Annual Action Plan, and an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

Eligible CDBG Activities – UDV Staff

CDBG funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- acquisition of real property;
- relocation and demolition;
- rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures;
- construction of public facilities and improvements, such as water and sewer facilities, streets, neighborhood centers, and the conversion of school buildings for eligible purposes;
- public services, within certain limits;
- activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources; and
- provision of assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities.

Ineligible CDBG Activities – UDV Staff

Generally, the following types of activities are ineligible:

- acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of buildings for the general conduct of government;
- political activities;

- certain income payments; and
- construction of new housing by units of general local government.

Eligible HOME Activities – UDV Staff

HOME funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- new construction of affordable housing, rehabilitation of affordable housing, reconstruction of affordable housing, conversion to affordable housing;
- site improvements related to the development of affordable housing;
- refinancing of debt on a single-family (one to four family) owner occupied housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds and the refinancing will reduce the overall monthly housing cost to make it affordable;
- acquisition costs (improved or unimproved); purchase of property by home buyers;
- soft costs such as architectural, engineering, and related professional services;
- costs to provide information services such as affirmative marketing and fair housing information;
- CHDO costs such as cost of project-specific technical assistance and site control loans;
- relocation costs for displaced households;
- administrative and planning costs.

Estimated FY 2020 Allocations – UDV Staff

The City of Altoona anticipates that it will receive an allocation of CDBG funds in the approximate amount of \$1,590,000 and allocation of HOME funds in the approximate amount of \$275,000. This amount is preliminary and subject to change based on the approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2020.

Entitlement Funds	Estimated Amount
FY 2020 CDBG Funds	\$1,590,000*
FY 2020 HOME Funds	\$275,000*
Total:	\$1,865,000

*Note: *Amount subject to change based on HUD's allocation of funds.*

Review of Past Performance – City Staff

Public Comments – UDV Staff

Adjournment – Mr. Lee C. Slusser

Department of Planning and Community Development



**CDBG & HOME NEEDS PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
FY 2020 – 2024 CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN,
& ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

August 7, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

**City of Altoona
Training Facilities and Council Chambers
1320 Washington Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601.**

In attendance:

<i>Bill Kibler</i>	<i>Altoona Mirror</i>
<i>Lee Slusser</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Carl Fischer</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Mary Johnson</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Walter Haglund</i>	<i>Urban Design Ventures</i>
<i>David Jordan</i>	<i>Urban Design Ventures</i>

Summary of Hearing:

Mr. Haglund, Urban Design Ventures, opened the Public Hearing at 5:05 PM.

Public Comments:

There were no attendees at the Public Hearing other than the local newspaper and City staff. Mr. Haglund briefly explained the CDBG & HOME Programs and the purpose of the hearing. Mr. Haglund reviewed the City's past performance and asked for needs in the City, hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.



SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2020
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Altoona, Blair County, PA will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 5:00 PM, prevailing time, in the City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers, 1320 Washington Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601. The City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers are accessible to persons with physical disabilities. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate citizens in order for them to participate in the public hearing, please call Mr. Lee C. Slusser, Director, Department of Planning & Community Development, City of Altoona, at (814) 949-2470 to make those arrangements, or for the hearing impaired call the TTY relay system at 7-1-1.

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather information for the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-2024, the Annual Action Plan for FY 2020, and the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (A.I.), which The City must prepare and submit the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership Programs. Additionally, the hearing will be used to solicit the views and comments of individuals and organizations concerning any impediments to fair housing choice in the City and what steps should be undertaken to affirmatively further fair housing.

The City of Altoona anticipates based on last fiscal year's allocation that it may receive an estimated CDBG entitlement grant in the amount of approximately \$1,590,000 for FY 2020; and \$275,000 in HOME funds for FY 2020. These funding levels are contingent upon the final approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2020. In order to receive those funds, the City of Altoona must prepare a Five Year Consolidated Plan and a One Year Annual Action Plan for the use of the CDBG and HOME funds. At least 70% of the CDBG funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons living in the City of Altoona. In preparing its CDBG and HOME application the City intends to afford citizens, local agencies, and interested parties the opportunity to become involved in the planning process.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program: Acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities, including the removal of architectural barriers; demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; home ownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental reviews; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG funds.

The Analysis of Impediments will focus on the status and interaction of six (6) fundamental conditions within the community:

- The sale or rental of dwellings (public or private);
- The provision of housing brokerage services;
- The provision of financial assistance for dwellings;
- Public policies and actions affecting the approval of sites and other building requirements used in the approval process for the construction of publicly assisted housing;
- The administrative policies concerning community development and housing activities, which affect opportunities of minority households to select housing inside or outside areas of minority concentration; and
- Where there is a determination of unlawful segregation or other housing discrimination by a court or a finding of noncompliance by HUD regarding assisted housing in a recipient's jurisdiction, an analysis of the actions which could be taken by the recipient to remedy the discriminatory condition, including actions involving the expenditure of funds made available under 24 CFR Part 570.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the needs of the City of Altoona and the use of CDBG and HOME funds to address those needs over the next five (5) years. Written comments may be addressed to Mr. Lee C. Slusser, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, City of Altoona, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601.

Matt Pacifico, Mayor
City of Altoona



**CDBG AND HOME
VIRTUAL SECOND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
FY 2020 – 2024 CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN,
& ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

May 6, 2020 at 4:00 P.M.
City of Altoona
Virtual Public Hearing
Via Teleconference Call

In attendance:

<i>Lee Slusser</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Linda Rickens</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Mary Johnson</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>David Jordan</i>	<i>Urban Design Ventures</i>

Summary of Hearing:

Mr. Slusser, Director/Planning Administrator, Department of Community Development, opened the teleconference at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Slusser reviewed the schedule the City followed in preparing the FY 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Mr. Slusser stated the City developed the Five-Year Consolidated Plan strategies for the following: Housing; the Homeless; Other Special Needs; Community Development; Economic Development; and Administration, Planning, and Management.

He went on to state the City will receive the following funds during the FY 2020 program year:

Entitlement Funds	Amount
FY 2020 CDBG Funds	\$ 1,767,245.00
CDBG Program Income	\$ 0.00
FY 2020 HOME Funds	\$ 353,129.00
Totals:	\$ 2,120,374.00

The City proposes to fund the following CDBG projects through the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan:

#	Project	Proposed Budget
1.	Administration	\$ 327,270.00
2.	Fair Housing	\$ 25,000.00
3.	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation	\$ 487,540.00
4.	Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program	\$ 10,000.00
5.	Altoona Housing Authority's Fairview Hills Playgrounds Revitalization	\$ 65,500.00
6.	6th Avenue Playground Installation Phase II	\$ 101,543.00
7.	2020 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project	\$ 200,500.00
8.	Washington Avenue Storm Drainage Installation	\$ 385,581.00
9.	Blighted Property Program	\$ 164,311.00
Total FY 2020 CDBG Funds:		\$ 1,767,245.00

The City proposes to fund the following HOME projects through the HOME Consortium:

#	Project	Proposed Budget
1.	HOME Administration	\$ 35,312.90
2.	HOME Rental Rehabilitation	\$ 156,816.10
3.	IDA-CDC Union Avenue Apartments	\$ 161,000.00
Total FY 2020 HOME Funds:		\$ 353,129.00

Mr. Slusser also reviewed Impediments to Fair Housing Choice as identified during the preparation of the FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Mr. Slusser asked for comments. Upon receiving none, the public hearing would be adjourned and stated for the record no comments in writing or via email, fax, or by telephone were received. The teleconference was adjourned at 4:20 PM.



AGENCY/ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

List of Organizations, Agencies and Stakeholders to Interview for the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the City of Altoona, PA			
ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Key City Staff/Departments			
Department of Planning & Community Development/Redev. Auth.	Lee C. Slusser	(814) 949-2470	lslusser@altoonapa.gov
Public Works	David L. Diedrich, P.E.	(814) 949-2446	ddiedrich@altoonapa.gov
School District	Dr. Charles Prjatelj	(814) 946-8350	cprjatelj@wsdcat.com
City Clerk	Linda M. Rickens	(814) 949-2486	lrickens@altoonapa.gov
Department of Accounts and Finance	Omar Strohm	(814) 949-2439	ostrohm@altoonapa.gov
Human Resources	Omar P. Strohm	(814) 949-2428	ostrohm@altoonapa.gov
City Solicitor	Larry C. Clapper	(814) 946-4393	lclapper@shscolaw.com
Information Technology	Victor Curfman	(814) 949-2536	vcurfman@altoonapa.gov
AMTRAN (Public Transportation)	Eric Wolf	(814) 944-4074	erewolf@amtran.org
Altoona Parking Authority	Patrick Miller	(814) 944-6113	patm@abcdcorp.org
Public Safety			
Police Chief	Janice Freehling	(814) 949-2489	jfreehling@altoonapa.gov
Fire Chief	Tim Hilomary/Mike Tofano	(814) 949-2529	thilomary@altoonapa.gov
Elected & Public Officials			
Mayor	Matt Pacifico	(814) 949-2486	council@altoonapa.gov
City Manager	Peter S. Marshall	(814) 949-2408	manager@altoonapa.gov
Housing Agencies/Organizations			
Altoona Housing Authority Board	Robin Beck, Chairperson	(w) (814) 944-0884	rbeck@rustlewoodblaircounty.org
	Robin Beck	(h) (814) 942-6973	rbb@zoi.com
Altoona Housing Authority Staff/Section II Pub. Housing	Cheryl Johns, Director	(814) 494-2000	Cheryl.Johns@altoonahousing.org
Assisted Living-Center for Nurse Care Altoona	Chrissy Dambach	(814) 946-2700	cdambach@grate.com
HUD Assisted Housing Providers	Marij Kashella	(814) 946-0603	mikashella@caliberresidential.com
Housing Counseling Services - Bl. Co Community Action	Ms. Billie Egan	(814) 946-3653	billie.egan@blaircap.org
CHDO - Improved Dwellings for Altoona (IDA)	Michelle Peterson	(814) 944-9466	mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org
CDCs	Michelle Peterson	(814) 944-9466	mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org
Blair Senior Services	Dana Shadle	(814) 946-1235	
Blair Senior Services	Alicia Madden		
Habitat for Humanity	Kathy Spade	(814) 943-3480	hffbc@verizon.net
Altoona Evergreen Mansions, Inc.	Michelle Peterson	(814) 944-9466	mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org
Allegheny Highland Realtors	Dolores Capriotti President	(814) 946-9355	
	Scott Strayer VP	(814) 472-4763	
Home Nursing Agency	Jimmy Hoyer		
Home Nursing Agency	Kelly Williams		
American Rescue Workers	Nicole Davidson		
Homeless Agencies and Providers			
Home Nursing Agency Community Services	Diana Packerch	(814) 943-0414	DPACKERCH@HOMEENURSINGAGENCY.com
Blair County Community Action	William Hunter	(814) 946-3653	bill.hunter@blaircap.org
Family Services, Inc.	Lisa Hann	(814) 944-3583	lhann@family-services-inc.net
Skills of Central PA	Kristen Luciano	(814) 944-4519 x 331	kluciano@skilgroup.org
Altoona Veterans Association	Ginny Vayda	(814) 943-8164	vin@mvapofpa.org
Social Service Agencies			
Home Nursing Agency - Blair County	Diana Packerch	(814) 943-0414	DPACKERCH@HOMEENURSINGAGENCY.com
Children and Youth Services - Family Services, Inc.	Lisa Hann	(814) 944-3583	lhann@family-services-inc.net
Altoona Area Public Library	Jennifer Neilsley	(814) 946-0417 ext. 13E	
Blair County Community Action	Sergio Carmona	(814) 946-3653	Sergio.carmona@blaircap.org
Blair County Mental Health- Dept of Social Services	James Hudack	(814) 693-3023	jhudack@blairco.org
Blair County Drug and Alcohol Services	Judy Rosser	(814) 381-0923	jrosser@blaircap.org
Blair County Assistance Office	Christine Lysinger	(814) 946-7113	clysinger@pa.gov
Skills of Central PA	Kristin Luciano	(814) 944-4519 x 331	kluciano@skilgroup.org
Salvation Army	Captains Ashley & Larry Fulmer	(814) 942-8104	ashley.fulmer@usa.salvationarmy.org
Child Advocates of Blair County Child Care	Terry Wasovich	(814) 946-5247 ext 104	twasovich@cbc-bchs.org
Lilly Pond Child Care Services	Emily Freidhof	(814) 943-8177	efreidhof@ccsdofntblair.org
Kids First Blair/Lilly Pond	Casey Shoup	(814) 943-8177	cshoup@kidsfirstblair.org
Central Blair Recreation Commission	Mike Hofer	(814) 949-2233	hofer@clrcsparks.org
Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation	Toni Bilk	(814) 949-8838	director@psmf.org
Blair/Clearfield Assoc. for the Blind & Visually Impaired	Gloria Pattle	(814) 944-2023	gcpattle@verizon.net
Catholic Charities	Beth Dodson	(814) 944-9388	bdodson@diocese.org
Catholic Charities	Michelle Johnston		
Blair Health Choices	Trina Hlg		
Department of Social Services	Cathy Crum		
PA Department of Aging	Beth Gerber		
Fair Housing Organizations			
Fair Housing Advocates - Catholic Charities	Jean Johnstone	(814) 944-9388	jjohnstone@diocese.org
Legal Services - Mid Penn Legal	Diana Ingersoll	(814) 943-8130	dingersoll@midpenn.org
NAACP	Donald Witherspoon	(814) 942-1126	DW1312@yahoo.com
Self-Determination Housing Project of PA Inc.	Howard Ermin	(814) 502-4448	howard@sdhp.org

Center for Independent Living	Marty Dombrowski		mdombrowski@clscpa.org
Center for Independent Living	George Palmer	(814) 949-1905	gpalmer@clscpa.org
Operation Our Town, Inc. (OOT)	Shawna Hoover	(814) 296-8730	OOT@siore.com
Blair County Human Relations	Ron Miller		ronm81944.1@verizon.net
Landlord Association	William Kitt	(814) 695-2138	lyricobjectives@hscmail.com
Blair/Beford Builders Association	John Degenhardt	(814) 693-9710	info@blairbedfordbuilders.com
Local Housing Option Team (LHOT)	Luann Rabenstein	(814) 693-3046 x1482	lrabenstein@blairco.org
PA Eastern CDC/Local contact	William Hunter	(814) 946-3651	bill.hunter@blaircap.org
Economic Development Agencies			
Chamber of Commerce	Joe Hurd	(814) 945-8151	jhurd@blairchamber.com
Altoona Redevelopment Authority Board	Ron Beatty Secretary/Treasurer	(814) 931-6919	
Altoona Redevelopment Authority Staff	Lee Slusser	(814) 949-2470	nbrnina@altonara.gov
Altoona and Blair County Development Corporation	Stephen McInight	814-944-6113 ext 1105	stevem@abdcorp.org
Altoona and Blair County Development Corporation	Tom Seanultz	814-944-6113 x 1108	toms@abdcorp.org
Enterprise Zone	Patrick Miller	(814) 944-6113	patm@abdcorp.org
Job Training- Southern Alleghenies P&D Commission	Susan Whisler	(814) 949-6507	whisler@sapdc.org
Greater Altoona Economic Development Corporation	Pat Miller	(814) 942-3925	patm@abdcorp.org
Appalachian Intermediate Unit 08	Dr. Thomas Butler	(814) 940-0223	tbutler@iu08.org
Local Banks			
Altoona First Savings Bank	Troy Campbell	(814) 943-3411	tcampbell@firstsavingsbank.com
Refiance Bank	Lisa Michelone	(814) 949-6266	lmichelone@refiancebank.com
First Commonwealth Bank	Michele Banks	(814) 943-8790	mbanks@fcbanking.com
First National Bank	Dave Clary	(814) 946-0817	dclary@fnb.com
C&G Savings Bank	Wendy Nagle	(814) 944-2011	wnagle@cgsbonline.com
M&T Bank	Dave Worthing	(814) 946-6633	mabright@mtb.com
Credit Unions:			
AFC Federal Credit Union	Victor Giobisa	(814) 946-0857	vgiobisa@arfcu.org
American Pride Credit Union	Ted Glunt	(814) 946-3045	agcu@atlanticribn.net
Blair County Federal Credit Union	Milly Pincher	(814) 944-2821	arfcu@aol.com
Altoona Area Employees Fed CU	Darci Robinson	(814) 942-5431	aaefcu@altoonafcu.com
A B Federal Credit Union	Robin Walls	(814) 944-4025	rwalls@yahoo.com
Altoona Reg Health System FCU	Carol Ann Stevens	(814) 949-3076	carstevens1@verizon.net
Your Choice FCU	Delores Lepore	(814) 946-1293	dlepor@yourchoicefcu.com
Insurance Agents:			
Warren A. Gingrich Agency	Gary Gingrich	(814) 204-2418	ggingrich@gingrichinsurance.com
Allstate	Cullen Sheehan	(814) 944-1615	culesheehan@allstate.com
Major Employers			
LPMC Altoona	Ron McConnell	814-889-2011	rmcconnell@altonaregional.org
Sheets Corporation	Bob Franks		bfranks@sheetz.com
Faith-Based Institutions			
Altoona Bible Church	Linda	(814) 942-2131	altoonabible@altoonabible.org
Cornerstone Fellowship	Pastor Steve Oliveri	(814) 942-4003	stoliveri2005@yahoo.com
Mount Carmel Rectory	Father Frank Scornalenchi	(814) 942-8501	frank806@aol.com
Abundant Life Assembly of God	Pastor Walt and Lynn Smith	(814) 942-6656	smiththroughit@gmail.com
Our Lady of Fatima	Father Zatalava	(814) 943-0371	zatalava@hotmail.com
Sovereign Grace Chr-CENTRAL PA	Tom Kurtz	(814) 949-5940	tomkurtz@sovereignsca.org
Twenty-Eighth Saint Church Brethren	Pastor Barron K Deffenbaugh	(814) 241-8956	altoona28stcob@verizon.net
Pleasant Valley Assembly of God	Karen Maher	(814) 944-1948	kmaher@pvag.org
Evangelical Methodist Church	Bradley Raider	(814) 945-8786	
Riggles Gap Bible Church	Riggles Gap BC	(814) 946-3376	rigglesgap@verizon.net
Sacred Heart Formation Center	Mmgr. Stanley Carson	(814) 943-8553	sacredheart513@verizon.net
St. Mary's Rectory	Mmgr. Stein	(814) 942-2414	StMaryAltoona@diocesaj.org
Seventh-Day Adventist Church	Robert Snyder	(814) 943-2658	
Christ Community UMC	Rev. Rebecca L. Holland	814-942-5584	ccumc@outlook.com
Grace Brethren Church	No answer	(814) 942-8861	
Fields of Harvest Fellowship	Hud Crossman	(814) 943-4384	
Simpson Temple United Parish	Patty Jo	(814) 942-0846	simpsontemple@atlanticribn.net
Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament	Mmgr. Robert C. Mazur	(814) 944-4603	altocathedral@diocesaj.org
Hope Community Church	Tammy Gray	(814) 381-7020	tgray@yibastcbb.net
Junata United Methodist Church	Pastor Brent Salsgiver	(814) 942-6065	junataumc@atlanticribn.net
Altoona Restoration Church of God	Pastor Jeff Suhsorny	(814) 941-2773	cog913@atlanticribn.net
Lighthouse Ministries	Leif Message	(814) 949-4031	
Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Charles DuPree	(814) 215-4095	chsgranduncan@yahoo.com
Eighteenth Street Community Church	Pastor Paul Johnson	(814) 943-3850	
Islamic Center of Altoona		(814) 949-0577	



Healthcare Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Community Development Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Tuesday August 6th, 2019 at 3:30pm

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Dave Cross <i>for Mike Corso</i>	UPMC Altoona	814-889-2223	CorsoM@UPMC.edu
Ron Hodgson	ACNC	814-946-2700	-----
Carl Fischer	City of Altoona	814-949-2472	
Dave Jory	YDU	(717) 553-7777	
Dale Haglund	U. D. V.	(412) 461-6916	
Diana Packech	UPMC Behavioral Health	814-943-8114	packechd@upmc.edu



Social Service Agencies and Providers Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 8:30am

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Thonda Smith	Family Smas Inc.	814 944 3583	rsm@mcfamilyservicesinc.net
Dennis Wison	Blair Senior Serv	814-688-3500	dwison@blair-senior.org
Pave Jordan	YDL	717 553-7147	
Jean Johnstone	Catholic Charities	814-944-9388	jjohnstone@diocesegj.org
Mary Johnson	City's AD Staff	814-949-2499	mjohanson@altoonapage.org
Sergio Carrmona	BCCAP	814-946-3651	sergio.carrmona@blair-caps.org
Judith Rossen	BOAP	814 381 0921	jrossen@blandag.org

Social Service Agencies and Providers Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 8:30am



Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
<i>Carl E. Forster</i>	<i>COA</i>	<i>935-6341</i>	
<i>Walt Hayden</i>	<i>Urban Design/Vision (A12)</i>	<i>461-6916</i>	
<i>Jana Illey</i>	<i>County of Blair</i>	<i>693-3023</i>	



Housing Agencies and Organizations Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 1:30pm

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Michelle Peterson	IDA, Inc.	814-944-9466	mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org
Cheryl Johns	AFA	814-944-2026	Cheryl.Johns@altoonahousing.org
Doree Jork	UDV	(717) 553-7747	



Homeless Agencies and Providers Round Table

City of Altoona, Pennsylvania

2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan

Community Development Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor

Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 3:00pm

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Lisa Hann	Family Services Inc.	814-944-3583	Chanel@familysonesinc.net
April Hileman	Blair County Community Action	814-946-3651	April.Hileman@blaircap.org
Erica Matko	Blair County Community Action	814-946-3651	Erica.Matko@blaircap.org
Jodi Williams	Blair County Community Action	814-946-3651	Jodi.Williams@blaircap.org
Amy Compton	Blair County Community Action	814-946-3651	Amy.Compton@blaircap.org
Dore Jordan	LPC	(717) 555-7747	

Faith Based Organizations Round Table

City of Altoona, Pennsylvania

2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan

Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor

Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 4:00pm



Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Barbara K. DeFrensch	Twenty-Eighth St Church of the Brethren	814-241-8956	bdefrensch@homestate.to
PETER A JOUDRY	THE NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT	814 291 2096	PAJoudry@aol.com
CRYSTAL BAILES	THE NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT	814 201 2096	CRYSTAL@TNPPA.ORG



Education Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Community Development Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 8:30am

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Su Franks	Altoona Area School District	814 946-8207	sfranks@aa-sdcat.com
Bread Hatch	Altoona Area School District	814-946-2218	bhatch@aa-sdcat.com



Fair Housing Organizations Round Table

City of Altoona, Pennsylvania

2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan

Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor

Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 9:30am

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
DONALD WITHEASPOON	NAACP	814-944-5390	DEW 2312@yaphan.com
Marty Dombrowski	Center for Independent Living of South Central PA	814-949-1905	m.dombrowski@cilscca.org
GEORGE MENER	Center for Independent Living of South Central PA	"	g.mener@cilscca.org
CASH FISCHER	City of Altoona	814-935-6341	cfischer@altoonapa.gov
WILL HAYLAND	Urban Design Vintner	(412) 461-6916	will@urban-design-vintner.com
MARGIE JOHNSON	City of Altoona	814-949-2477	mjohnson@altoonapa.gov
BILL KITT	Central PA Landlords Assn	814-732-4184	bvproperties@netnet.net

Fair Housing Organizations Round Table

City of Altoona, Pennsylvania

2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan

Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor

Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 9:30am



Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Dave Jordan	UDU	(717) 552-2247	



Business and Economic Development Round Table
 City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 11:00am

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Brandon Peters	SAP & DC	814 949 6543	bpeters@sapdc.org
Pat Miller	ABCD Corp GAEDC/Parking Auth.	844-944-6113	patm@abcdcorp.org
Cbe Hurd	Blair County Chamber	(814) 943-8151	jhurdo@blairchamber.com
Duck Martin	Altoona Cave	814-283-3102	dmartin@hoorecurve.com
Carl Fischer	City of Altoona	814-949-2470	cfischer@altoona.pa.gov
[Signature]	Urban Design Ventures	(412) 461-6916	urban.design.ventures.com
[Signature]	UDV	(717) 552-7747	

**FY 2020 – 2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, 2020 Annual Action Plan
and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
August 6 – 8, 2019**

Transcription of Meeting Minutes – Day One

Community Development Staff – 8/6/19 @ 9:00 a.m. (Mary Johnson & Carl Fischer)

- Good drawdown ratio – 1.05 as of the end of June
- Rehab Program going strong
 - \$25k Loan
 - \$10K Lead Based Paint Grant
- HOME Funds allow the city to do affordable housing
 - Low/mod
 - Elderly
- Working with housing authority

Problems – Needs:

- Curb and walk replacement
- Codes office doesn't push for people to vacate
- Better connection w/Codes & C.D. Department
- Rehab working well w/ Codes
- BSRA System (Computer Software) is working well
- Need more contractors for the Rehab Program
 - 10 rehabs per year
 - 12 this year
- HOME \$ for rental rehab
 - 8 per year plus the CHDO
 - Down to 2 small landlords
 - Will do 50 units this year through CHDO
- Currently funding an accessibility program
 - Rentals
 - Homeowners
 - Blair CAP is doing accessibility up to 11 units to prevent DBRA
- Center for Independent Living
 - 12 houses in 2019
- Pat Obringer – CD Rep from Pittsburgh HUD
 - FY 2019 CDBG Application approved HUD Rep
 - In the system
- Homelessness does not appear to be a problem – visually
 - Not living in the street
- Blair CAP
 - Building a shelter w/ six – 2-bedroom units
 - One stop shop for homeless
 - \$2.8m cost

- FY 2019 CDBG Funds
- Plus 12 beds
- CIL provides rent to landlords for +/- 6 mo.
- UPMC Behavioral Health Services
 - Rental assistance
 - Case management
- Blair CAP managing the COC Program
- City created blight taskforce
 - Housing Alliance facilitated meeting
 - Involved various departments, realtors, business community
 - Discovered a lot of blight in the community
 - Need to upgrade the entrance portals
 - 10 – 15 demolitions per year w/ 2-man crew
 - City does most of the demolitions
 - Board up structures
 - Large structures are contracted out – large brick home
 - Lien the property

amtran – Public Transportation – 8/6/19 @ 10:00 a.m. (Eric Wolf)

- Considered small urban transit system
- Covers central portion of county around Altoona
- More operating \$ from the state than feds
- Used to receive some CDBG
- Leverage 30 to 1 on local funds to other funds
- Receive from general funds
- Hollidaysburg Borough and Logan Township main service area with Altoona

Problems – Needs:

- Opioid crisis and resulting crime
- Poverty
- Shootings have decreased
- Starting to see people communicating to resolve issues
- “Operation Our Time”
 - Corporate leaders committee
 - \$3-4M to address shootings & drugs
 - Related to treatment
- Portage proposal
 - Build a treatment center
 - Had public meeting and it was wanted
- Railroad was major employment center
- Retail is major employment which is being lost
- Community college has increased its footprint at the mall
- Steve McKnight
 - Altoona Blair Economic Development
 - Finding qualified employees
- Not hearing about housing discrimination
- Middle range housing is an issue

- Lots of cheap housing
- Issue of blight
 - Push back of owners to do anything to their properties

Public Works Department – 8/6/19 @ 10:00 a.m. (Jane Gill & Mark Cristo)

- Sidewalks & curbs
- Street reconstruction and paving
- Area without storm sewers and drainage
- 4 streams that are in a flood plain
- Nuisance drainage problems
 - Lack of storm sewers in CDRC areas
 - Upcoming 2020 storm sewer project.
 - Got approval from HUD based on city's survey
- Inventory Street annually
 - Projected 5-year plan
 - No problems getting contractors
- Engineering work 50% in house
- EADS is the consulting engineer
- City staff does curbs and walks
- Paving work is in house
- Using \$ for Parks & Rec Dept.
 - Works w/ CDSC & other depts for doing work
- Update the Sec. 504 plan
 - Every time they do an upgrade to a facility
 - Do handicap work
- Takes care of police, parks & City Hall
- Fire Dept does their own building
- 9-13 staff in engineering dept. including electrical and janitors
- Engineering prepares a Capital Improvement list & CDBG list
- Construction season starts in April/May
- Pave in June done by end of June
- May have a small parks project coming up this year
- Question on Beall Ave.
 - State Access Route
 - Not a State Road
 - Applying for a State Motor Grant
- Mary – Sec. 504 Plan updated regularly
- City's Policy & Procedures Manual
 - Mary will provide

Public Safety – 8/6/19 @ 11:00 a.m. (Janice Freehling – Chief of Police & Tim Hileman – Fire Chief)

Police Chief:

- Resurgence of Meth
- Still have Opioid problem
- Not enough treatment centers/providers for the addicted
- Not enough long-term treatment facilities

- Meth problems
 - More violence
 - More crime
- Crimes decreased over the last five-years
- Full complement (66 total)
 - 6 in police academy
 - Was down by 7 in January
- Still does bike patrol
- Community Policing
 - Sargent in charge of program
 - 3 officers
 - 6:00 p.m. tonight – National Night Out
 - Work with non-profit agencies
 - Fire Department
 - At Heritage Plaza

Public Safety Needs:

- Mental Health Issues – not enough facilities
- Domestic Violence – staying about the same
 - Lethality Assessment Program
 - Ask 11 questions
 - Answer yes to three or more
 - A number is provided to call for help
 - Family Services is promoting it
 - Need to train entire department on this
- Don't have a lot of homeless
- Homeless tend to hide
- Many live in cars
- Only one police station – no substations
- County supplies people to stay with Homeless at fire stations during extreme weather

Fire Chief:

- 4 stations
- 1 reserve station/garage w/back-up facility
- Manned 24/7/365
- 55 firefighters
 - All paid
 - Surrounded by volunteer companies
- City goes outside city limits for Technical Assistance and Hazardous aide
- 3 ½ minute response time
- QRS – Quick Response Services
 - Does all basic life support
 - Can be anywhere in the City
- Community Risk Reduction Program
 - Joined the Blair County Drug & Alcohol program
 - Police & Fire do drug prevention & assistance
 - All police and fire carry Narcan
- All firemen are EMT's
 - No problem recruiting

- Problem with retention
- Likely due to cuts in benefits
- Same issue in police dept
- Wage freezes and cuts under Act 47 hurt public safety personnel
- Foresee recruitment problem in the future
- Higher cost of maintenance of fire equipment
- Equipment is very good
- Able to raise funds when the City was under Act 47
- Need to sustain the equipment
- I.S.O. 2 – rating for insurance purposes
- Fire hydrants
 - Excellent
 - 90 psi at most
- City owns the water system
- Water Authority maps in G.I.S. all hydrants
- Can pull on phone app all data on each hydrant
- All firefighters classified FF1, many are FF2
 - 600 hours per year training goal
 - Last year achieved 800 hours
- Had 2 train incidents last year
- Norfolk Southern goes through city not very cooperative
- Fire Chief also Emergency Management Coordinator
 - City set up
 - County now manages
- Lacking broadband access to have vehicles tied to 911 Center
- Probably won't be done for next 5 years
- Police already has good broadband
- Upcoming pilot program w/MSA equipment
- First commercial building fire this year hadn't had one in many years
- Only 1 fire inspector previously
 - 128 inspections up to 700+ inspections per year
 - 1 official inspector
 - 2 overtime inspectors
- 2012 150 working structure fires
- 2019 under 100
- Fire Prevention – US Fire fighting
- Talk to 20,000 students about fire prevention
- Number of caused fires (arson)
 - has not gone down
 - 17 – 19 this year
- Abandoned buildings a problem and homeless living in them
- Emergency demolition program in cooperation with CD Dept
- "Get Out Alive" Program
 - Smoke alarms
 - Fire extinguishers
 - CO detectors

- City-wide
- Income eligible
- Use 10-year lithium batteries

Meeting w/ Mayor – 8/6/19 @ 1:30 p.m. (Matt Pacifico)

Needs:

- Entrance corridors
 - 6th & 7th Avenues
 - 7th & 8th Avenues
 - Entrance portals
 - Sidewalks & Trees
- Housing
 - Market rate & Affordable
 - Accessibility improvements
- Reconstruct Margaret Avenue and Broad
 - URA Project
 - Needs improvement
- Expanding/Redo area onto Margaret & Beall Avenues at 24th St.
- Expansion of downtown
 - Create new district in old industrial area
- Blight is a top priority
- More Multi-modal uses
 - Bike and pedestrian opportunities
 - Incorporate into future road projects
- Park & Rec is in pretty good shape
 - More all ability equipment has been installed
 - Walking trail through City
 - Need a rec plan
 - Going through planning process , starting to do RFP
- City now has a land bank
- Can't weed out the speculators

Code Enforcement – 8/6/19 @ 2:00 p.m. (Rebecca Brown)

- Logantown Area – lower Fairview
 - By the UPMC hospital area
 - Properties in very poor condition
 - Older homes
- 7th & 8th Streets – access to UPMC
- Rental properties increasing
 - Almost 4,000 structures in city are rental
 - 8 – 7,000 units
 - Do have land bank
 - About 50/50 of local & outsiders
 - A number of these units are purchased and flipped
- Parts of Juniata/lower Dutch Hill are getting rough
- 5th Avenue from 12th to 8th – 4 block area to 3rd Avenue by the bakery
- Spotty areas

- The "Hole" behind the Jaffa (Shriners) behind Dawdo's (?)
- Rental registry – yes
 - \$50 per year for each up to 4 units
 - \$15 for additional units
- County repository
 - County takes care of their properties
 - City cites bad property and County boards it up
- Vacant program
 - For all vacant properties
 - 50 for first year
 - \$500 per year after
- Workload
 - 65-70% complaint-based code enforcement
 - 4 Code Officers
 - Scheduled weekly sweeps of areas
 - 4-5 hot spots
 - More complaints in the bad areas
- 2 good Magistrates
 - Split by areas of the city
 - 40 hearings per month
 - About 260 open complaints at the magistrates
 - First Thursday of every month
 - Owners live out of town
- Sidewalk problems throughout the City
- Complaints
 - Garbage, gutters sidewalks
- Inspections on rentals but not owner occupied
- Talk to realtors
 - Disclose prior to purchase any outside code violations
- With code violations send out CD pamphlet
- Complaint about eviction not discrimination
- Not hearing anything related to discrimination
- Issue of not reporting due to fear of eviction
- Who handles escrow issues

Healthcare Services – 8/6/19 @ 3:30 p.m. (Jaroh Cross – UPMC; Ron Hodges – Altoona Center for Nursing Care; Diana Packer – UPMC Behavior Health)

Ron

- Have 6 residents that need accessible and affordable housing
- 200 bed capacity – 30 rooms – 3 units 2 bedroom, 27 are single
- Assisted living facility
- 92% capacity most of the time
- Length of stay – unknown
- Program started by Altoona Hospital

Diana

- Owned by UPMC
- Affiliated w/ hospital for 5 years

- Operates a personal care home
- Resources, services
- Mental health services
- Drug and alcohol services
- Own and operate a personal care facility
- Have a housing manager for transitional and supportive housing
- Need for permanent supported housing
- Housing for non-elderly
- 3 buildings for the elderly downtown
 - 2 of 3 are public
 - Run through CDC
 - Primarily for elderly waiting list open couple of times a year for a couple of weeks
- Have been successful in getting Sec. 8 vouchers for their clients
- 5 or 6 people on Sec. 8 last year
- Not refunded for COC funding as of July 1st
- Do M.H. assessment
- Come in for a service and get connected to several
- Works with homeless population or mental health
- COC Program was a housing first program
- Last building done by organization had a lot of interest and concerns from area residents when the unit was rehabbed but didn't say no
- No problems with tenants and has worked out well
- Need for more personal care homes in the City
- Would be willing to open up another if \$ were available acquisition and rehab
- Currently 13 beds in community
- Have not experienced any discrimination complaints
- Good relationship with landlords
- Lead paint is an issue for families with children under 6
- No longer does its rental assistance program

Jacob

- Clients have problems finding accessible units
- Safety issues with defective units
- Recruiting issues for people moving into the area finding good, sound housing

Carl

- Nehemiah housing 24 new condo units coming on-line
- 11 new units in last year
- Not many new units being built in the City
- Most new units in Hollidaysburg

Jacob

- Child-care a concern w/ nurses (recruiting)

Diane

- Transportation issues – buses run every hour

Jacob

- Need for food pantries/food banks

Meeting w/ City Council - 8/6/19 @ 5:30 p.m. (Dave Butterbaugh)

- Blight remediation in the City
- Housing repair program – old housing stock
- Senior housing – affordable condos
- Mixed income housing
- Altoona doesn't have sums
- Sidewalks
- Storm Sewers – Margaret Avenue
- Trees – need a street tree program – Dutch Hill area – 8th & 9th Street

Transcription of Meeting Minutes – Day Two

Social Service Meeting 1 – 8/7/19 @ 8:30 a.m. (Blair Senior Services – Dennis Wisor; Catholic Charities – Jean Johnston; Family Services – Rhonda Smith; Blair County Drug & Alcohol Services – Judy Rosser; Blair County Community Action – Sergio Carmona; Blair County – Trina Illy)

Dennis Wisor

- amtran does good transportation service
- Blair Senior Services also provides Shared Ride Monday – Friday
- Saturday service is amtran no Sunday service
- Seeing less senior citizen riders
- 3-5% decrease per year over the last several years
- Paratransit rides 450-500 trips per day to and from
- 20-23 vans
- PennDOT funds
- DHR 30% of funds
- 62% from Lottery funds
- All vehicles purchased through PennDOT funding
- 12-year capital replacement program on vehicles
- Last year 2,700 unduplicated consumers
- Schedule 2 weeks out at least 24 hours in advance
- Avg. cost/mileage based
- MH/MR -\$0-
- Senior up to 3 miles \$1/\$3.40 max. round trip, most pay less than \$2.00
- Have care management drivers
- Referrals 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. – paratransit
- Paratransit 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. general public - mandated off the bus
- Can't do restricted contracts during regular hours/only in the evenings
- Problem – flat funded for years

Jean Johnston

- 8 county service area – Altoona office serves 4 counties
- 8:30 to 4:30 daily
- Private funded
- PHARE Funds
- Some grants
- \$70-80,000 for housing & rental payments 3-4 times more in requests
- Avg. \$300/case, generally \$50 – 300 in assistance

- They are last resort for services
- Seniors are a big need
- People on fixed income -- not enough affordable housing
- \$500 - \$600 cost of apts. Not affordable
- No domestic violence shelter
- Can't find housing for criminal offenders
- Referrals for fair housing to legal services
- Has come across fair housing issue "rent for sex"
- The city has a substantial number of landlords
- Tenants don't know what to do in "Withholding Rent", rally no process for escrowing rent

Trina Illy

- Grants Coordinator for Blair County
- CDBG Admin for the County
- County is Admin for ESG funds
- Also has applied for State HOME funds
- Was awarded a lead abatement program grant
- Receives PHARE funds from Marcellus Shale

Rhonda Smith

- Counseling programs for victims of domestic violence
- 2 intervention staff
- 16 bed shelter, 160 people assisted – men, women & children
- Need to build new family shelter – 35 bed facility – 6 units on 2nd floor for 12 persons
- 300 persons will be provided in a year
- Largest program is Intellectual Disabilities Program
- Community Rehabilitation Program
- 10 group homes in the county
- Drop-in Shelter for Children at a teen center
 - 12 – 17 age group assisted
- Victims Services
 - +/- 300 open cases at any time
- Victims of Domestic Violence Program
 - PA Victims of Crimes Funds
 - Legal Aid
 - Mobile Advocacy
 - Civil Protection Orders (PFAs) ~ last week 10 PFAs
- Sexual Advocacy & Domestic Violence
 - DV Shelter is not what it was, model is changing
 - PFA process goal to keep victims in their own homes and get perpetrator out
 - Strict confidentiality goal of program
 - Try to place victims in homes of relatives
 - Trying to break the cycle of violence
 - Peer to Peer group – Batters Program
 - Possible use HOME for rental units @ new shelter
- Serve about 4,000 persons per year
- Purchased 2 buildings in July

Judy Rosser

- Planning & Implementation for folks in recovery
- Serves person coming out of jail
- Housing for ex-offenders
- Transportation need
- Couch surfing, half-way houses, recovery housing, monitoring recovery housing
- State has issued new regulations on recovery houses – will send link
- 40% of the persons served are City residents
- Need a stable housing situation to prevent release
- Employment issues
- Trying to provide additional structure
- Some issues with zoning particularly related to recovery houses
- Adoption of recovery regs in zoning ordinance
- Generally 4-5 persons per house

Sergio Carmona

- 20 contracts w/state in Blair & Cambria Counties
- 9 counties served – Center to Adams to Somerset
- Serves veterans also working with Lawrence Community Action
- Homeless prevention services – main focus
- Operates a large weatherization program
 - 220 units this past year
 - Furnace replacement - \$750,000
- Rental assistance - \$30 - \$40,000/month
- \$10 - \$20,000 per week for moving, rental payments, utilities
- 50-60 call per day
- Using the HUD coordinated entry system
- State agencies are switching to system also
- Housing Insecure definition more flexibility
 - Will allow couch surfers or those with eviction notice to receive assistance
- Opioid use – program to assist
 - May allow those addicted to stay in treatment longer
- intensive case management for clients w/ long term assistance
- Affordable housing is disappearing

Needs

- Better transportation
- Affordable housing
- Employment
- Resources for chronic homeless
- County & City jail
- The COC local rep is Sergio
- Do January P.I.T. count
- Notable increase in numbers
 - No longer 1st come 1st served now most needy
- Abuses of Fair Housing
 - Don't get the rent in writing
 - Verbal contracts
- 2 great food banks in the City

- Community Action provides the Back-Pack program
 - 700 – 800 back packs a week
- Food Insecurity
 - Dollar General sells food
 - Not Inexpensive or always healthy
- Blair Senior Services does Meals on Wheels
 - 2,500 meals per week
- Why not set-up a HDC to develop new family and affordable housing

Redevelopment Authority – 8/7/19 @ 10:00 a.m. (City of Altoona – Lee Slusser, Mayor Matt Pacifico; A&C Development Corp. – Stephen McKnight)

Lee

- Redevelopment Area Plan to repurpose area adjacent to downtown
- Feasibility
- Repurpose of old hospital – “Grey Stone”
- \$15m investment in tech site
- Mixed use – office/commercial/ high end residential
- Trying to develop an intermodal facility and transit stop
- A&C-DC paid for an appraisal but owners wouldn’t accept
- Construction of 27 new townhomes by the project area
- Silk Mill property
- Mayor envisions it as Strip District in PGH
- Bridge the gap between the downtown and what is being developed
- Occupied
 - Smoke shop
 - Pharmacy
- Discussion of Redevelopment Area Plan
- Certification of an overall plan
- NS – Norfolk Southern
- Can eminent domain be used on railroad property
- Economic Development
 - Need townhomes \$185-\$250,000
 - 24-27 townhomes 6th & 7th Avenue & 24th & 25th Street
 - Elizabeth Apts. 23 units
 - \$850 off.
 - \$1,100 1 bed
 - \$1,495 top floor
 - 13 units in the Mill – same price point

Housing Agencies – 8/7/19 @ 1:30 p.m. (Altoona Housing Authority (AHA) - Cheryl Johns; Improved Dwellings of Altoona (IDA) – Michelle Peterson)

Public Housing

- 536 Public Housing Units
- 974 Section 8 Vouchers
- 27 VASH
- 0 Reunification
- Mainstream for Disabled Vouchers – applying for

- 5% of all units are 504 compliant per regulations
- Pay exception rents when landlord does accessible units
- Does an annual landlord workshop
- 120 landlords attend Section 8 Program
- Waiting list open twice a year
- 374 on Section 8 wait list
- 100 on PH wait list
- 98% occupancy rates
- Elderly
 - 55 years old or
 - Disabled
- Preferences
 - Working family
 - Veterans
 - Residency
 - Homeless

Improved Dwellings of Altoona

- 600 units in Altoona
- 400 in the 4 counties
- 98-99% occupied
- In business 50 years
- 501 (c) 4 also a CHDO
- Mainly rehab some new construction

Housing Authority applying for Mainstream vouchers for the disabled

Transportation issues

Limited Life Skills of low and very low-income households

- Housekeeping, parenting, etc.

Social services coordinator at the Evergreen Project 159 1 to 4 bedroom

Housing Authority – family units

Blair Towers – elderly units

- has an active resident council
- age 62+
- any disability

Public Housing 84 in Family Self Sufficiency from both public housing and Section 8

No project based Section 8

No Housing Development Corporation

Low crime rate in the public housing communities

Has a resident police officer living at Fairview Apts

136/176 at hotel across from city hall

- a number are section 8

Getting ready to expand to scattered site PH units received HOME Choice Units

Interim City Manager – 8/7/19 @ 3:00 p.m. (City of Altoona – Peter Marshal)

- 3rd Class City – property taxes
- 50 years no reassessment
- 15 years at its cap
- Became a home rule community

- \$450m to \$1b tax assessment
- City took back its water authority
- Sewers and infrastructure were let go for 15 years
- 20 years to catch up on infrastructure

Social Service Meeting 2 – 8/7/19 @ 3:00 p.m. (Family Services – Lisa Hann; Blair County Community Action – April Hileman, Erica Matko, Jodi Williams, Amy Compton)

Lisa

- Affordable, decent housing
- Tenancy background has been on family member with accessibility

April

- \$623 one-bedroom FMR
- Past history is still a major issue
- Prison system – local jail and release
- Water & sewer deposits where landlords are charging
- Each person over 18 must pay application fee
- Substance abuse #'s are increasing
- People with mental health disorders
- Used to be chronic homeless – seeing more families
- CAA does limit amount of assistance
- Assistance from other agencies will add to the limit amount
- People are coming back more often
- A lot of young families for eviction
- Smallest group is elderly homeless
- Do see youth
- Community has a program for 18-25 year-old youth

Faith Based Organizations – 8/7/19 @ 4:00 p.m. (Twenty-Fifth Street Church of the Brethren – Barron Deffenbaugh; The Nehemiah Project – Peter Joudry, Crystal Balios)

Barron

- Problems/Issues
 - Accessibility issues and affordability
 - Handicap accessibility

Crystal

- Lifelong resident
- Storm drainage poor, clogged
- Maintenance of property
- Trash
- Prospect pool is not accessible
- Problem w/ fed dogs on housing and services for former felony offenses
- Nehemiah School
 - Need more activities for children
- Nehemiah Project built playground at 16th St. and 10th Avenue
- Paying over \$900/month for the water consumption
 - 3" line
 - Capacity not consumption being billed

- Paying for water on playground that doesn't have use of water
- City has removed houses in the neighborhood
 - Would like to develop housing in the neighborhood
- Problem of landlords not taking care of their properties
- Problem with "anti-skid" on roads left from winter
- Nehemiah lunch program was serving 50-60 kids now down to 25

Barron

- Church serves 800 families/month in the pantry
- Seeking ways (cooperation) for partnerships with political parties and faith-based organizations

Crystal

- Hope Center pantry is open 3 nights per week

Transcription of Meeting Minutes – Day Three

Education – 8/8/19 @ 8:30 a.m. (Altoona School District – Brad Hatch & Susan Franks)

- 21% Special Ed students to age 21 w/ diploma
- 10-12% don't graduate w/their cohorts
- 89% graduate w/cohorts
- Mainstreamed – only a small group in a sheltered setting
- GED testing – multiple testing throughout the year
- Future Reading Index
 - 8 elementary standards
 - 2 secondary standards
 - ATSI designation w/state
 - Have a mentoring program
 - Academic
 - Attendance
- 8.5% African American
- 1.9% Hispanic
- 0.7% Asian
- 88% white
- No charter schools
- 2 magnet schools
- Cyber school operated by school district
- In house local program for troubled youth
- Total enrollment +/- 7,600 students
- College & career readiness – train students for the future
- Increasing the STEM education fields
- C.T.C. program for vocational training
- Eric Palmer, C.T.C. Executive Director
- Free to students – School District pays
- 56-58% on free & reduced lunch
- At risk population of students is growing
- Not a lot of drugs in schools
- Increase in marijuana use

- Increase in vaping and e-cigarettes
- Not seeing a lot of meth in schools
- Limited English
 - Not a lot of Hispanic
 - Influx of Arabic speaking & Asian
 - 30 to 35 students
- School doesn't have a literacy program
- Hired former community police officer

Recreation Department – 8/8/19 @ 8:30 a.m. (Mike Hufer)

- 3 entities
 - City
 - Township
 - School District
- 2 funding sources & fair support
- Have received CDBG and used it quite extensively
- Prospect Pool
 - Access to bathhouse is problem
 - Do have a lift chair
 - Could be substantial improvement due to topo
 - Bathhouse is accessible inside
- Do use school district pool as well as 3 other private pools
- 2 community centers
 - Both built in the 70's
 - Both are accessible
 - Restrooms are not
 - +/- \$75,000 per building to make accessible
- Parks are in pretty good shape generally do upgrades every year
- Finding lifeguards has become a problem
- ADA accessibility is biggest priority
 - Topo is major factor
- Have a source for scholarships
 - CDBG was source
 - Could be beneficial if brought back
- Blight issue in community particularly in center part of city
- Occasionally have folks spending the night in parks but not to great extent
- Camp at Garfield & Prospect Parks
- Vandalism in parks has significantly gone down
- Last 5 years +/- 10 new parks

Fair Housing Organizations – 8/8/19 @ 9:30 a.m. (NAACP – Don Witherspoon; C.I.L. – George Palmer, Marty Dombrowski; Landlord Association – William Kitt; SWPAH – Jamie Milligan)

Don

- President of NAACP for Blair County
- Evergreen Manor & Fairview Hills
- City planning -- Fair & equal treatment
- Over the years number of complaints

- Education is still needed
- Ramps in zoning ordinance are a special exception

George

- Serve people with disabilities
 - They are "invisible"
 - Need to build "new" hard to rehab to make homes accessible
- Will provide data on numbers
- SSDI - \$700 - \$800 per month

Marty

- Her background is education
- A lot of their clients do not have jobs
- Provide
 - Exercise
 - Support groups
 - Nurturing
 - Sign language, etc.
 - Community garden
 - Program called "Thursdays" when most clients come in includes a meal
 - Fellowship is big
- Federally funded center
 - 5 core areas
 - Free services
 - Hunger is a main "pain point"
 - 260 consumers case load
 - 100 clients through the office per month
- Para Transit
 - Covers 7 counties in South Central PA
 - Positive experience w/Paratransit and amtran
 - Evenings and weekends are a problem
 - Service best in the City

Bill

- Represents the landlords
 - 160 members
 - +/- 2,000 properties
 - Covers large area including State College & Johnstown
 - Police illegal student housing
- Issue of rehab cost for accessibility vs renting to non-handicapped
- Caliber of landlords
 - Have a landlords workshop in the fall
 - Willing to be conduit to address issues with landlords
 - Sponsor a program w/ city on college rentals and illegal rentals
- Sits on "Our Town" committee meetings
- Developed a resource book
- Works to educate landlords
- Also involved with state association

Marty

- C.I.L. doesn't own or manage any housing

- Trying to place 3 or 4 individuals in a good residence
- Partnerships could be formed

Lee – City

- A.I.
 - Need to look at families & group homes
 - Recovery houses & Half-way houses
 - Ramps by special exception can be built within the setbacks
 - Need for ramps increasing daily

DGJ

- Where are housing discrimination complaints filed
- Escrow of rent – Bill has never experienced putting rent in escrow
- Legal process

Jaimie

- Need to do more outreach on where to report a fair housing complaint

Bill

- Monthly training & yearly conference of Landlords
- Average rent w/o utilities \$500 - \$600/month

Business & Economic Development Organizations – 8/8/19 @ 11:00 a.m. (Chamber of Commerce – Joe Hurd; Altoona and Blair County Economic Development Corporation (ABCD) – Pat Miller; Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAPDC) – Brandon Peters; Altoona Curve – Derek Martin)

Pat

- Business & economic development organization
 - Work with Sheetz, Penn State Econ. Dev.
- Marketing for potential clients
- Grantsmanship
- Coordinate job training opportunities
- Manage small revolving loan fund for upper four residential development
- Unmet need
 - Access to capital for development
 - Managed a revolving loan fund in the past from CDBG funds
 - End due to complexity of program requirements
- Infrastructure in pretty good shape and city is doing a lot of upgrades
- Need more downtown parking
 - \$45/month surface lot
 - \$51/month garage
- Section 108 loans
- Land becoming a premium
- New development to increase space in downtown
- Blight problem spreading
- Need for more affordable housing and market rate housing
- Workforce development
 - City unemployment below state average
 - Population is slowly declining
 - May turn around but still need employees
 - Companies have openings and can't fill with workers

- There are employment opportunities
- People come to Altoona from surrounding counties

- Blight removal

Brandon

- Serve business, non-profits and municipalities
- Division of business development w/ an international trade association
- Marketing for small business
- Small business development
 - Ben Franklin grants, etc.
- Work w/ municipalities and offer grantsmanship
- Training for municipalities
- Job training programs to build technical expertise
- Serve 6 counties
- Located in Blair County
- Paid internship program
- Companies can't fill positions
- Some companies are dropping drug testing
- Potential issue of training people and then they leave the area

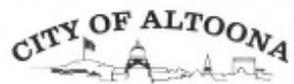
Derek

- AA baseball
- Second smallest market in AA league
- 2023 collective bargaining is up
- MLB team wants housing for 6 months for players
- 21 years in business
- Workforce
 - 25 full time
 - 150 game day
 - 70 home game schedule
 - Most full-time staff comes from out of state
 - Struggle with Millennials and work ethic
 - Cost of living is low
 - Long hours and low pay
 - \$28k starting salary
 - 290k to 315k yearly attendance
 - Stadium is owned by County
 - Ground is owned by another entity
 - Affordable family entertainment
- Ballpark Improvement Fund
 - Team was required to pay for all improvements
 - County redirected some of "bed tax" to pay loan on improvements
 - \$1.5m in improvements

Joe

- 1,000 to 1,100 businesses w/ 46,000 employees
- Mainly Blair County organizations
- One of largest chambers in the state
- May establish a PAC
- Advocates recruitment of businesses

- Works closely with Explore Altoona on travel & recruitment
- Works with ABCD Corp. & SAPDC
- Heavy involvement with Hospitality & entertainment
- Strong transportation committee
- Works with school districts
- B.A.S.I.C.S. for school students
- Youth Programs
 - Young Entrepreneurs
 - Career fair for 8th graders and high school seniors
 - Career technology program at schools has been very good
 - Leadership Blair County and similar program for high schoolers
 - Entrepreneurship program for high schoolers
- Workforce Development biggest need
 - Worked with U.S. Chamber to develop some programs
 - Workforce development is key



SURVEYS

Disabled Childhood Development Other _____

14. **Are there any programs or services that are missing or under-funded in the City? Please list:**

15. **Are there any employment issues in the City of Altoona? (Choose all that apply):**

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Transportation
 Disabled Childhood Development Other _____

16. **Are there any transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all applicable boxes:**

No Reliable Public Transit Not Enough Service Hours Cost of Service Unsafe Public Transit
 Lack of Parking Other _____

17. **Are there any crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all applicable boxes:**

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Interaction Between Police and Residents
 Other _____

18. **Are there any blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? (Choose all that apply):**

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds
 Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

19. **In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?** Yes No Unsure

20. **What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?**

21. **Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/ Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>				
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>				

22. **Are there any additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?**

(Turn Over to Complete)

Q1 What is the name of the street and ZIP Code where you live?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Street Name:	100.00%	20
ZIP Code:	95.00%	19

#	STREET NAME:	DATE
1	8th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:30 AM
2	13th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:28 AM
3	Pine Avenue	1/21/2020 9:26 AM
4	5th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:25 AM
5	14th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:24 AM
6	19th street	1/21/2020 9:21 AM
7	Pine	1/21/2020 9:19 AM
8	Beale Avenue	1/21/2020 9:17 AM
9	4th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:14 AM
10	Broad Street	1/21/2020 9:12 AM
11	5th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:11 AM
12	8th avenue	1/21/2020 9:09 AM
13	6th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:07 AM
14	5th avenue	1/21/2020 9:05 AM
15	6th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:04 AM
16	6th avenue	1/21/2020 9:02 AM
17	5th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:00 AM
18	6th Avenue	1/21/2020 8:58 AM
19	4th Avenue	1/21/2020 8:56 AM
20	16th	8/1/2019 10:22 AM

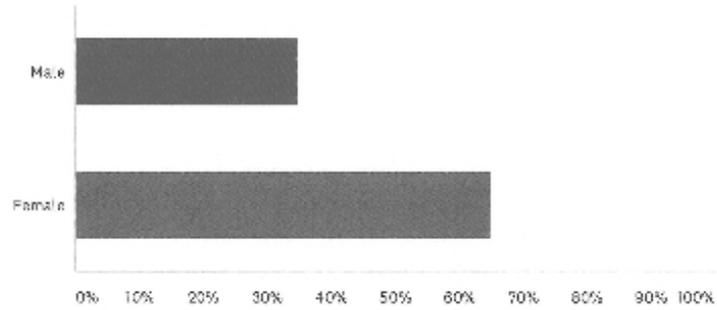
City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

#	ZIP CODE:	DATE
1	16802	1/21/2020 9:50 AM
2	16801	1/21/2020 9:28 AM
3	16801	1/21/2020 9:25 AM
4	16801	1/21/2020 9:24 AM
5	16801	1/21/2020 9:21 AM
6	16802	1/21/2020 9:19 AM
7	16801	1/21/2020 9:17 AM
8	16802	1/21/2020 9:11 AM
9	16801	1/21/2020 9:12 AM
10	16801	1/21/2020 9:11 AM
11	16802	1/21/2020 9:09 AM
12	16802	1/21/2020 9:07 AM
13	16802	1/21/2020 9:05 AM
14	16802	1/21/2020 9:04 AM
15	16802	1/21/2020 9:02 AM
16	16802	1/21/2020 9:00 AM
17	16802	1/21/2020 8:58 AM
18	16802	1/21/2020 8:56 AM
19	16801	8/1/2019 10:22 AM

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q2 Gender

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0

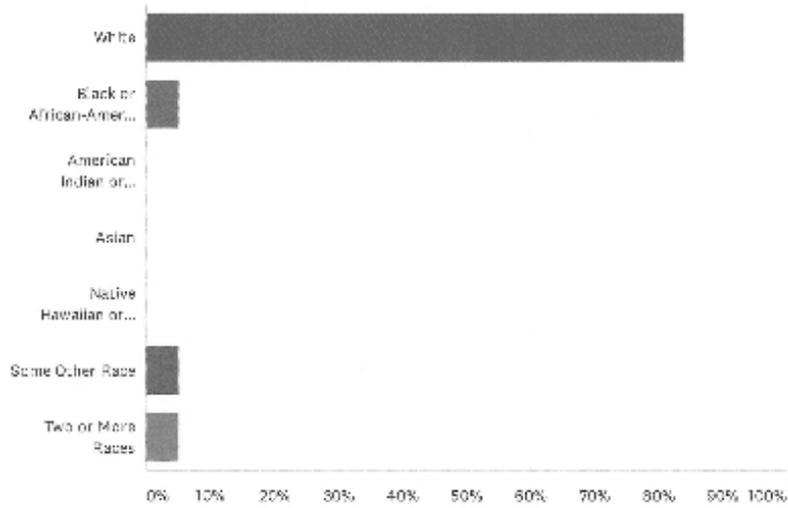


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	35.00%	7
Female	65.00%	13
TOTAL		20

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q3 Race

Answered: 19 Skipped: 1

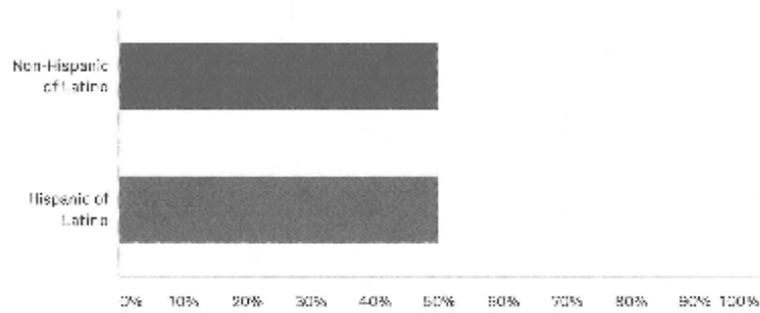


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White	84.21%	18
Black or African-American	5.26%	1
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.00%	0
Asian	0.00%	0
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Some Other Race	5.26%	1
Two or More Races	5.26%	1
Total Respondents: 19		

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q4 Ethnicity:

Answered: 2 Skipped: 18

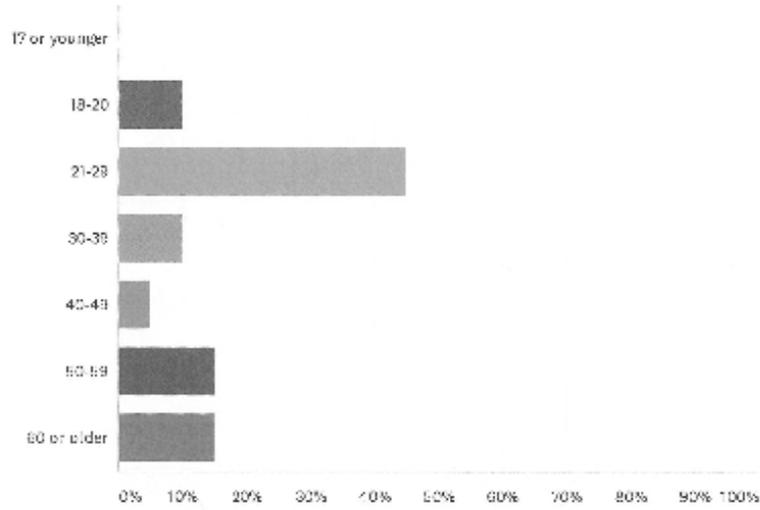


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Non-Hispanic of Latino	50.00%	1
Hispanic of Latino	50.00%	1
Total Respondents: 2		

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q5 Age

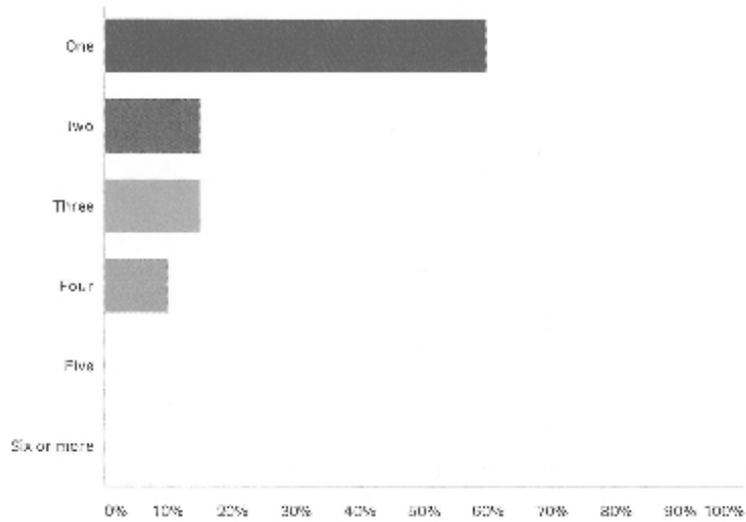
Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18-20	10.00%	2
21-29	45.00%	9
30-39	10.00%	2
40-49	5.00%	1
50-59	15.00%	3
60 or older	15.00%	3
TOTAL		20

Q6 Number of persons living in your household?

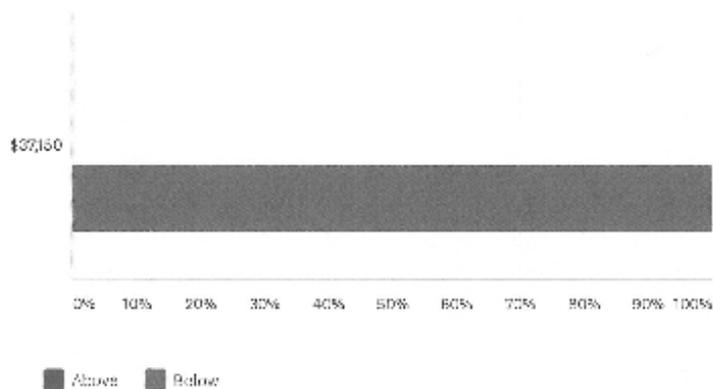
Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
One	60.00%	12
Two	15.00%	3
Three	15.00%	3
Four	10.00%	2
Five	0.00%	0
Six or more	0.00%	0
TOTAL		20

Q7 If you are a one (1) person household, is your total household income above or below \$37,150 per year?

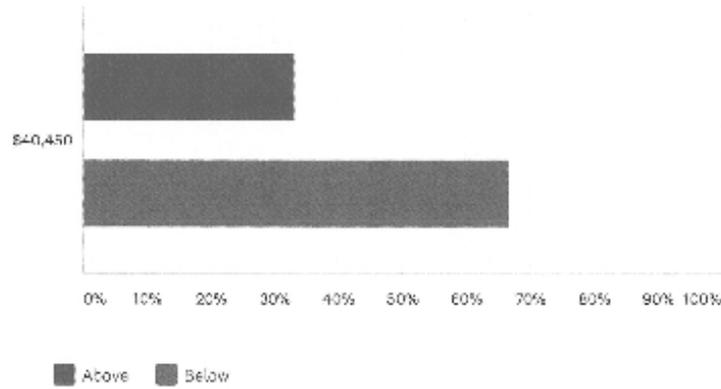
Answered: 9 Skipped: 11



	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$37,150	0.00%	100.00%	
	0	9	9

Q8 If you are a two (2) person household, is your total household income above or below \$40,450 per year?

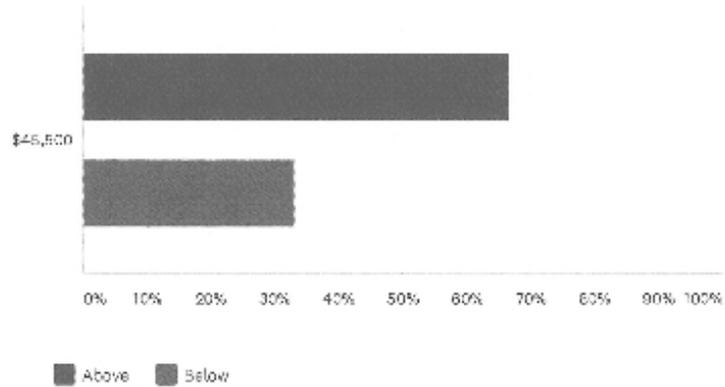
Answered: 3 Skipped: 17



	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL	
\$40,450	33.33%	66.67%		
	1	2		3

Q9 If you are a three (3) person household, is your total household income above or below \$45,500 per year?

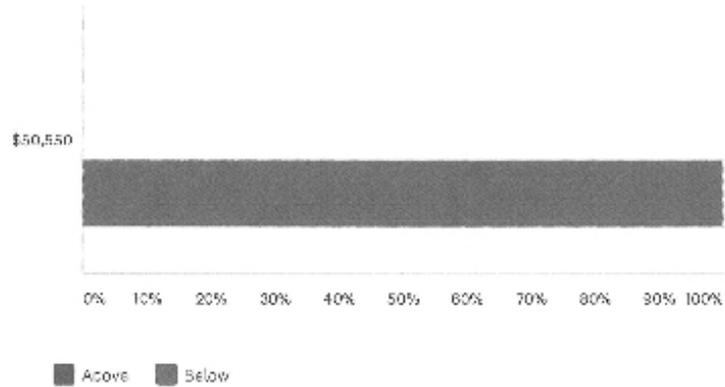
Answered: 3 Skipped: 17



	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$45,500	66.67%	33.33%	
	2	1	3

Q10 If you are a four (4) person household, is your total household income above or below \$50,550 per year?

Answered: 2 Skipped: 18



	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL	
\$50,550	0.00%	100.00%		
	0	2		2

Q11 If you are a five (5) person household, is your total household income above or below \$54,600 per year?

Answers: 0 Skipped: 20

 No matching responses.

	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$54,600	0.00%	0.00%	0
	0	0	0

Q12 If you are a six (6) person household, is your total household income above or below \$58,650 per year?

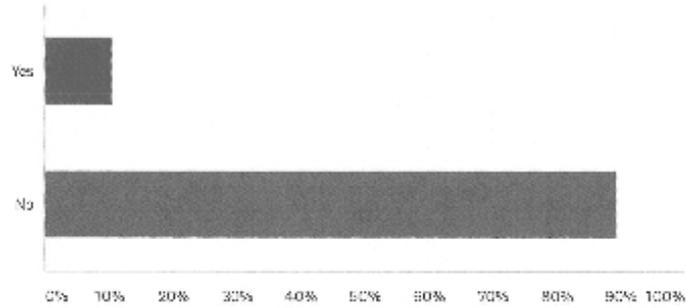
Answered: 0 Skipped: 50

 No matching responses.

	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$58,650	0.00%	0.00%	0
	0	0	0

Q13 Are you a homeowner?

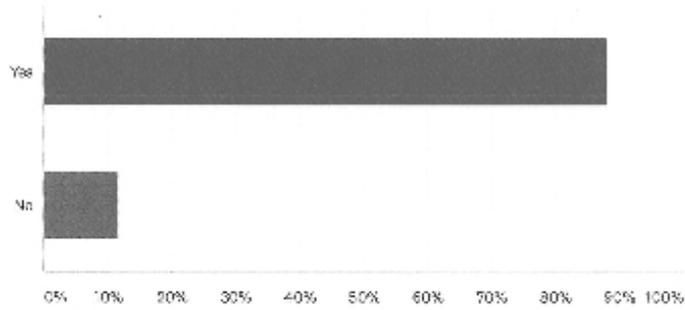
Answered: 19 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	10.53%	2
No	89.47%	17
TOTAL		19

Q14 Are you a renter?

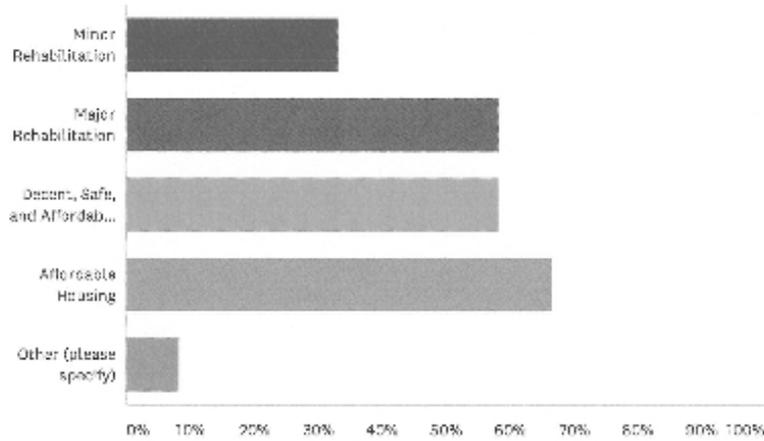
Answered: 17 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	88.24%	15
No	11.76%	2
TOTAL		17

Q15 Housing conditions in the City of Altoona require: (please check all applicable boxes)

Answers: 12 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Minor Rehabilitation	33.33%	4
Major Rehabilitation	58.33%	7
Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units	58.33%	7
Affordable Housing	66.67%	8
Other (please specify)	8.33%	1
Total Respondents: 12		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	yard care	1/21/2020 9:22 AM

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q16 Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:

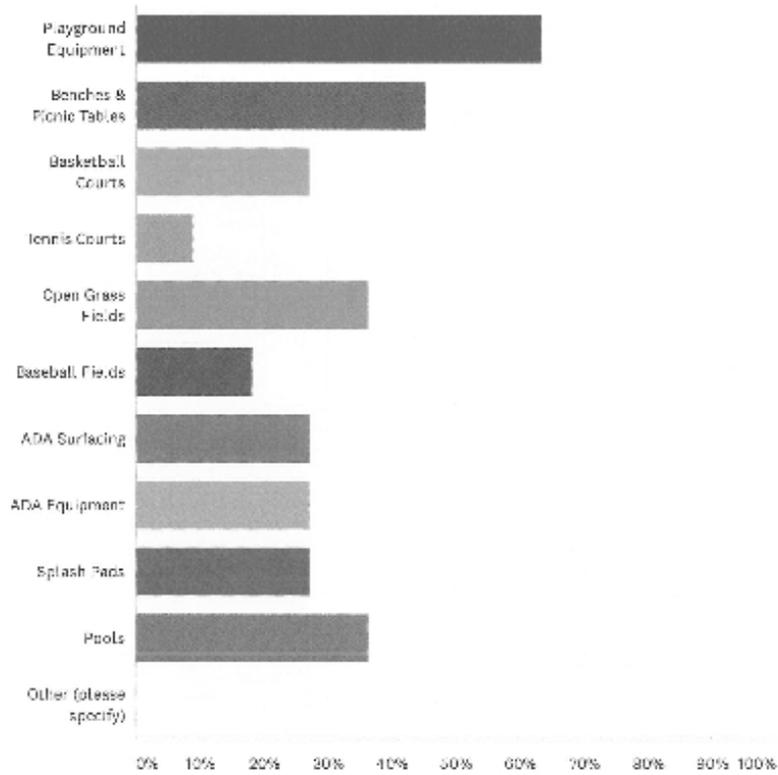
Answered: 2 Skipped: 18

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Lack of affordable rentals	1/21/2020 9:15 AM
2	It is difficult to find housing for individuals who are not senior citizens.	8/1/2019 10:28 AM

non-senior housing

Q17 Are there any needs or improvements to recreational facilities that you would like to see? (Please check all applicable boxes):

Answered: 11 Skipped: 9



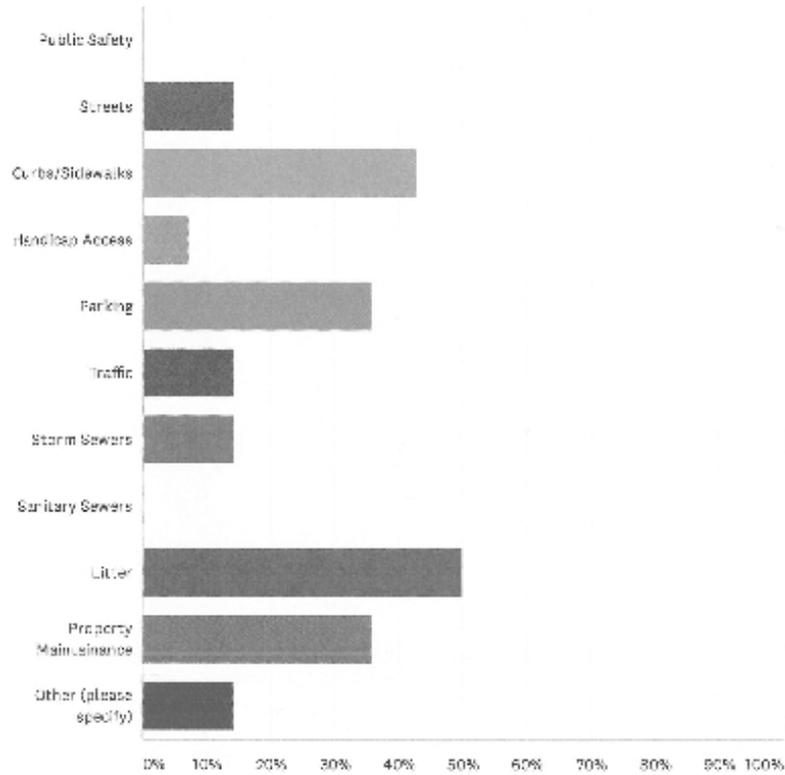
City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Playground Equipment	63.64%	7
Benches & Picnic Tables	45.45%	5
Basketball Courts	27.27%	3
Tennis Courts	9.09%	1
Open Grass Fields	36.36%	4
Baseball Fields	18.18%	2
ADA Surfacing	27.27%	3
ADA Equipment	27.27%	3
Splash Pads	27.27%	3
Pools	36.36%	4
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 11		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

**Q18 Are there any problems in your neighborhood with the following?
(Choose all that apply):**

Answered: 14 Skipped: 6



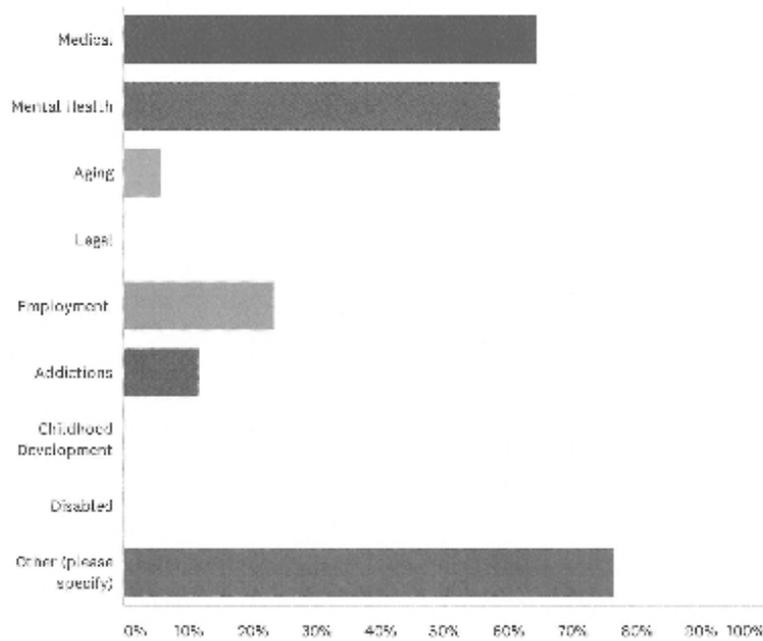
City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Public Safety	0.00%	0
Streets	14.29%	2
Curbs/Sidewalks	42.86%	6
Handicap Access	7.14%	1
Parking	35.71%	5
Traffic	14.29%	2
Storm Sewers	14.29%	2
Sanitary Sewers	0.00%	0
Litter	50.00%	7
Property Maintenance	35.71%	5
Other (please specify)	14.29%	2
Total Respondents: 14		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Street lights that turn off when they shouldn't	1/21/2020 9:20 AM
2	Rats	1/21/2020 9:11 AM

**Q19 Do you use any of the social service programs available in the City?
(Choose all that apply):**

Answered: 17 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Medical	64.71%	11
Mental Health	58.82%	10
Aging	5.88%	1
Legal	0.00%	0
Employment	23.53%	4
Addictions	11.76%	2
Childhood Development	0.00%	0
Disabled	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	76.47%	13
Total Respondents: 17		

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:30 AM
2	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:28 AM
3	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:26 AM
4	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:22 AM
5	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:20 AM
6	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:13 AM
7	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:09 AM
8	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:08 AM
9	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:08 AM
10	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:04 AM
11	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:03 AM
12	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:03 AM
13	Homeless	1/21/2020 8:57 AM

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

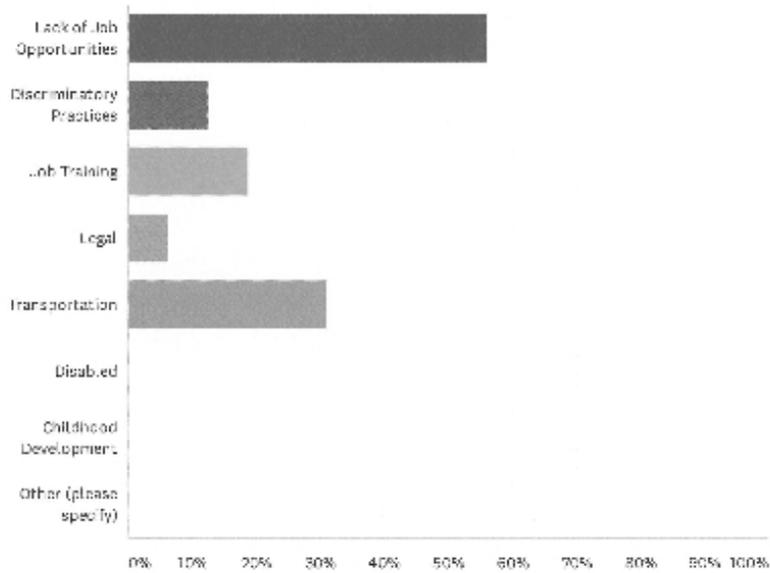
Q20 Are there any programs or services that are missing or under-funded in the City? Please list:

Answered: 4 Skipped: 17

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Homeless Shelter	1/21/2020 9:30 AM
2	Mental Health Services Affordable Housing	1/21/2020 9:06 AM
3	WIC Agency	1/21/2020 9:02 AM

Q21 Are there any employment issues in the City of Altoona? (Choose all that apply)

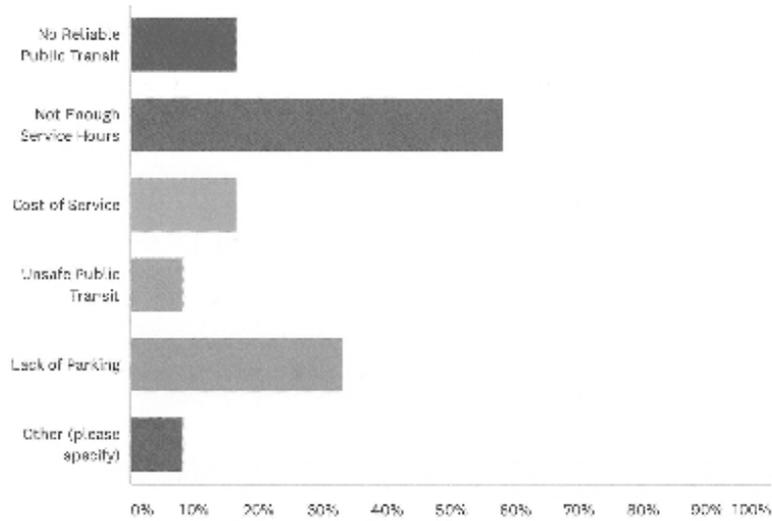
Answered: 16 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lack of Job Opportunities	56.25%	9
Discriminatory Practices	12.50%	2
Job Training	18.75%	3
Legal	6.25%	1
Transportation	31.25%	5
Disabled	0.00%	0
Childhood Development	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 16		
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q22 Are there any transportation issues in the City of Altoona?

Answered: 12 Skipped: 8

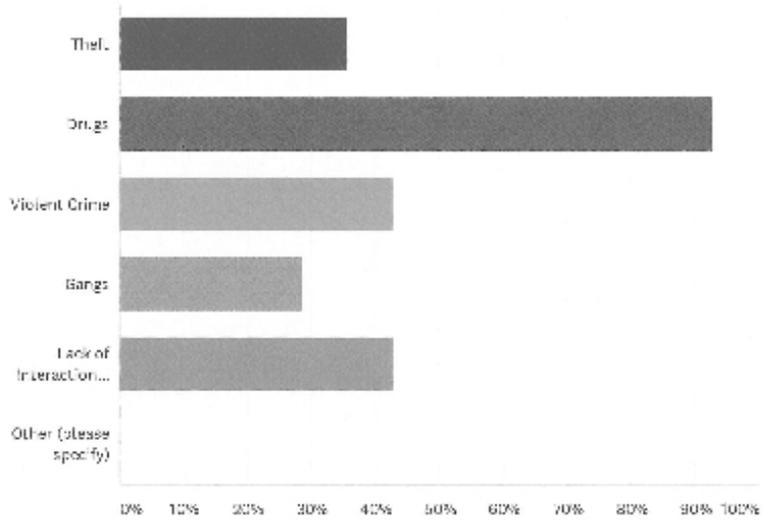


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No Reliable Public Transit	16.67%	2
Not Enough Service Hours	58.33%	7
Cost of Service	16.67%	2
Unsafe Public Transit	8.33%	1
Lack of Parking	33.33%	4
Other (please specify)	8.33%	1
Total Respondents: 12		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Nothing available on Sundays	1/21/2020 9:27 AM

Q23 Are there any crime issues in the City of Altoona?

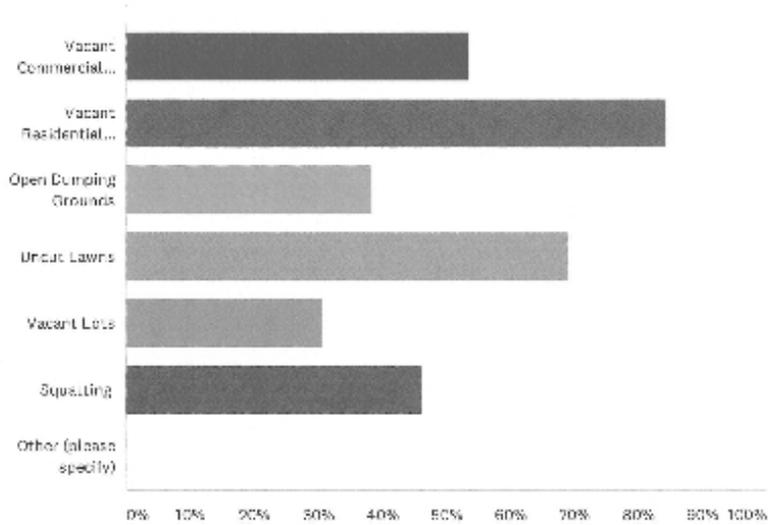
Answered: 14 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Theft	35.71%	5
Drugs	92.86%	13
Violent Crime	42.86%	6
Gangs	28.57%	4
Lack of Interaction Between Police and Residents	42.86%	6
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 14		
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

**Q24 Are there any blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City?
(Choose all that apply):**

Answers: 13 Skipped: 7

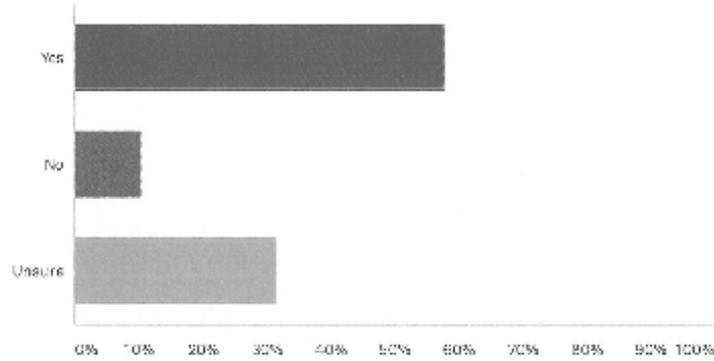


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Vacant Commercial Structures	53.85%	7
Vacant Residential Structures	94.62%	11
Open Dumping Grounds	38.46%	5
Uncut Lawns	69.23%	9
Vacant Lots	30.77%	4
Squatting	15.38%	2
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 13		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q25 In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	57.89%	11
No	10.53%	2
Unsure	31.58%	6
Total Respondents: 19		

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

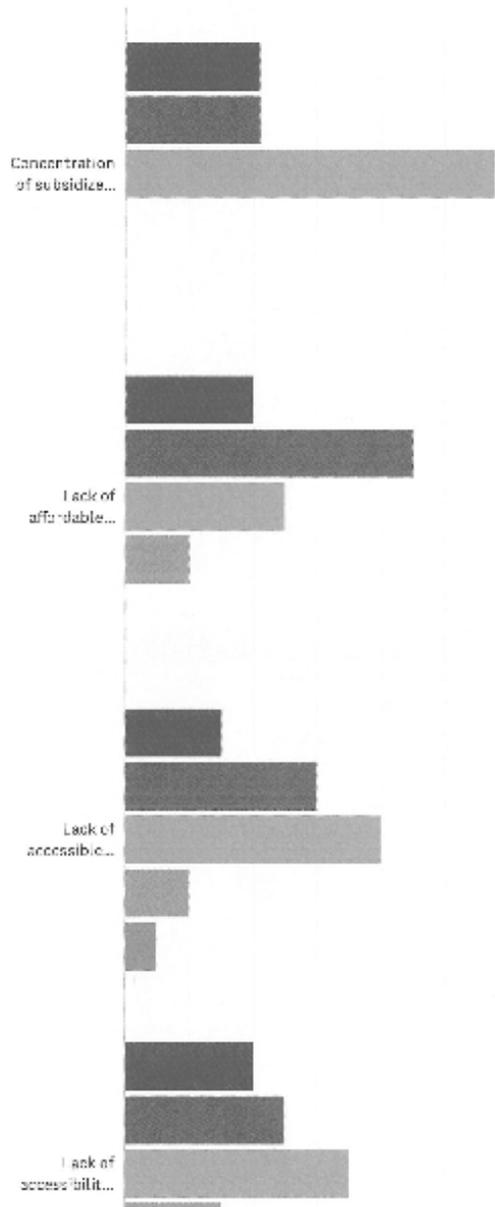
Q26 What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 11

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I don't know	1/21/2020 9:23 AM
2	People are afraid to speak up	1/21/2020 9:18 AM
3	Lack of knowledge of how to report/lack of knowledge of discrimination	1/21/2020 9:15 AM
4	I don't know	1/21/2020 9:10 AM
5	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:09 AM
6	People do not know the steps to take	1/21/2020 9:07 AM
7	I think that many people don't want to start any conflict	1/21/2020 9:03 AM
8	I don't know	1/21/2020 8:59 AM
9	I think that most people probably do not realize that they can complain or know how to file a complaint.	6/1/2019 10:37 AM

Q27 Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discrimination and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



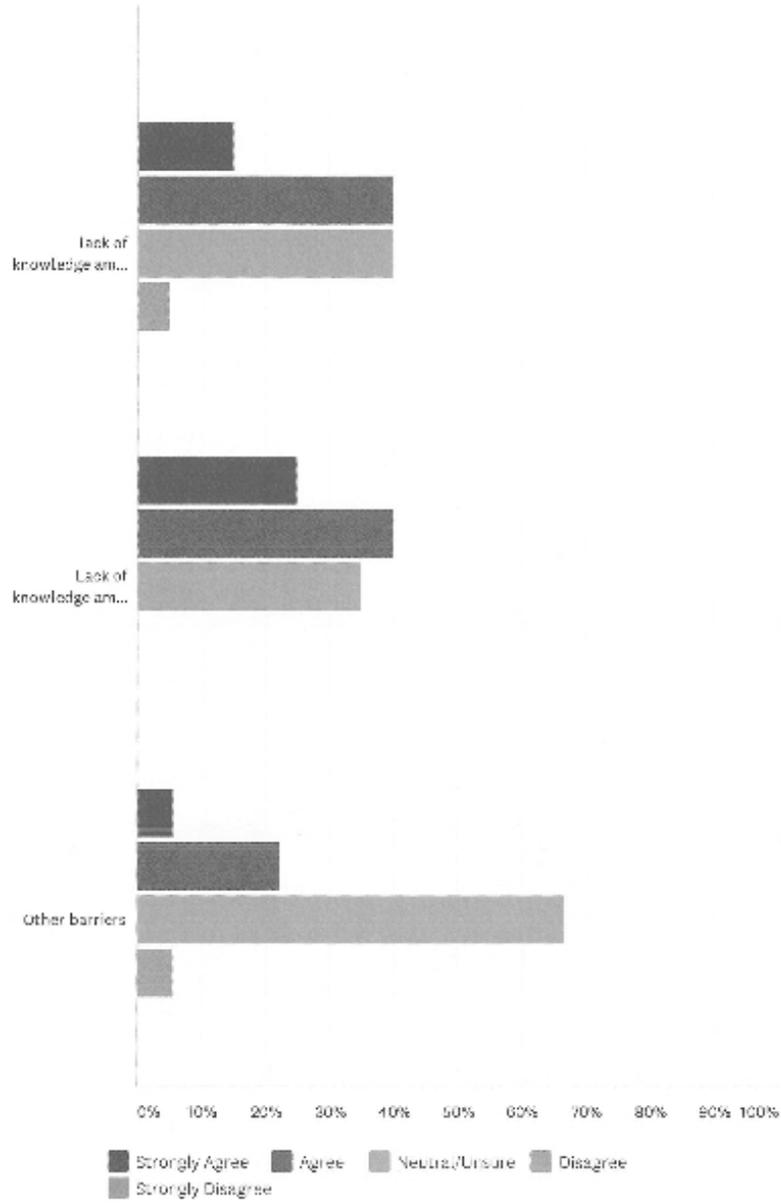
31 / 35

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey



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City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey



	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEUTRAL/UNSURE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain high-income areas	21.05%	4	57.89%	0.00%	0.00%	15
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	20.00%	4	25.00%	10.00%	0.00%	20
Lack of accessible housing for seniors with disabilities	19.00%	3	40.00%	10.00%	5.00%	20
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (barrier curbs)	20.00%	4	35.00%	15.00%	5.00%	20
Lack of fair housing education	15.00%	3	40.00%	10.00%	10.00%	20
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	10.50%	2	50.50%	0.00%	5.25%	19
State or local laws and policies that limit housing choice	19.00%	3	40.00%	10.00%	5.00%	20
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	19.00%	3	30.00%	10.00%	0.00%	20
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	15.00%	3	40.00%	5.00%	0.00%	20
Lack of knowledge among bank/creditors regarding fair housing	25.00%	5	35.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20
Other barriers	5.90%	1	68.67%	5.55%	0.00%	18

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q28 Are there any additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

Answered: 1 | Skipped: 19

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	They need more people out on the streets regarding poor houses and condemned property there are way too many.	1/21/2020 9:21 AM

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization:

Address:

Contact:

Title:

Phone:

Fax:

E-Mail:

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services:

Housing:

Planning:

Community Development:

Economic Development:

Business Loans:

Job Training:

Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: *BLAIR COUNTY NAACP*
Address: *2100 6TH AVE., ALTOONA, PA 16602*
Contact: *DONALD WITHERSPOON* Title: *PRESIDENT*
Phone: *814-944-5390* Fax: *814-946-5451* E-Mail: *dew2312@yahoo.com*
Brief description of programs your agency provides:

- ① *PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN DISCRIMINATION CASES, (HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT ETC.)*
- ② *ASSIST PEOPLE WITH JOB PLACEMENT.*
- ③ *PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO ARE GOING TO COLLEGE OR TRADE SCHOOL.*
- ④ *PRISON REFORM*

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: *YES*
Housing: *YES*
Planning:
Community Development:
Economic Development: *YES*
Business Loans: *NO*
Job Training: *NO*
Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? I.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

ALL PEOPLE

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

JOB

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

FAIR HOUSING

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

RECREATION

What, if any, are the Fair Housing Issues in the City?

- ① Section 8 Housing. - ~~Too many rules and regulations~~
TOO MANY RULES and REGULATIONS.
- ② RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO ADDRESS ALL NEEDS AND CONCERNS OF RESIDENTS.

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: Center for Independent Living of South Central PA

Address: 3013 Beale Ave, Suite B, Altoona 16601

Contact: Marty Dombrowski Title: Assistant Direct.

Phone: 814 949 1905 Fax: 814 949 1909 E-Mail: mdombrowski@cilsopa.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Provide Core Services which include:

- Advocacy
- Independent Living Skills
- Peer Counseling
- Information + Referral
- Transition

We develop programs that touch the entire person.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services:

Housing:

Planning:

Community Development:

Economic Development:

Business Loans:

Job Training:

Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

CILSCPA would love to partner with the City to address blighted properties in the city and the shortage of accessible housing.

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: Improved Dwellings for Altoona, Inc.
Address: P.O. Box 592, 1500 8th Ave., Altoona, PA 16603
Contact: Michelle Peterson **Title:** Executive Director
Phone: 814-946-2416 **Fax:** 814-941-5118 **E-Mail:** mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

We provide safe, decent and affordable housing and services for households of low to moderate income who cannot secure housing through rental or purchase in the private market and to address the needs of our clients with dignity, respect and integrity.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: yes, in a limited capacity
Housing: - yes
Planning: - no
Community Development: - we have a CHDO
Economic Development: - no
Business Loans: - no
Job Training: - no
Other: - no

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

I'm not aware of any fair housing issues in the City.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: *UPMC Altoona*
Address: *620 Howard Ave*
Contact: *Michael Corso* Title: *UP - Operations*
Phone: *814-889-2600* Fax: E-Mail: *corso_m@upmc.edu*

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Acute care hospital.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: *Healthcare*
Housing:
Planning:
Community Development: *NO*
Economic Development:
Business Loans:
Job Training:
Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

All

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

Meaningful employment. Access to care

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

Unknown

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

Mental Health

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

I am unclear.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: UPMC Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies
Address: 500 East Chestnut Street, Altoona, Pa 16601
Contact: Diana Paolucci **Title:** Director
Phone: 814-943-0414 **Fax:** 814-943-6498 **E-Mail:** paolucci.d@upmc.edu

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

UPMC BHA provides permanent and transitional supportive housing for individuals with mental illness. We provide on-site + on-call housing staff and coordinate with behavioral health services as well as mainstream resources. We also provide housing case management to assist in locating and maintaining housing for individuals.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: MH treatment + supportive services. Both individual + group treatment.
Housing: permanent + transitional units and case management.
Planning: No
Community Development: No
Economic Development: No
Business Loans: No
Job Training: UPMC BHA operates a licensed Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program which provides assistance in acquiring housing, training, and employment.
Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

assistance is
~~the~~ provided
 the employment

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

In the past few years we have not experienced an issue in regard to fair housing issues for the individuals that we serve.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

CITY OF ALTOONA- CDBG & HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Family Services Incorporated
Address: 2022 Broad Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601
Contact: Lisa Hann Title: Executive Director
Phone: 814.944.3583 Fax: 814.944.8701 Email: lhann@familyservicesinc.net

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Family Services Incorporated has a long history of providing services for Blair County residents, dating back to the late 1800's. The present agency resulted from the merger of two human service agencies that had special interest and skill in dealing with children and their families. Currently, Family Services offers 6 main programs: Children's Advocacy Center, Counseling, Family Shelter, Intellectual Disabilities Program, Runaway and Homeless Youth Program and the Victim Services Program. In addition to core services, several components are offered within each program that provides service provision to over 4000 individuals and families each year.

Children's Advocacy Center, The Center for Child Justice, performs forensic interviews for child victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse and witness to violent crimes.

Counseling provides MSW therapy for victims of crime and operates the Batterers Intervention Program
Family Shelter provides 16 emergency shelter beds for men, women and children

Intellectual Disabilities provides group homes, day programming, and home & community habitation for adults with intellectual disabilities.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Program, The RK Agarwal MD & Family Teen Center and Shelter provides 9 emergency shelter beds and drop in services for youth ages 12-17.

Victim Services Program provides Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Advocacy Services; Medical Accompaniment; Supportive Counseling; Criminal and Civil Accompaniment; Transportation; Follow-up Contact, & Civil Protection Order Filings and 24 hour hotline to children/adults who have been victims of crime, especially domestic violence and sexual assault.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: Children's Advocacy Center, Counseling, Family Shelter, Intellectual Disabilities Program, Runaway and Homeless Youth Program and the Victim Services Program.

Housing: Apartments above teen center & soon 6 double occupancy affordable housing units

Planning:

Community Development:

Economic Development:

Business Loans:

Job Training:

Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc...

Low income, intellectually disabled, victims of crime, homeless or near homeless, children, adults and seniors.

The homeless population of the Family Shelter includes the following:

* Veterans

- * Persons with mental illness
- * Persons suffering from addiction disorders
- * Recently unemployed/ displaced workers
- * Widows/ divorcees and/or those grieving the loss of a significant other
- * Former inmates who were incarcerated in local county facilities (non-felons)
- * Victims of domestic violence
- * Persons over the age of 60

Since August of 2015, the Family Shelter has provided services to over 713 adults. Within those demographics, 71 were Veterans, 303 suffered mental health diagnosis, 112 adults had drug and alcohol issues, 120 were victims of Domestic Violence and 13 adults served were over the age of 60.

The Intellectual Disabilities Program serves adults with intellectual disabilities.

Program	Total Served	Over 60	
Residential	28	9	
H&CH/Residential	1	1	(59) total
Day Program	8	0	
Lifesharing	1	0	
H&CH 28	12		2 3 2

The Children's Advocacy Center provides forensic interviews to children who have been sexually abused, physically abused, or have been a witness to violence. Services are provided to non-offending care givers. Since opening in September of 2018, the center has provided 289 forensic interviews to Blair County victims.

The Victim Services Program serves children/adults who have been victims of crime, especially domestic violence and sexual assault. The Program operates the Civil Protection Order office, the Civil Legal Representation office, provides mobile advocacy and operates a 24 hour hotline. The Program serves approximately 328 victims with open case loads.

Adults
 DV Vics: 1044
 SA Vics: 362
 Total: 1406

Kids
 DV = 120
 SA ages 0-12 = 69
 SA Ages 13-17 = 65 SA total kids 134

Sig. Others
 DV = 158
 SA = 153
 Total: 311

Services provided include: Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Advocacy Services; Medical Accompaniment; Supportive Counseling; Criminal and Civil Accompaniment; Transportation; Follow-up Contact, & Civil Protection Order Filings.

The Teen Center & Shelter provides youth ages 12-17 with residential and drop in services. The center sees approximately 130 teens per week, has provided residential services to 107 youth since opening in January 2017, and 2,838 non duplicated drop in services.

What are the unmet community & economic development needs in the City?

Lack of affordable, decent housing.

Lack of emergency shelter beds- The Family Shelter turned away 788 individuals last year due to lack of capacity.

Lack of taxi services.

Lack of additional transportation that isn't available by the bus company, or after hours of bus transport.

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

Lack of affordable housing, especially 1-2 bedroom rentals.

Not enough section 8 vouchers.

What are the unmet social service needs in the City? *Life Skills Classes*
-transportation program

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

Landlords denying people because they "know the family name".

Comments/suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: *THE NEHEMIAH PROJECT INC*
Address: *1809 11th St ALTOONA PA 16601*
Contact: *CRYSME BRIGGS* Title: *ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER*
Phone: *8142012096* Fax: E-Mail: *CRYSME@TNPPA.ORG*
Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Inter city redevelopment project

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: *yes*
Housing: *no*
Planning: *no*
Community Development: *yes*
Economic Development: ~~yes~~ *no*
Business Loans: *no*
Job Training: *no*
Other: *children & youth programs*

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: Catholic Charities, Inc.

Address: 1300 Twelfth Avenue; P.O. Box 1349; Altoona, PA 16603-1349

Contact: Jean Johnstone

Title: Executive Director

Phone: (814) 944-9388

Fax: (814) 941-2677

E-Mail: jjohnstone@diocescaj.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Catholic Charities Altoona Office provides emergency financial assistance to individuals and families living in Blair, Bedford & Huntingdon Counties. Assistance is given for basic human needs: water/sewage, electricity, gas, fuel assistance for winter heating, emergency medications, emergency shelter, emergency transportation, emergency food, etc. We also provide individual, couples and family counseling. Anyone is able to walk-in and ask for assistance, there are no eligibility guidelines except to prove financial need and an emergency.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: YES

Housing: NO

Planning: NO

Community Development: NO

Economic Development: NO

Business Loans: NO

Job Training: NO

Other: NO

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

Catholic Charities mainly serves individuals and families with household gross incomes of below 150% of the FPL. All ages and abilities are eligible. We will serve people over 200% of the FPL if there is a special need or circumstance.

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

There continues to be a high poverty level within the city limits. Focus needs to be put on creating life-sustaining wage jobs. Like all cities, the low income people use public transportation (or walk) and have trouble doing things like grocery shopping. They use local Dollar General and convenience (like Sheetz and Felt's) stores to purchase food. This leads to unhealthy living and they pay higher prices for food items.

There should be a continued focus on the improving/growing the downtown area and revitalizing the low-income areas of town.

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

A major shortage of affordable, safe, and decent housing for low-income individuals and families. Persons unable to get into public housing, face a difficult challenge on the open housing market. They often pay in excess of 30% and even 50% of their net income for housing which places them at a high risk for homelessness.

There is also a shortage of housing for people with violent criminal and sexual crimes backgrounds. There is virtually no place for them to live, forcing them into the street.

Finally, there are a lot of "slum lords" and absentee landlords in the city. The reports of the living conditions in these apartments and/or houses is alarming.

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

The city continues have issues with homelessness and lack of resources to respond to their unique needs. What is to be a "coordinated entry system" for homeless and at-risk of homelessness at Blair County Community Action Agency is not working. There are delays in seeing clients and there is not enough money or affordable housing to meet their needs. With a homeless shelter average length of stay of 77 days, it means those truly in need have to resort to living in their cars, doubling up with others and potentially violating lease agreements, or simply living on the street.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

We regularly refer any potential fair housing issues to Mid-Penn Legal Services and/or give them the number for the western PA fair housing law center. Most of the cases we see are potential illegal eviction processes.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: Blair Senior Services, Inc.

Address: 1320 12th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601

Contact: Dennis Wisor

Title: Transportation Program Manager

Phone: 814-695-3500 **Fax:** 814-696-6314 **E-Mail:** Dwisor@blairsenior.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Blair Senior Services, Inc. coordinates and provides support and assistance through home and community based programs and services to older individuals, their families and others in need. In addition to coordinating in-home services, our Agency provides congregate meals, activities, and fitness classes at our Senior Centers, home delivered meals, transportation, protective services, pre-admission assessment, placement services, Ombudsman services, Choices Program, APPRISE health insurance counseling, and various volunteer opportunities

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services:	Yes
Housing:	No
Planning:	No
Community Development:	No
Economic Development:	No
Business Loans:	No
Job Training:	No
Other:	No

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

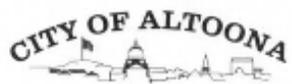
Older adults, low income, and disabled depending on program rules and regulations

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

Housing - affordable, available
Medication Management
Mental Health
Pest Eradication
Better coordinated homeless assistance



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
for Housing and Community Development Programs
funded by the U.S. Department of
Housing & Urban Development

Adopted: May 10, 1995

Amended: October 25, 1995

Amended: December 11, 1996

Amended: December 9, 1998

Amended: February 27, 2013

Amended: December 10, 2014

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I. Purpose

The purpose of this Citizen Participation Plan is to provide a process by which citizens and citizen organizations of the community can become informed and take an active part in the development, implementation, and review of activities carried out by the City of Altoona under its Consolidated Plan, which is described below. The Citizen Participation Plan also sets guidelines for citizen participation in a Section 108 Guaranteed Loan and any other housing and community development programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in which the City participates.

All of the HUD Programs referred to in this Plan are described in brief in Appendix B with directions for obtaining more detailed information about the programs.

II. Applicability

This Citizen Participation Plan will apply to City housing and community development programs funded by HUD until all activities assisted by these Programs are completed, or until this Plan is superseded by a new one, or until such time as this Plan is abolished by an action of the City Council.

III. Historical Background

Since the City began participating in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program in 1974, the City has followed a citizen participation plan patterned along HUD guidelines and requirements. The initial plan explained how and when citizen participation was to be encouraged and included in the various stages of the City's CDBG Program. With the 1977 creation of HUD's Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) Program, a special project-specific grant program to assist economically distressed communities, the plan was expanded to cover that program, too. (Note: The UDAG Program was terminated in 1989.)

Congress abolished the requirement for a citizen participation plan in 1981. Nevertheless, the City continued to follow the practices of its adopted plan in order to promote citizen participation in the CDBG and UDAG Programs, as well as the 1983 HUD Jobs Bill, a one-time emergency job creation program.

In 1987, HUD restored its requirement for a citizen participation plan based on new legislation and guidelines. The City adopted a new citizen participation plan on January 26, 1988, to conform to the new guidelines. Several amendments to the plan were made since that time.

In 1994, new legislation was introduced that made important changes in the way four HUD-funded programs and a major HUD planning document operate. Communities that carry out housing and community development programs that are funded by HUD were directed to prepare a "Consolidated Plan", also called a consolidated strategy or application, beginning in 1995, that included:

- Community Development Block Grant Program
- Emergency Shelter Grant Program
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program
- Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy

The purpose of the consolidation was to provide for uniform planning for HUD assistance and to reduce the time and money involved in preparing, carrying out and reporting on individual HUD

programs that had been following separate time frames, separate planning processes, separate applications and separate reporting procedures. The requirements for a consolidated plan affect Altoona in the following ways:

Before the Consolidated Plan	With the Consolidated Plan
The City prepared an annual plan for each HUD program and applied annually for funding for each HUD program.	The City prepares a three to five year plan * for all the programs. The City applies annually for funding for each program under the plan after preparing a one-year Action Plan conducting the full citizen participation process. * The City has chosen: 5 year plan period
The City operated each program on a different 12-month period: CHAS October 1 - September 30 CDBG April 1 - March 31 ESG July 1 - June 30 HOME	The City selects the particular 12-month period * over which it will operate all the programs: * The City has selected: July 1 - June 30
The City held separate public hearings and meetings for each program.	The City holds public hearings and meetings that cover all the programs.
The City prepared separate annual performance reports at the close of the CHAS, CDBG, ESG and HOME program periods.	The City prepares one consolidated performance evaluation report, known as the "CAPER" at the close of the 12-month program period. (Note: The report will <u>not</u> mingle the CDBG and HOME funds, projects or accomplishments. It will contain separate reports on each program.)

IV. General Information

HUD regulations require a community receiving assistance from HUD to follow a detailed citizen participation plan in order to receive assistance. The plan must:

(A) provide for and encourage citizen participation with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low income, very low income and extremely low income and persons who are residents of slum and blight areas and of areas in which HUD funds are proposed to be used and persons who are residents of designated revitalization or enterprise community areas, as defined by the local jurisdiction;

(B) provide citizens with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records relating to the grantee's proposed use of funds, as required by regulations of the Secretary, and relating to the actual use of funds;

(C) provide for technical assistance to groups representative of persons of low and moderate income that request such assistance in developing proposals with the level and type of assistance to be determined by the grantee;

(D) provide for public hearings to obtain citizen views and to respond to proposals and questions at all stages of the consolidated planning and community development and housing programs, including at least the development of needs, the review of proposed activities and review of program performance, which hearings shall be held after adequate notice, at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries, and with accommodation for persons with disabilities;

(E) provide for a timely written answer to written complaints and grievances, within 15 working days where practicable; and

(F) identify how the needs of non-English speaking residents will be met in the case of public hearings where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate.

None of the above requirements are to be interpreted as restricting the responsibility or authority of the community for the development and execution of its Consolidated Plan and the HUD-funded programs covered by the Plan.

The City of Altoona will post public notices at a minimum of the following locations: City Hall, the Public Library, the Altoona Housing Authority Office, and the City Department of Planning and Community Development prior to holding a public meeting or hearing on the consolidated planning process and housing and community development programs funded by HUD. Additional notices will air on the local access channel. As appropriate, the City will disseminate public notices for HUD Programs using its Public Mailing List, City of Altoona's Web Page and may place advertisements in the Altoona Mirror and other widely circulated publications.

It will follow this process for the five year Consolidated Plan, including the one year Action Plan, and the Consolidated Performance and Evaluation Report to HUD, and for a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan, as defined in the section of this Citizen Participation Plan entitled "Substantial Amendment of a Project". HUD regulations mandate a 30-day comment period prior to adoption or amendment of the Consolidated Plan (this does not include individual project amendments), and a 30-day comment period prior to adoption of a substantial amendment (defined in Part VII) of an individual project. HUD regulations mandate a 15-day comment period prior to submitting the Consolidated Performance and Evaluation Report to HUD.

The City will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing, or orally at the public hearing(s), in preparing the five year Consolidated Plan, the annual one year Action Plan, the annual Consolidated Performance and Evaluation Report, and substantial amendment(s) to the Consolidated Plan and/or Action Plan.

In order to emphasize the need for participation by very low-income, low-income and moderate-income persons, the City will include language in its advertised Public Notices that calls attention to the need for participation by these groups, it will provide explanations and information at meetings and hearings concerning which residents fit into these categories and where practicable it will take special steps to encourage involvement by these groups in program activities.

V. Public Hearings and Meetings

In order to obtain the views of citizens and citizen organizations and to respond to proposals and questions at all stages of the consolidated planning process and the HUD-funded programs covered by the planning process, the City will, at a minimum, conduct:

- An annual public hearing to accept citizen input on the needs of the community. At this hearing the City will provide information concerning the amount of funding expected to be available for community development and housing activities through

the HUD-funded programs as well as other identifiable sources and the range of activities that may be undertaken with those funds.

- An annual public hearing to accept citizen input on the proposed five year Consolidated Plan and one year Action Plan.
- A special public hearing in the event that additional information becomes available to the City or an increase or decrease in available funding is anticipated (e.g. a 108 Loan or a HUD recision) after the annual public hearing to accept input and provide information, which substantially affects the adopted five year Consolidated Plan and one year Action Plan.
- A public hearing to accept citizen input on the City's performance under the Consolidated Plan and the HUD-funded programs covered by the plan. This hearing will be held after the City completes its Annual Consolidated Performance and Evaluation Report, but before it submits this Report to HUD for review.
- Public meetings for the community and for neighborhoods will be conducted as needed.

VI. Reasonable and Timely Access

In order to provide citizens with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records relating to both the City's proposed and actual use of HUD funds, the City will use the following practices:

(A) To post Public Notices of meetings and public hearings at a minimum of the following locations: City Hall, the Public Library, the Altoona Housing Authority Office, City of Altoona or an advertisement in the Altoona Mirror. The City will also put the notice on the City of Altoona's Web Page and the City Department of Planning and Community Development at least ten (10) days prior to the date. As stated above, HUD regulations mandate a 30-day comment period prior to adoption or amendment of the Consolidated Plan and the one year Action Plan and any substantial amendment of an individual project or program and HUD regulations mandate a 15-day comment period prior to submitting the Consolidated Performance and Evaluation Report to HUD.

(B) To hold public meetings and hearings at accessible locations in the community.

(C) To provide an alternative means for input and for obtaining information if a person is unable to attend or participate in a public meeting or hearing.

(D) To post the proposed use of HUD funds for the five year Consolidated Plan, the one year Action Plan, or substantial amendment(s) at a minimum of the following locations: City Hall, the Public Library, the Altoona Housing Authority Office, and the City Department of Planning and Community Development prior to the City Council's action to approve such use or the City may choose to place an advertisement in the Altoona Mirror. The City will also put the notice on the City of Altoona's Web Page.

(E) To post Public Notice of the availability of the Consolidated Performance and Evaluation Report prior to its submission to HUD at a minimum of the following locations: City Hall, the Public Library, the Altoona Housing Authority Office, the City Department of Planning and Community Development or may place advertisements in the Altoona Mirror. The City will also put the notice on the City of Altoona's Web Page.

(F) To make available, at the Altoona City Department of Community Development, during normal working hours, for citizen review upon request, the following documents:

- All program information materials;
- Record of meetings and hearings;
- All key documents, including all prior applications, letters of approval, grant agreements, the citizen participation plan, performance reports, evaluation reports, and other reports required by HUD, and the proposed and approved Consolidated Plan and Action Plan;
- Copies of the regulations and information about the Consolidated Plan and HUD-funded programs covered by the Plan;
- Documents regarding other important program requirements such as contracting procedures, environmental policies, fair housing and other equal opportunity requirements, and relocation provisions;
- A copy of each written citizen comment or complaint about the City's performance, the City's record of actions taken and written response made to the comment or complaint.

VII. Anti-Displacement

The City will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR 2; and it has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under section 104(d) of the Housing and Community development Act of 1974, as amended, in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the CDBG or HOME Programs

VIII. Amendments to the Consolidated Plan

The City shall amend its approved plan whenever it makes one of the following decisions:

- 1) Change its allocation priorities or a change in the method of distribution of funds
- 2) To carry out an activity, using funds from any program covered by the consolidated plan (including program income), not previously described in the action plan
- 3) Change the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity.

IX. Substantial Amendment of a Project

Prior to:

- amending the budget of a project by more than 50 percent, plus or minus;
- changing the location of a project from what was described;
- carrying out an activity not described;
- change of beneficiaries
- deletion or addition of a project

that is included in a HUD-funded program covered by the Consolidated Plan, the City will first provide citizens with a 30-day comment period on the proposed amendment. The City will consider any comments received and, if the City deems appropriate, modify or reject the amendment. The City

will make available to the public and will submit to HUD a description of any substantial amendment adopted.

X. Technical Assistance

To maximize citizen participation in the consolidated planning process and in the HUD-funded programs and projects covered by the plan, the City will, upon request, provide technical assistance to citizens and citizen organizations that represent persons of low and moderate income. Assistance may include special information meetings, meetings with technical advisors, provision of requested information, or any such assistance deemed necessary to aid in understanding and involvement. To obtain such assistance, the following office should be contacted:

City of Altoona
Department of Planning and Community Development
1301 12th Street, Suite 400
Altoona, PA 16601
Phone: 949-2470, TDD 711, FAX 949-0372

XI. Written Complaints, Grievances and Objections

At any time during the preparation or implementation of the Consolidated Plan and the HUD-funded programs covered by the Plan, citizens and citizen organizations may submit to the City written complaints, grievances or objections on any aspect of the Plan or programs. Every reasonable effort will be made to respond in writing to citizen written complaints within fifteen (15) working days. Complaints and grievances should be submitted to:

Community Development Director
Department of Planning and Community Development
1301 12th Street, Suite 400
Altoona, PA 16601
Phone: (814) 949-2470, TDD 711, FAX 949-0372

Citizen and citizen organizations may also submit to HUD written complaints, grievances or objections on any aspect of the Plan or programs. Complaints, grievances or objections should be submitted to:

Director, CPD Division
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Moorhead Federal Building
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: (412) 644-5493

XII. Accommodation

Individuals who require auxiliary aids and individuals who are non-English speaking residents and require assistance for effective participation and communication in programs and services of the City are invited to make their needs and preferences known to:

Department of Planning and Community Development
1301 12th Street, Suite 400
Altoona, PA 16601
Phone: (814) 949-2470, TDD 711, FAX 949-0372

XIII. Discrimination Prohibited

No otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of their disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under the City's Consolidated Plan or any HUD-funded program covered by the Plan. The City will not discriminate against any individual or group because of religious creed, race, color, sex, age, ancestry, national origin, disability, or familial status in the planning, development, operation, and evaluation of the Consolidated Plan or any HUD-funded program covered by the Plan.

XIV. Changes to the Citizen Participation Plan

The City has chosen to include its Citizen Participation Plan in the Consolidated Plan document to ensure full access and accountability. Since it is part of the Consolidated Plan, it falls under the 30-day public comment period required prior to any changes, as described in Section VIII and IX.

XV. Declaration of an Emergency

When a Declaration of an Emergency has been ordered by the President of the United States, or the Governor of Pennsylvania, the City of Altoona will follow the following process concerning public hearings and public display of plans.

- If the City is unable to hold open public hearings in person, the City will be allowed to instead hold virtual public hearings through conference calls or an online video conference call platforms as long as the public is able to provide public comments during the virtual public hearing.
- If the City is not able to publicly place the plans on public display at the locations referenced in the Citizen Participation Plan, the City will put the plans on the City's website (<http://www.altoonapa.gov/>) and will also email copies of the plans to any person who will request a copy of the plans via email upon request.
- If the City Council is unable to conduct an open public forum type meeting, the City then can approve the plans at a City Council meeting through an on-line virtual City Council meeting, if an in person Council meetings are not happening because of the Emergency.

APPENDIX A

City of Altoona's Application Process

Publication of Application Schedule	City of Altoona announces annual schedule for preparation of the application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
1st Community Public Hearing	City provides information on anticipated funding, eligible activities, each step in the annual application process along with dates, times and locations of meetings and actions, and accepts comments on identified community needs, programs and projects.
Neighborhood Meetings (as needed)	City provides same information as presented at 1st Community Hearing at various locations throughout the City with emphasis on presenting neighborhood-level planning and activities and gathering neighborhood views and comments on neighborhood and city needs, programs and projects and with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low income, very low income and extremely low income and persons who are residents of slum and blight and of areas in which HUD funds are proposed to be used and persons who are residents of designated revitalization or enterprise community areas, as defined by the local jurisdiction.
(Local) Application Deadline	Deadline established by the City for project requests by City residents, citizen groups, organizations, agencies, City authorities and City departments. (Application form available from the City.)
Project Selection	Planning and Community Development Staff provides City Council with a summary of all projects submitted and recommendations to select projects and assign funding allocations for the draft of the annual CDBG and HOME Programs.
Publication of Draft	City advertises a draft of the projects and funding of allocations selected by the City Council and a summary of its five year Consolidated Plan and/or one year Action Plan for a minimum 30-day comment period.
2nd Community Public Hearing	City presents the draft budget for annual funding, as advertised, and presents the five year Consolidated Plan and/or one year Action Plan application package and then accepts public comment (1) to be considered by the City Council before adoption of the final application package and (2) to be included in the final application package.
Formal Adoption	City Council Meeting to finalize the projects, budgets and application package and to vote on the resolution to adopt five year Consolidated Plan and/or one year Action Plan application.
Application to HUD	City submits its application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Director, CPD Division, Moorhead Federal Building 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

APPENDIX B

CDBG

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, was created by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to provide funding to communities on a yearly basis to help meet a wide variety of needs for housing, public improvements, public services, economic development and planning. The major features of the Program are that it permits local-level decisions on how the funds will be used. That the funds must be used primarily to benefit persons of low and moderate income, and that importance is placed on citizen participation in planning, executing and judging the outcome of all projects funded by the Program.

The new Consolidated Plan requires that the community describe actions, projects and programs it intends to begin and/or complete over the next three to five years and how they may be coordinated to increase benefit to low-income, very low-income and extremely low-income residents.

The City of Altoona has participated in the Community Development Block Grant, or CDBG, Program since 1974. Before preparing its CDBG application to HUD each year the City has gathered information from the public, local government departments, authorities and for-profit and nonprofit organizations. An application is prepared and public comment is requested and reviewed before the City Council adopts the final application that is submitted to HUD. This process has been expanded to include the additional HUD programs under the Consolidated Plan.

{The HUD regulations for the CDBG Program are identified as 24 CFR Part 570, published in the Federal Register}

HOME

The HOME Investment Partnership Program was created by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 to expand the supply of decent, affordable housing, primarily rental housing. It is designed as a partnership among the Federal government, State and local governments and those in the for-profit and non-profit sectors who build, own, manage, finance and support low income housing.

Some of the features of the HOME Program are as follows. It can be used by a community to meet its own specific needs whether they are for new construction, tenant assistance, moderate or substantial rehabilitation or acquisition of standard housing units. It requires partnerships with non-profit developers, sponsors and owners. It requires matching funds since the HOME Program is based on the idea that low-income housing is the responsibility of all levels of government. HOME programs must be consistent with the Consolidated Plan.

(The HUD regulations for the HOME Program are identified as 24 CFR Part, 92, public in the Federal Register)

Section 108 Guaranteed Loan

Section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act allows communities that receive CDBG funds to borrow against future annual grants. The funds are borrowed from the Federal government in the form of Section 108 Guaranteed Loans. Communities may borrow up to five times their most recent annual grant. For example, in 1994, when the City of Altoona received \$2.677 million in CDBG funds, it could borrow up to \$13.385 million in 108 Loan funds. HUD's guarantee under Section 108 enables communities to receive low interest loans at rates only slightly above the rates on obligations issued by the U.S. Treasury. It must be remembered, however, that future annual

grants will be reduced by the loan repayments, possibly by a significant level depending on the size of the loan and the repayment structure.

It must also be understood that 108 Loan funds come under the HUD Certifications requirement placed on a community using CDBG funds – that at least 70% of the funds expended during the 1-, 2-, or 3-year period selected by the community must benefit low and moderate income persons.

Using a 108 Loan makes it possible to finance larger, more expensive projects, or carry out a greater number of smaller activities in a shorter time period, or speed up a program or project rather than phasing it over several years. A variety of activities are eligible for 108 Loan financing. The most common is economic development, which usually involves the expansion, retention or creation of for-profit businesses.

The City of Altoona has participated in the 108 Loan Program one time, to date, in order to assist the construction of the 17th Street Expressway that extends southeastward from 12th Avenue to the City limits where it connects to the Route 220 Bypass. The \$1.5 million loan was obtained in 1981 and repaid from CDBG funds over the following seven years.

The Consolidated Plan and the Citizen Participation Plan are an integral part of the 108 Loan process. If the project(s) proposed for financing are not already addressed in the Consolidated Plan, then an amendment to the Plan is required, in accordance with the Citizen Participation Plan. The City must provide information and a public hearing process carried out before loan application is submitted. The information provided by the City must include how the funds will be used, when repayment from CDBG annual grants will begin and end and the amounts of the repayments.

APPENDIX C

ACRONYMS INCLUDED IN OR APPLICABLE TO THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN

ACPC	Altoona City Planning Commission
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AIHP	American's Industrial Heritage Project
BCPC	Blair County Planning Commission
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
DCED	Department of Community and Economic Development
DOE	Department of Energy
EDLF	Economic Development Loan Fund
EC	Enterprise Community
EZ	Empowerment Zone
CAPER	Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report
HCD	Housing and Community Development
HEARTH	Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing
HOME	-not an acronym; short name for HOME Investment Partnership Program
HOPWA	Housing Opportunities Program for Persons with AIDS
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
LIHTC	Low Income Housing Tax Credits
NAP	Neighborhood Assistance Program
PHFA	Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency
PJ	Participating Jurisdiction
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
UDAG	Urban Development Action Grant (abolished 1990)

APPENDIX D

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (HOME)
FISCAL YEAR 20__ APPLICATION
(JULY 1, 20__ THRU JUNE 30, 20__)**

APPLICANT/ORGANIZATION:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone: _____

Tax ID #: _____ DUNS#: _____

Non-Profit Government For-Profit

PROJECT NAME: Specific project or undertaking for which funds are being requested

PROJECT ADDRESS: Exact location, address, or area of the project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Summarize concisely the project for which you are requesting funds

FUNDING SOURCE REQUESTED: Check one source and report amount requested

Community Development Block Grant HOME Investment Partnership Grant

Amount Requested:\$ _____ Amount Requested:\$ _____

BUDGET INFORMATION:

List Other Funding Sources:

Funding Source	Amount	% of Total Budget
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
Total Project Funding Anticipated for FY20__	\$	100%

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE: Choose only one of the three national objectives1. Benefit Low/Moderate Income Persons (select one)

- Area Benefit
- Limited Clientele (Presumed , Income Eligibility , or Nature/Location)
- Housing Activity (Select one and provide unit information)
Rehabilitation New Construction

Housing Units/Households Only	Total #	# Occupied	# Low/Mod
Units at Start			
Units Expected at Completion			

- Job Creation/Retention

Number of Jobs	# Low/Mod Income Jobs	% Low/Mod Income Jobs
Created:	Created:	Created:
Retained:	Retained:	Retained:

2. Prevent or Eliminate Slums or Blight (select one)

- Spot Blight Area Blight

3. Urgent need (select one)

- Serious, Immediate Threat Critical within 18 Months
 Limited to Urgent Condition Local/Other Funds Insufficient

OTHER PROJECT INFORMATION: (Project management, critical benchmarks, timeframe)

OUTCOME PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT: (select one objective and one outcome)

1. Objective:

- Suitable Living Environment
- Decent Affordable Housing
- Creating Economic Opportunities

Describe how the project addresses the objective selected above:

2. Outcome:

- Improve Availability/Accessibility
- Improve Affordability
- Improve Sustainability

Describe how the outcome selected above benefits the community/people served:

3. Outcome Indicator:

Enter the outcome indicator that best describes the data that will be collected and reported as project outcomes. Provide a description of the measurement reporting tool or evaluation process that will be utilized to determine project outcome (i.e. client surveys, statistical data from a verifiable source, etc.):

PRIMARY PURPOSE:

Is the Primary Purpose of the activity to...

Help Persons with Disabilities? Yes No

Will the activity generate Program Income? Yes No

SECTION 504 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT

Is the location of the project or building accessible to persons with disabilities?

Yes No

RESOLUTION No. 0027-20

Amending the Citizen Participation Plan for the Housing and Community Development Programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to include the use of Virtual Meetings and Emails when requiring public participation.

Whether hearings are in-person or virtual, a grantee must take appropriate steps to ensure effective communication with persons with disabilities consistent with the requirements of accessibility laws, such as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Virtual Meeting

Roll Call	Yeas	Nays		Yeas	Nays
Butterbaugh	✓		Ickes	✓	
Cuccinelli	✓		Kelley	✓	
Carper	✓		Mayor Pacifico	✓	
Jordan	✓				
				7	0

Adopted APR 08 2020

[Signature] APR 08 2020
 Mayor Date Signed

Attest: *[Signature]* APR 09 2020
 City Clerk Date Recorded

Grantee Unique Appendices



RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION No. 0035-20

approving the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan & the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents and certifications and the City Clerk to attest to same, and to file appropriate statements, certifications and meeting minutes with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Roll Call	Yeas	Nays		Yeas	Nays
Butterbaugh	✓		Jordan	✓	
Cacciotti	✓		Kelley	✓	
Carper	✓		Mayor Pacifico	✓	
Ickes	✓				
				7	0

Adopted MAY 13 2020

 MAY 13 2020
 Mayor Date Signed

Attest:  MAY 14 2020
 City Clerk Date Recorded

RESOLUTION 2020

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA APPROVING THE FY 2020-2024 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN, THE FY 2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, & THE ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE AND AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF THE PLANS WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)

WHEREAS, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to extend financial assistance to communities in the prevention or elimination of slums or urban blight, or activities which will benefit low- and moderate-income persons, or other urgent community development needs; and

WHEREAS, under the HOME Investment Partnership Program created by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, the Secretary of HUD is authorized to extend financial assistance to participating jurisdictions to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has advised the City of Altoona that under Fiscal Year 2020, the City is eligible to apply for an entitlement grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program in the amount of \$1,643,245; and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program in the amount of \$353,129; and

WHEREAS, the City of Altoona's Department of Planning and Community Development has prepared a FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for Fiscal Years 2020 - 2024, which proposes how the entitlement grant funds will be expended to address the housing and community development needs identified in the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan along with an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice; and

WHEREAS, a draft of the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice was on public display from April 13, 2020 through May 12, 2020 and the City held a series of public meetings and hearings on the said Plans and the comments of various agencies, groups, and citizens were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice is hereby in all respects

APPROVED and the City Clerk is hereby directed to file a copy of said Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments for Fiscal Year 2020 with the Official Minutes of this Meeting of this Council.

SECTION 2. That the City is COGNIZANT of the conditions that are imposed in the undertaking and carrying out of the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program with Federal financial assistance, including those relating to (a) the relocation of site occupants, (b) the prohibition of discrimination because of race, color, age, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin, and other assurances as set forth under the required HUD Certifications.

SECTION 3. That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania, is AUTHORIZED to file an Application for financial assistance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which has indicated its willingness to make available funds to carry out the CDBG Program in the amount of \$1,643,245 and the HOME Program in the amount of \$353,129; and its further AUTHORIZED to act as the authorized representative of the City of Altoona to sign any and all documents in regard to these programs.

SECTION 4. That the Mayor, on behalf the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania, is AUTHORIZED to provide assurances and/or certifications as required by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; and any other supplemental or revised data which the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development may request in review of the City's Application.

ADOPTED INTO A RESOLUTION THIS 13TH DAY OF MAY 2020 BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Matthew Pacifico, Mayor of the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Altoona to be affixed this 13th day of May 2020.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA


Matthew Pacifico, Mayor

ATTEST:


Linda Rickens Schellhammer, City Clerk



ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS



1301 Twelfth Street
Altoona, PA 16601

FY 2020-2024 ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE

For Submission to HUD for the
Community Development Block Grant Program



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Executive Summary

The City of Altoona, Blair County, 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. In accordance with the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, each entitlement community must "affirmatively further fair housing." In order to "affirmatively further fair housing," the City of Altoona must complete an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

The City of Altoona has prepared this FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice which is in concert with the City's FY 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The analysis focuses on the status and interaction of six (6) fundamental conditions within the community:

- The sale or rental of dwellings (public or private);
- The provision of housing brokerage services;
- The provision of financial assistance for dwellings;
- Public policies and actions affecting the approval of sites and other building requirements used in the approval process for the construction of publicly assisted housing;
- The administrative policies concerning community development and housing activities, which affect opportunities of minority households to select housing inside or outside areas of minority concentration; and
- Where there is a determination of unlawful segregation or other housing discrimination by a court or a finding of noncompliance by HUD regarding assisted housing in a recipient's jurisdiction, an analysis of the actions which could be taken by the recipient to remedy the discriminatory condition, including actions involving the expenditure of funds made available under 24 CFR Part 570.

The methodology employed to undertake this Analysis of Impediments included:

- **Research**
 - A review of the City's Zoning Ordinance, Comprehensive Plan, land use policies and procedures was undertaken
 - Demographic data for the City was analyzed from the U.S. Census and the HUD-CHAS data and tables
 - A review of the real estate and mortgage practices was undertaken
 - A review of prior year plans

- **Interviews & Meetings**
 - Meetings and interviews were conducted with several City of Altoona Departments, the Altoona Housing Authority, major employers, community advocacy groups, social service agencies, homeless service providers, educational providers, housing providers, financial institutions, the local Board of Realtors, and faith based organizations and groups.

- **Analysis of Data**
 - Low- and moderate-income areas were identified
 - Concentrations of minority populations were identified
 - Concentrations of rental and owner occupied housing were identified
 - Fair housing awareness in the community was evaluated

- **Potential Impediments**
 - Public sector policies that may be considered to be impediments were analyzed
 - Private sector policies that may be considered to be impediments were analyzed

The City of Altoona's FY 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice has identified the following impediments, along with the goals and strategies to address those impediments.

IMPEDIMENT 1: FAIR HOUSING EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

There is a continuing need to educate residents of the community concerning their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act and to raise awareness that all residents of the City of Altoona have a right under Federal Law to fair housing choice.

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 partnerships, 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 and to make reasonable accommodations.
- **1-C:** Continue to affirmatively further fair housing and continue working with Southwestern PA Legal Services to provide fair housing services.

IMPEDIMENT 2: CONTINUING NEED FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The median value and cost to purchase and maintain a single-family home in Altoona that is decent, safe, and sound is \$87,600, which limits the choice of housing for lower income households. About 24.1% of homeowners and 65.7% of renters in the City are cost overburdened by more than 30% of their household income.

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 and renter 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.
- **2-D:** Continue to promote the rental rehabilitation program through outreach to landlords and partnership with the CHDO.

IMPEDIMENT 3: CONTINUING NEED FOR ACCESSIBLE HOUSING UNITS

As an older built-up urban environment with a varied terrain, there is a lack of accessible housing units and developable sites in the City of Altoona, since 74.2% of the City's housing units were built over 50 years ago and do not have accessibility features, and 18.9% of the City's population is classified as disabled.

Goal: Increase the number of accessible housing units through new construction and rehabilitation of existing housing units for people with disabilities and those who are 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 available accessible housing through the rehabilitation of the existing owner occupied housing stock by making accessibility improvements.
- **3-B:** Encourage private and non-profit development of accessible housing through new construction of 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 with disabilities.
- **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: ECONOMIC ISSUES AFFECTING HOUSING CHOICE

The City of Altoona is experiencing a slow but steady decline in population, and companies are unable to fill employment positions due to low pay and an underqualified work force. There is a gap in the type of employment available and the employability of the City's working age population. This prevents low-income households from improving their income and ability to live outside areas with concentrations of low-income households, thus creating a fair housing concern.

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:

- **4-A:** Support and enhance workforce development and technical skills training that result in more opportunities to earn a "livable" wage and increases job opportunities.
- **4-B:** 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.
- **4-C:** Support programming that enhances entrepreneurship and small business development, expansion, and retention within low- and moderate-income areas and minority neighborhoods.
- **4-D:** Promote and encourage economic development with local commercial and industrial firms to expand their operations and increase employment opportunities.

-
- **4-E:** Explore opportunities for improving public transportation through expansion of existing routes and times, or partnerships with third parties to allow residents to access new employment opportunities.

I. Introduction

The City of Altoona is a CDBG and HOME Entitlement Community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program. In accordance with the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, each entitlement community must "affirmatively further fair housing." In order to "affirmatively further fair housing" the community must conduct a Fair Housing Analysis which identifies any impediments to fair housing choice.

"Fair housing choice" is defined as:

"The ability of persons, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or handicap, of similar income levels to have available to them the same housing choices"

The Fair Housing Analysis consists of the following six (6) conditions:

- The sale or rental of dwellings (public or private);
- The provision of housing brokerage services;
- The provision of financial assistance for dwellings;
- Public policies and actions affecting the approval of sites and other building requirements used in the approval process for the construction of publicly assisted housing;
- The administrative policies concerning community development and housing activities, which affect opportunities of minority households to select housing inside or outside areas of minority concentration; and
- Where there is a determination of unlawful segregation or other housing discrimination by a court or a finding of noncompliance by HUD regarding assisted housing in a recipient's jurisdiction, an analysis of the actions which could be taken by the recipient to remedy the discriminatory condition, including actions involving the expenditure of funds made available under 24 CFR Part 570.

The City of Altoona has prepared this FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice to coincide with the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-2024.

II. Background Data

In order to perform an analysis of fair housing in the City of Altoona, the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the City were evaluated to determine and identify if there may be impediments to fair housing choice.

The City of Altoona is located in Central Pennsylvania and is the principal municipality in the Altoona Metropolitan Statistical Area. Altoona was founded by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1849 as a site for a repair and maintenance shop. It was incorporated as a borough on February 6, 1854. Altoona became a city after legislation was passed on April 3, 1867 and February 8, 1868.



Altoona grew rapidly in the late 19th Century as the demand for locomotives during the Civil War stimulated much of its growth and became a very valuable city in the North. The "Horseshoe Curve", a section of track built by the Pennsylvania Railroad, was used to help trains cross the Allegheny Ridge and stimulate trade. It is still in use as a historic landmark. After World War II came the decline in the railroad industry which caused a decline in the City's population and economy.

Like many "rust belt" cities a single industry became the main economic engine. Today, the top field of employment in the Altoona and the metro area is healthcare with facilities such as: the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital, and the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center, and several nursing homes as the top employers.



The downtown area maintains significant focus for revitalization efforts. Penn State Altoona has purchased several downtown buildings, including the former Playhouse Theater building, Penn Furniture Building, and the former WRTA building. The Mansion Park stadium, owned by the Altoona Area Schools District is recognized as one of the finest athletic complexes in Pennsylvania and regularly serves as a space for a variety of

events. Altoona is also home to the Altoona Curve, a minor-league baseball team as well as a local Newspaper, the Altoona Mirror.

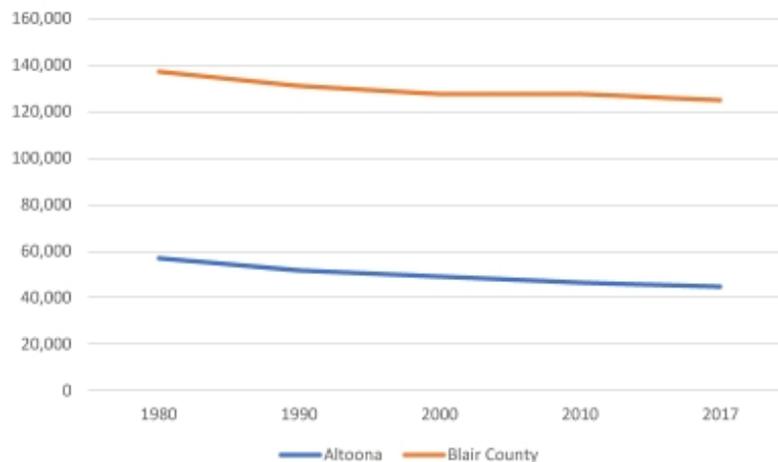
A. Population and Race:

Population

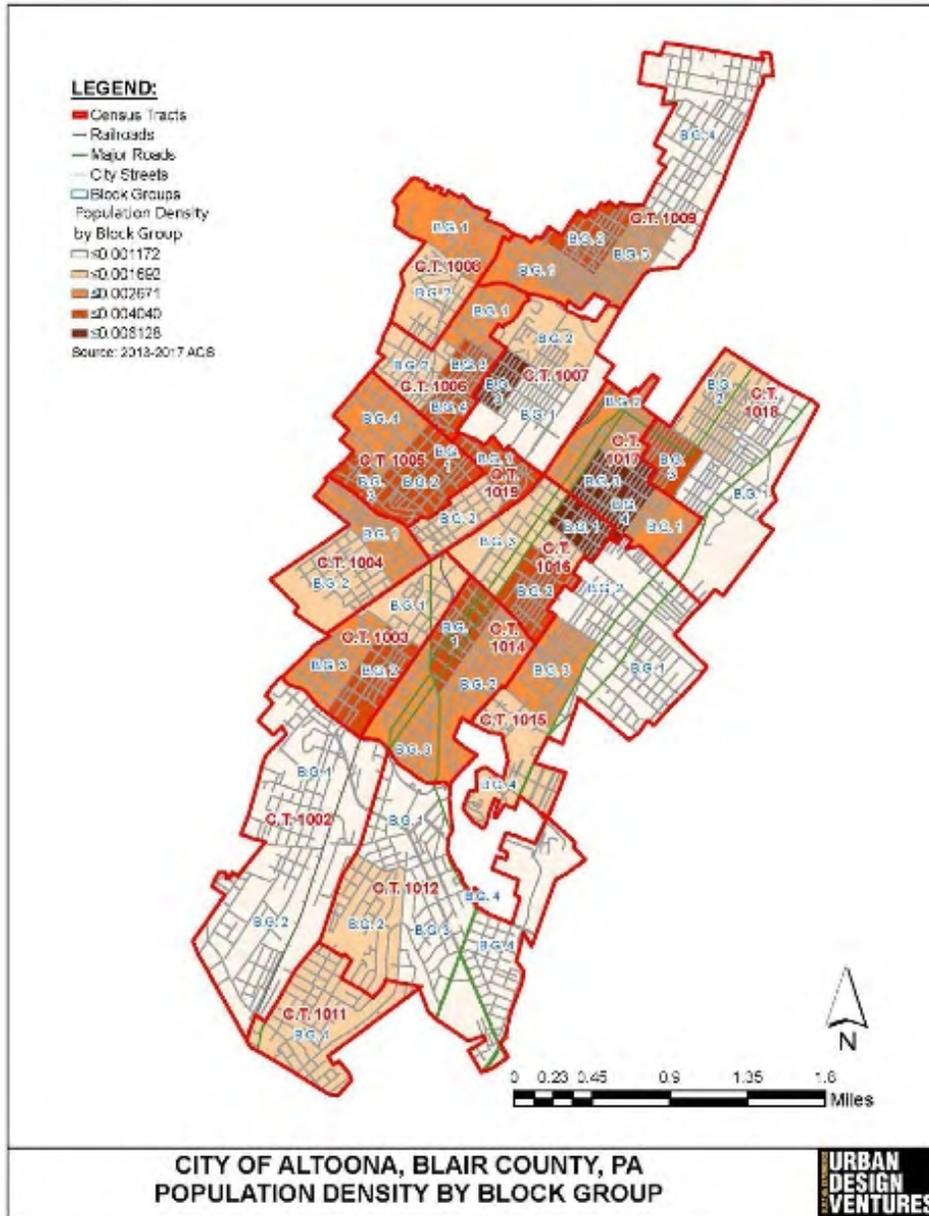
The total population for the City of Altoona at the time of the 2010 Census was 46,320; according to the 2008-2012 and 2013-2017 American Community Survey data the total population count was 46,434 and 44,749, respectively. This illustrates a steadily declining population. Similarly, Blair County has seen a steadily declining population during the same time period.

Within the last decade, between 2010 and 2017, the City's population decreased by 1,571 people, or 3.39%. The County's population decreased by 1.84% within the same time period. In 2017, there were an estimated 22,714 females (50.8%) and 22,035 males (49.2%) living in the City of Altoona.

CHART II-1 Population Trend in the City of Altoona, PA



The population density map below shows that the City's population tends to reside in the Central and North-Central parts of the City.



Racial Makeup of Population

Table II-1 below illustrates that “White alone” is the largest racial cohort in Altoona, making up 93.6% of the City’s population in 2017. “Black or African American alone” remains the largest minority cohort, at 2.8%. The Hispanic population has slightly increased between 2010 and 2017, rising from 1.3% to 1.7% of the population.

**Table II-1 – Racial Makeup of the Population
in the City of Altoona, PA**

Racial Makeup	2010 U.S. Census		2013-2017 ACS Estimates	
	#	%	#	%
Total	46,883	-	44,749	-
One race	46,311	98.8%	43,508	97.2%
White alone	44,116	94.1%	41,904	93.6%
Black or African American alone	1,577	3.4%	1,251	2.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	33	0.1%	0	0.0%
Asian alone	332	0.7%	96	0.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	9	0.0%	7	0.0%
Some other race alone	244	0.5%	250	0.6%
Two or More Races	572	1.2%	1,241	2.8%
Hispanic or Latino	632	1.3%	782	1.7%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census & 2013-2017 ACS

The City of Altoona’s total percentage of minority population, including Hispanic/Latino/a, increased from 5.9% in 2010 to 6.3% in 2017.

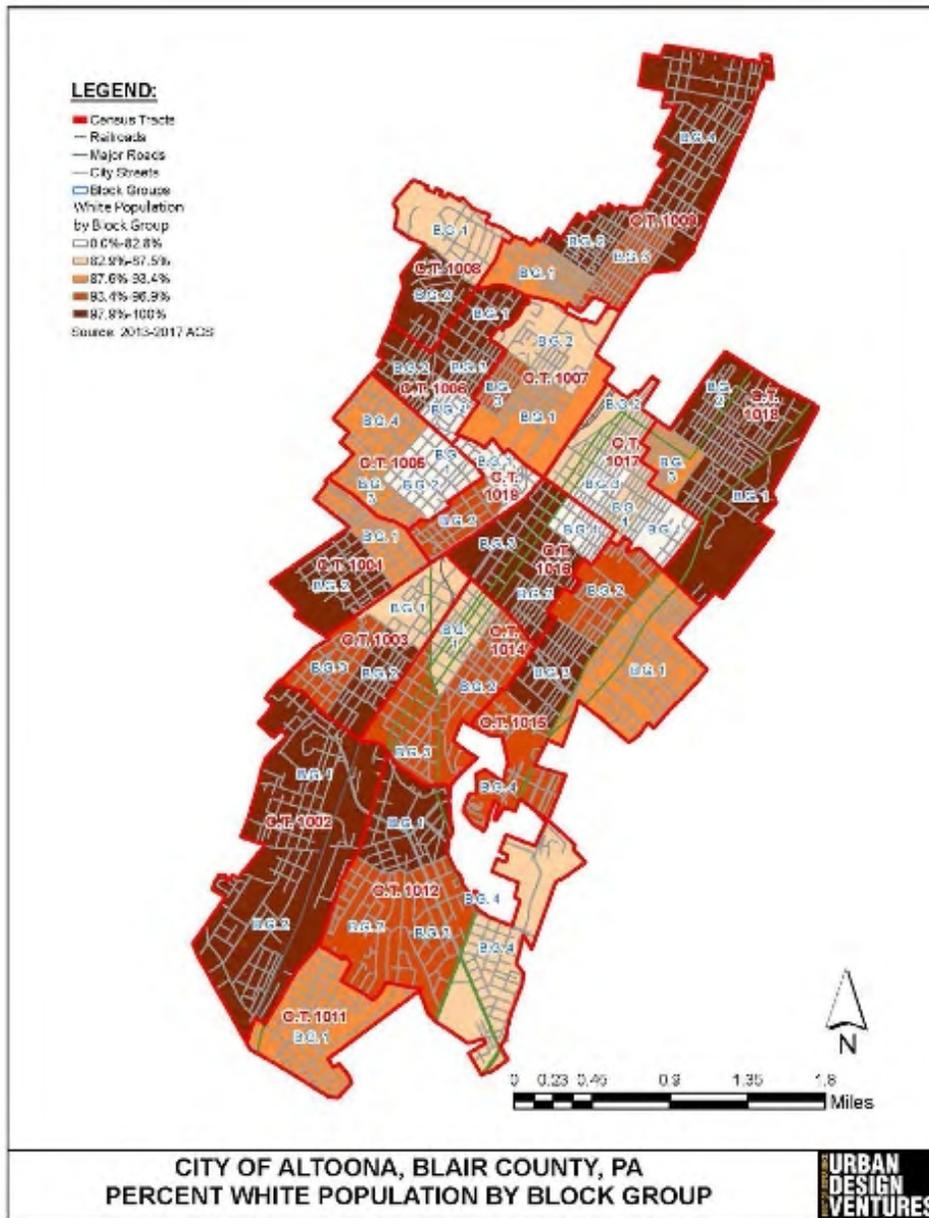
Table II-2 outlines the comparison of the minority populations in each Census Tract in the City at the time of the 2010 U.S. Census and the five year estimates of the 2013-2017 American Community Survey. The entire population of these Census Tracts overstates the total population and minority population living in Altoona at the time of the reports.

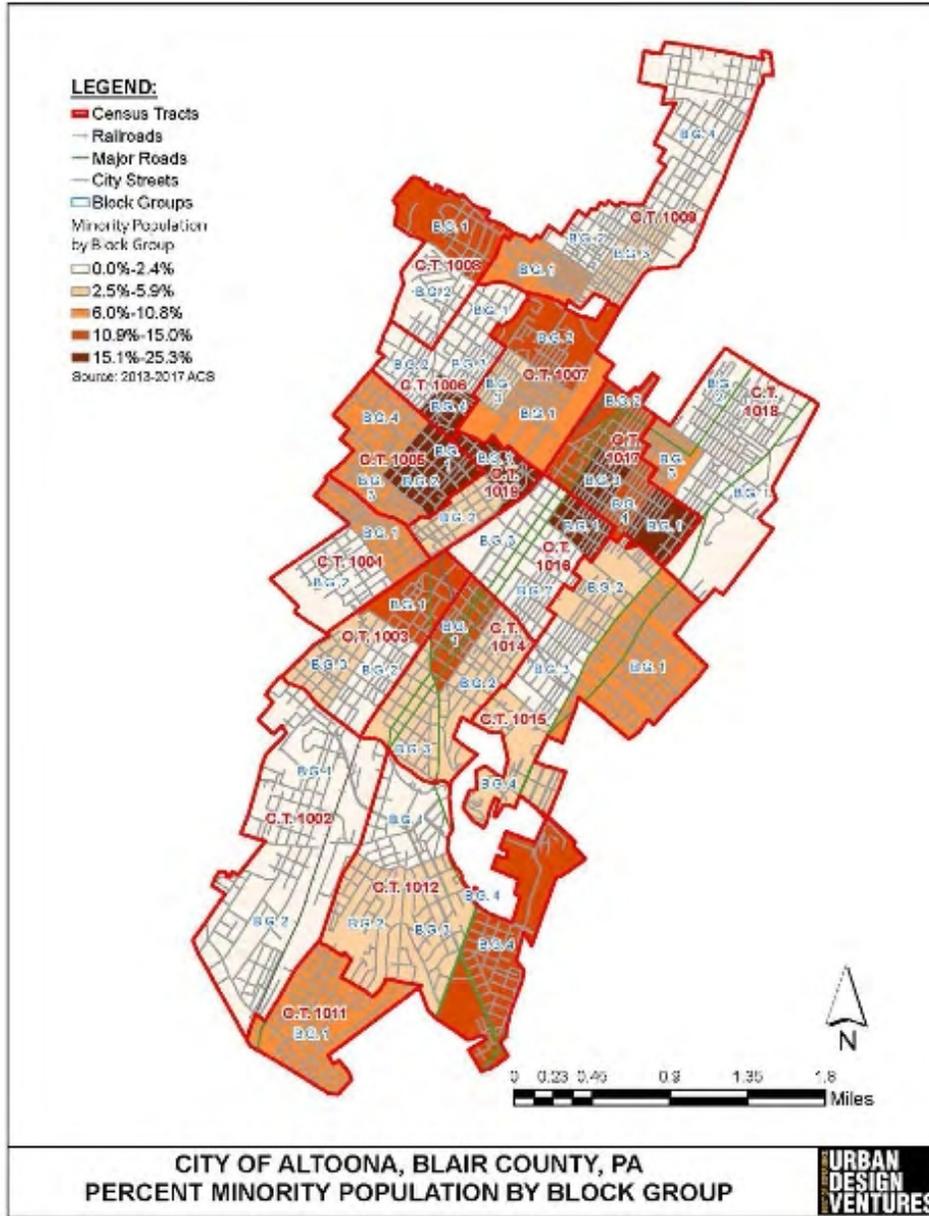
Table II-2 – Concentrations of Minority Residents for 2010 and 2017

Census Tract	2010 U.S. Census			2013-2017 American Community Survey		
	Total Population	Minority Population	% Minority Population	Total Population	Minority Population	% Minority Population
1002	2,087	0	0.0%	2,082	12	0.6%
1003	3,089	209	6.8%	3,209	137	4.3%
1004	2,364	255	10.8%	1,571	70	4.5%
1005	3,708	389	10.5%	3,534	460	13.0%
1006	2,538	92	3.6%	2,465	193	7.8%
1007	2,103	151	7.2%	2,477	186	7.5%
1008	2,692	191	7.1%	1,749	136	7.8%
1009	4,482	139	3.1%	4,107	53	1.3%
1011	1,700	95	5.6%	1,594	88	5.5%
1012	4,093	253	6.2%	3,995	198	5.0%
1014	3,650	205	5.6%	3,770	238	6.3%
1015	3,458	50	1.4%	3,474	131	3.8%
1016	3,218	417	13.0%	3,269	274	8.4%
1017	3,206	81	2.5%	3,573	392	11.0%
1018	3,176	129	4.1%	2,597	99	3.8%
1019	1,639	111	6.8%	1,504	178	11.8%
Census Tract Totals	47,203	2,767	5.9%	44,970	2,845	6.3%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census & 2013-2017 ACS

Even though the total population decreased, the total number of minorities increased. The City of Altoona saw the percentage of minority population increase from 5.9% in 2010 to 6.3% in 2017. The maps below illustrate the percentages of White and Minority Populations in further detail, by Block Group, in the City of Altoona.





Another way to consider racial distribution in a community is to look at the dissimilarity indices for an area. Dissimilarity indices measure the separation or integration of races across all parts of the city, county, or state. The dissimilarity index is based on the data from the 2010 U.S. Census and was calculated as part of Brown University's American Communities Project (<http://www.s4.brown.edu/us2010/>). The dissimilarity index measures whether one particular group is distributed across census tracts in the metropolitan area in the same way as another group. A high value indicates that the two groups tend to live in different tracts. It compares the integration of racial groups with the White population of the City, or MSA, on a scale from 0 to 100, with 0 being completely integrated and 100 being completely separate. A value of 60 (or above) is considered very high. It means that 60% (or more) of the members of one group would need to move to a different tract in order for the two groups to be equally distributed. Values of 40 or 50 are usually considered a moderate level of segregation, and values of 30 or below are considered to be fairly low and are integrated. The following table highlights the dissimilarity indices for various racial and ethnic groups, as compared to the White population in the City of Altoona.

The Black/African American population is the largest minority group in the City, making up approximately 3.3% of the population and with a dissimilarity index of 27.8. All other minority groups have relatively small populations, which introduces some error into the calculation of the dissimilarity indices. More specifically, for populations under 1,000 people, the dissimilarity index may be high even if the population is evenly distributed across the City, MSA, or State.

The dissimilarity numbers are low across the board from the 2000 Census, and is indicative of a City that is relatively integrated. However, when looking at the exposure index, the numbers reflect that neighborhoods are not as integrated as the index of dissimilarity indicates. Exposure indices refer to the racial/ethnic composition of the tract where the average member of a given group lives. For example, the average Hispanic in some metropolitan areas might live in a tract that is 40% Hispanic, 40% non-Hispanic white, 15% black, and 5% Asian. (Note that these various indices must add up to 100%.) These are presented in two categories: exposure of the group to itself (which is called the Index of Isolation) and exposure of the group to other groups.

The isolation index is the percentage of the same-group population in the census tract where the average number of a racial/ethnic group lives. It has a lower number than zero (for a very small group that is quite dispersed) to 100 (meaning that group members are entirely isolated from other groups). It should be kept in mind that this index is affected by the size of the group -- it is almost inevitably small for smaller groups, and it is likely to increase

over time if the group becomes larger. The isolation index of White to White in the City of Altoona is 93.1, Black to Black is 6, Hispanic to Hispanic is 1.6, and Asian to Asian is 1.

Indices of exposure to other groups also range from 0 to 100, where a larger value means that the average group member lives in a tract with a higher percentage of persons from the other group. These indices depend on two conditions: the overall size of the other group and each group's settlement pattern. The exposure to other group indices for Black to White in Altoona is 91.3, and for White to Black, 4.4. The indices for Hispanic to White is 91.9, and Asian to White is 92.8.

Table II-3 – Dissimilarity and Exposure Indices – City of Altoona

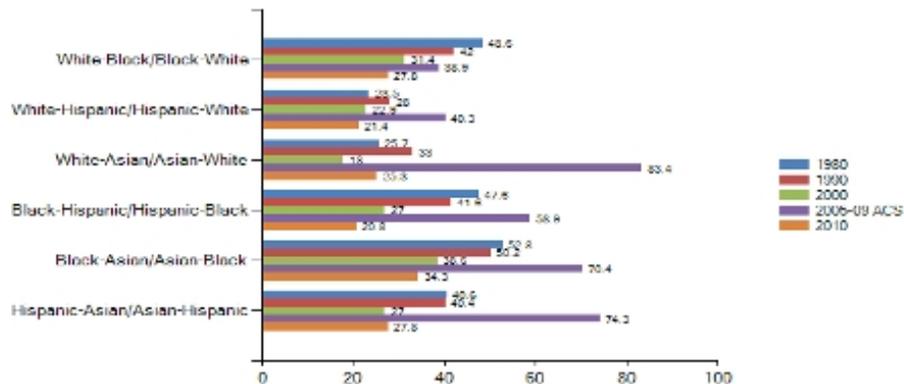
	Dissimilarity Index With Whites	Isolation Index	Exposure to Other Groups*
White	--	93.1	4.4**
Black	27.8	6	91.3
Asian	25.3	1	92.8
Hispanic	20.8	1.6	91.9

Source: American Communities Project, 2010 Census

* Exposure of minorities to Whites

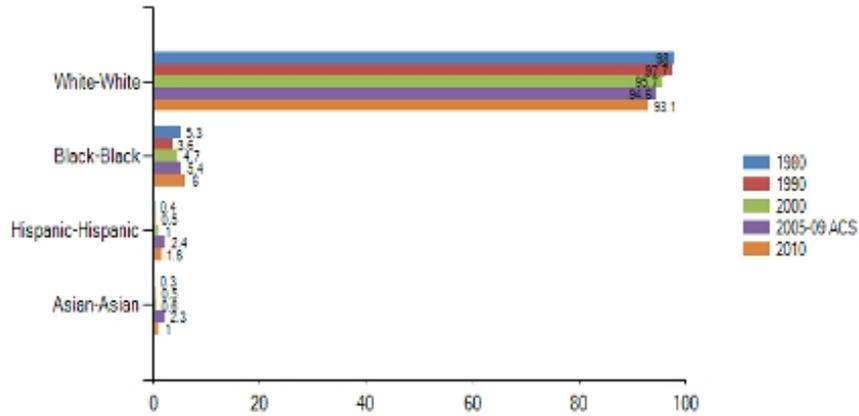
**Exposure of Whites to Blacks

Chart II-2 – Dissimilarity Index in the City of Altoona



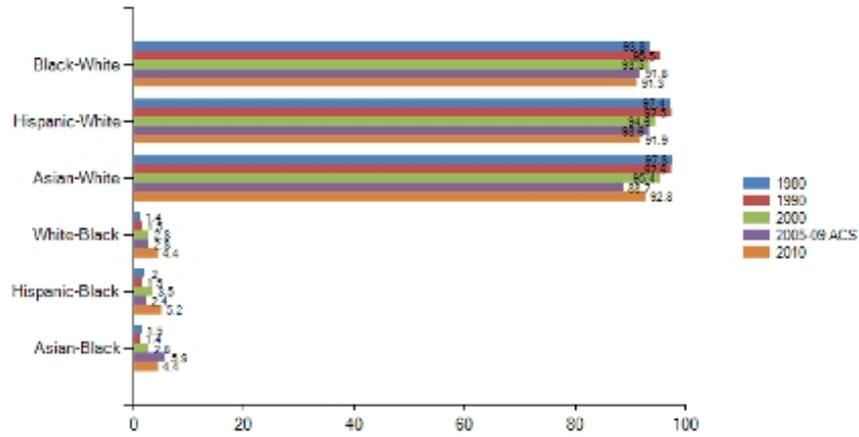
Source: American Communities Project, U.S. Census

Chart II-3 – Isolation Index in the City of Altoona



Source: American Communities Project, U.S. Census

Chart II-4 – Exposure Index in the City of Altoona



Source: American Communities Project, U.S. Census

Ethnicity

Table II-4 highlights the ethnicities of Altoona's residents at the time of the 2010 U.S. Census and more recent reports.

Table II-4 – Population by Ethnicity in the City of Altoona, PA

ANCESTRY	2010 U.S. Census		2013-2017 ACS	
	#	%	#	%
Total population	46,883	-	44,749	-
American	2,185	4.7%	2,152	4.8%
Arab	80	0.2%	158	0.4%
Czech	70	0.1%	85	0.2%
Danish	21	0.0%	0	0.0%
Dutch	846	1.8%	645	1.4%
English	3,510	7.5%	2,387	5.3%
French (except Basque)	1,070	2.3%	635	1.4%
French Canadian	84	0.2%	49	0.1%
German	19,843	42.3%	14,772	33.0%
Greek	187	0.4%	181	0.4%
Hungarian	323	0.7%	178	0.4%
Irish	10,230	21.8%	8,031	17.9%
Italian	7,090	15.1%	5,981	13.4%
Lithuanian	48	0.1%	88	0.2%
Norwegian	61	0.1%	111	0.2%
Polish	2,457	5.2%	2,329	5.2%
Portuguese	14	0.0%	8	0.0%
Russian	169	0.4%	286	0.6%
Scotch-Irish	1,085	2.3%	435	1.0%
Scottish	798	1.7%	679	1.5%



Slovak	325	0.7%	354	0.8%
Sub-Saharan African	100	0.2%	172	0.4%
Swedish	422	0.9%	481	1.1%
Swiss	218	0.5%	57	0.1%
Ukrainian	154	0.3%	136	0.3%
Welsh	497	1.1%	420	0.9%
West Indian (excluding Hispanic origin groups)	138	0.3%	14	0.0%

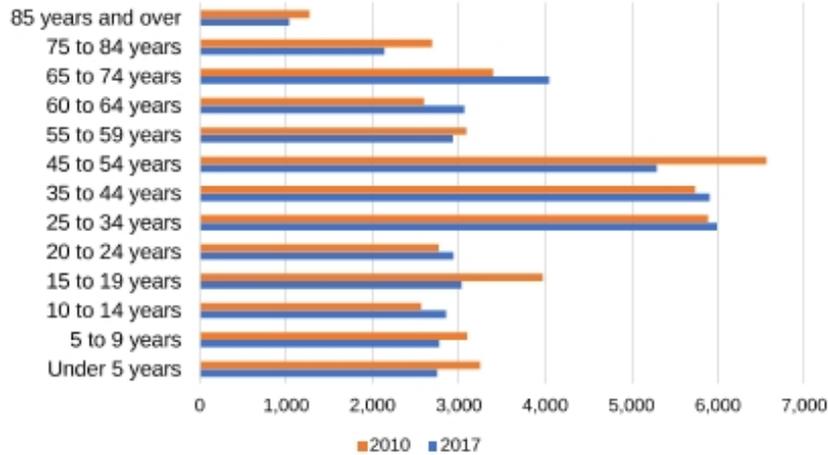
Source: 2010 Census and 2013-2017 ACS

The largest ethnicities cover 5% of the population in Altoona include German, Irish, Italian, Irish and Polish. Between 2010 and 2017, Altoona experienced a slight increase (0.1%) in the percentage of residents identifying themselves as American. Many of the other ethnicities experienced slight fluctuations between 2010 and 2017. The 2013-2017 American Community Survey did not include "Other Ancestries" as an option, so this may account for an increase in some of the other categories in the event that survey participants selected an ancestry that most closely described their actual ancestry.

Age

Chart II-5 below illustrates age distribution within the City for 2017. Children under five years of age represented 6.40% of the population; 26.30% of the City's population was under 20 years of age; and 15.20% were 65 years of age or older.

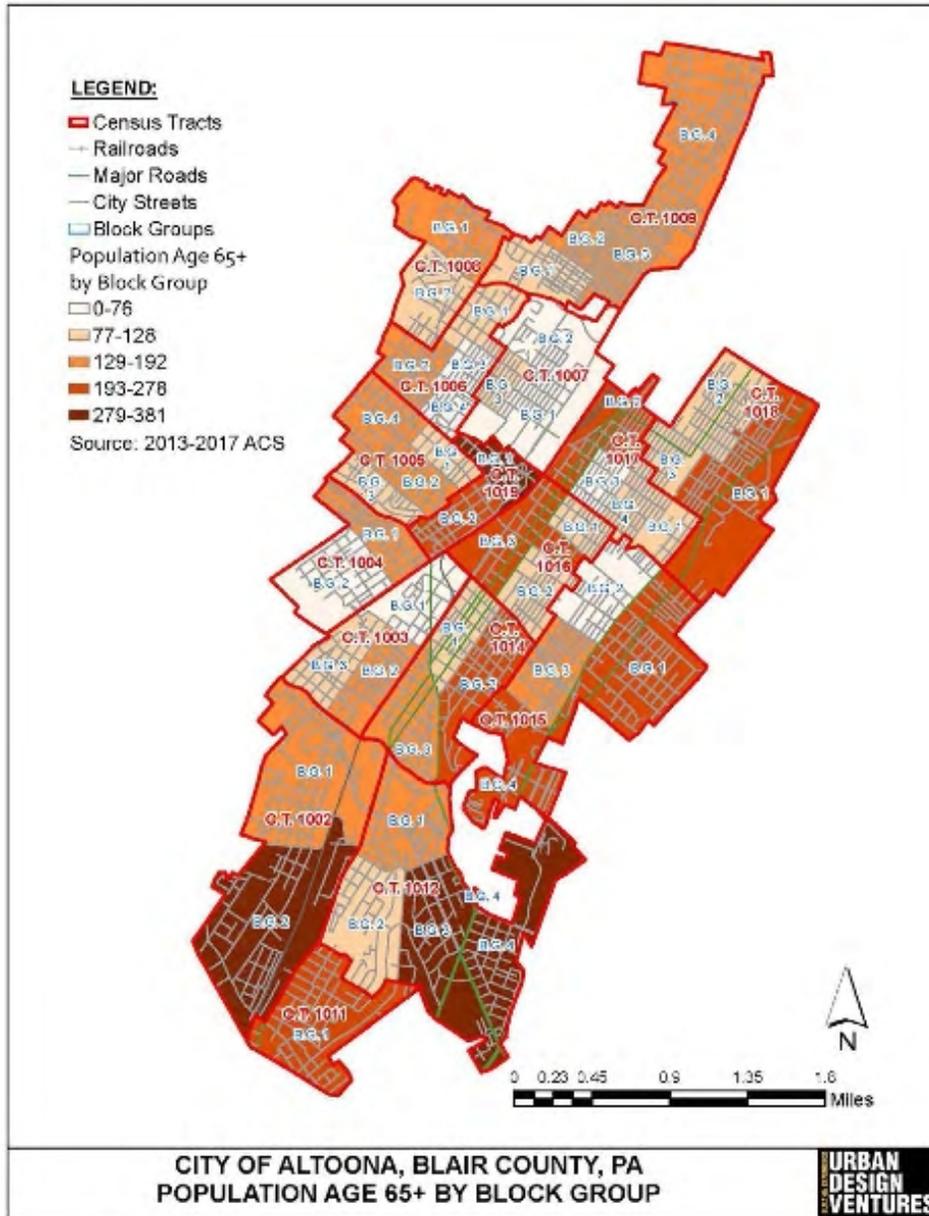
Chart II-5 – Age of Population in the City of Altoona, PA

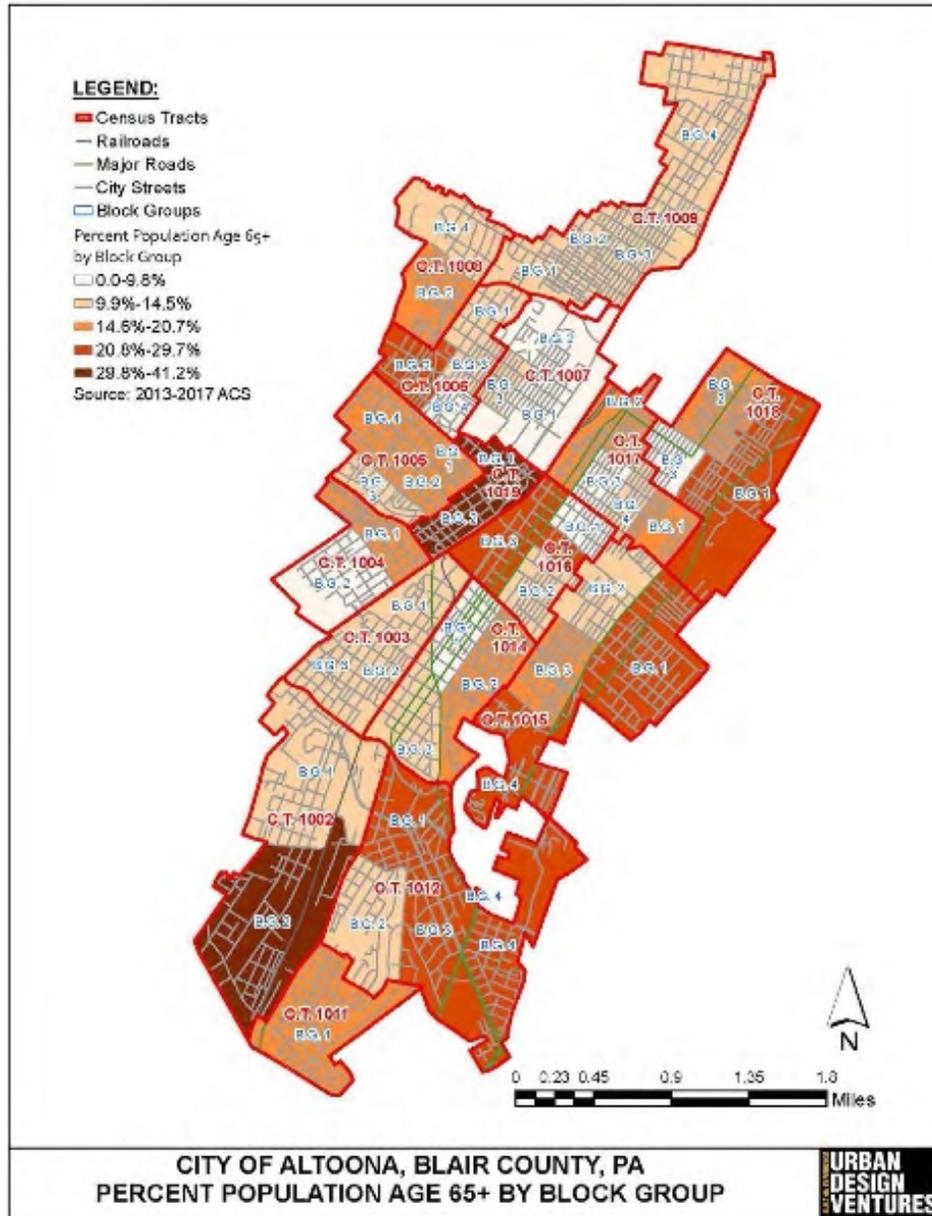


Source: 2010 U.S. Census Data and 2013-2017 ACS Estimates

The median age in the City of Altoona at the time of the 2010 Census was 38.0 and remained the same at time of the 2017 ACS Estimates. The median age in Blair County is slightly higher at 43.1 years, and the median age in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is similar at 40.7 years.

The following maps illustrate the count and percentage of the population Age 65 and Over by Block Group in the City of Altoona. There has been a national increase in the percentage of the population age 65 and over, and as a result, a greater need for ADA improvements in housing. Age 65 and over individuals and households are presumed to be low- or moderate-income, because many are living on fixed incomes.





Religion

The U.S. Census does not collect data on the religious affiliations of the population in the United States. In an effort to better understand the religious affiliations of the residents of Altoona, the City used the data made available by the Association of Religion Data Archives (ARDA). ARDA surveys the congregation members, their children, and other people who regularly attend church services within counties across the country. Although this data appears to be the most comprehensive data that is available, it is unfortunately not entirely complete as it does not accurately include traditional African American denominations. The total number of regular attendees was adjusted in 2010 (the most recent year for which data is available) to represent the population including historic African American denominations. Also, no data for African American denominations was available for the year 2000. However, the total number cannot be disaggregated to determine the distribution across religious denominational groups. The table below shows the distribution of residents of Blair County across various denominational groups, as a percentage of the population which reported affiliation with a church.

Table II-5 compares religious affiliation in Blair County between 1980 and 2010. Data from the Association of Religious Data Archives was used.

Table II-5: Religious Affiliation in Blair County

	1980		1990		2000		2010	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Evangelical Protestant	11,022	13.5%	11,960	17.3%	13,344	18.5%	16,790	25.2%
Black Protestant	266	0.3%	266	0.4%	0	0.0%	191	0.3%
Mainline Protestant	36,414	44.5%	30,060	43.4%	25,338	35.1%	19,747	29.6%
Catholic	33,320	40.7%	26,028	37.6%	32,063	44.4%	27,606	41.4%
Orthodox	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	413	0.6%	368	0.6%
Other	859	1.0%	876	1.3%	1,025	1.4%	1,931	2.9%
Total Adherents:	81,881	59.9%	69,190	53.0%	72,183	55.9%	66,633	52.4%



Unclaimed (% of total population)	54,740	40.1%	61,352	47.0%	56,961	44.1%	60,456	47.6%
Total Population:	136,621	-	130,542	-	129,144	-	127,089	-

Source: The Association of Religious Data Archives; <http://www.thearda.com/>

Between 1980 and 2010, the percentage of individuals identifying themselves as "Mainline Protestants" in Blair County decreased from 1980 to 2000 and then increased in 2010. During this time period, there was also a significant increase in the percentage of individuals identifying as "Evangelical Protestants." Between 1980 and 2010, Blair County saw a slight decrease in the number of people identifying with traditional religious organizations.

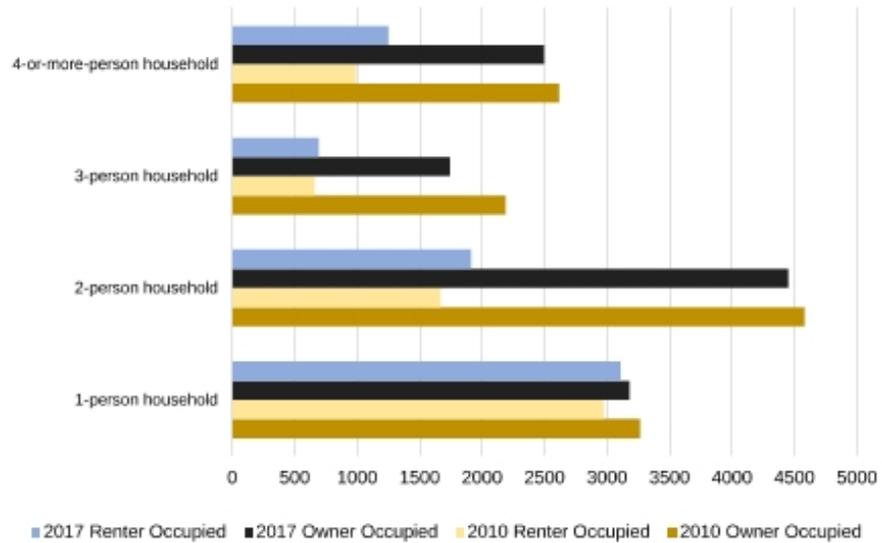
The most common religious affiliation identified in Blair County in 2010 was Catholic with 27,606 adherents comprising of 41.4% of the population. The second most common religious affiliation identified in Blair County in 2010 was Mainline Protestant with 19,747 adherents comprising of 29.6% of the population.

B. Households:

According to the 2017 ACS Estimates, there were 20,813 housing units in the City of Altoona. This is a 1.24% decrease from the 2010 Census, which reported a total of 21,075 households in the City. Of the 2017 households: 63.0% were owners and 37.0% were renters, whereas in 2010: 66.8% were owners and 33.2% were renters. This shows that there was almost a 6% decrease in homeownership in the past decade.

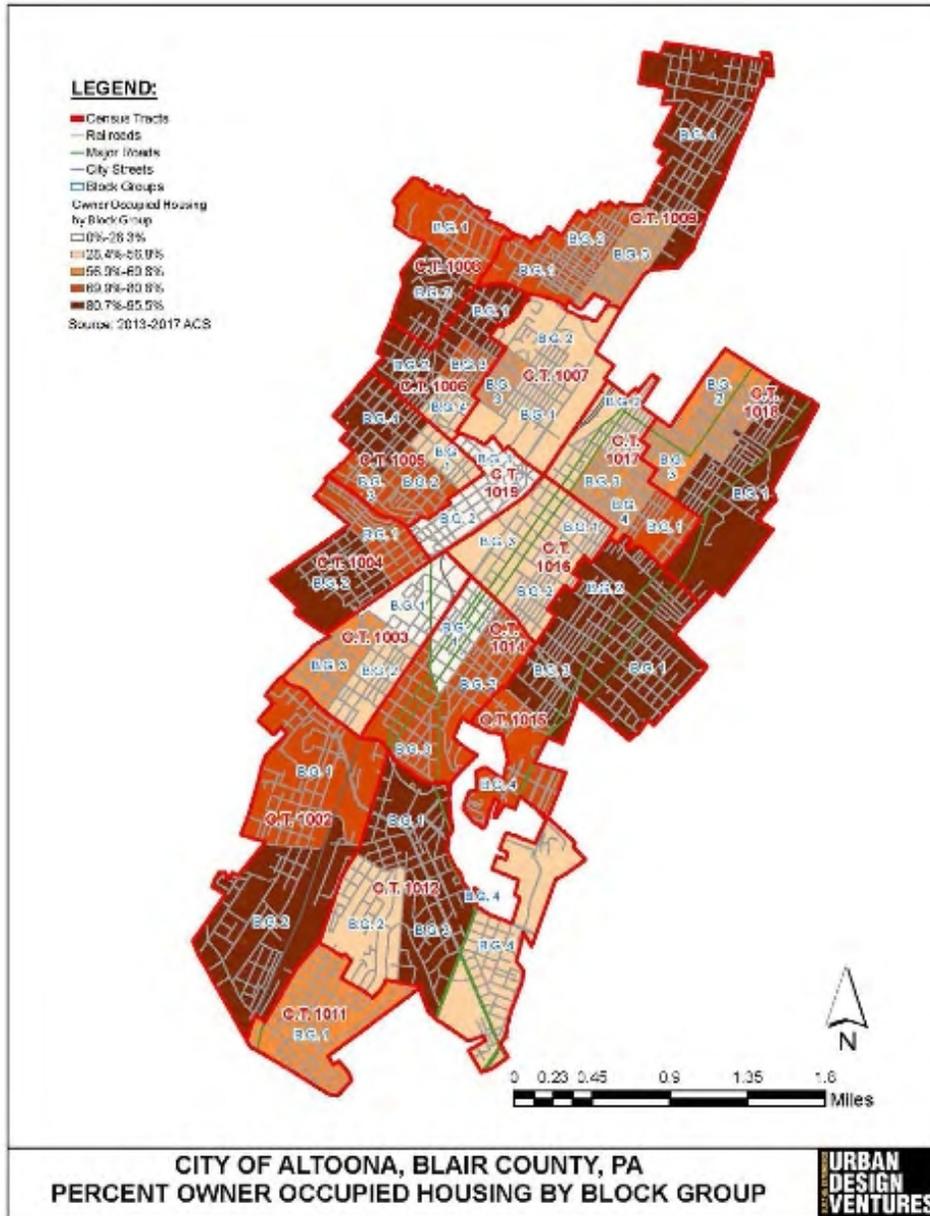
The average size of the owner-occupied households was 2.51 persons, and the average renter household was 2.07 persons. **Chart II-5** illustrates household size breakdown for owner and renter households.

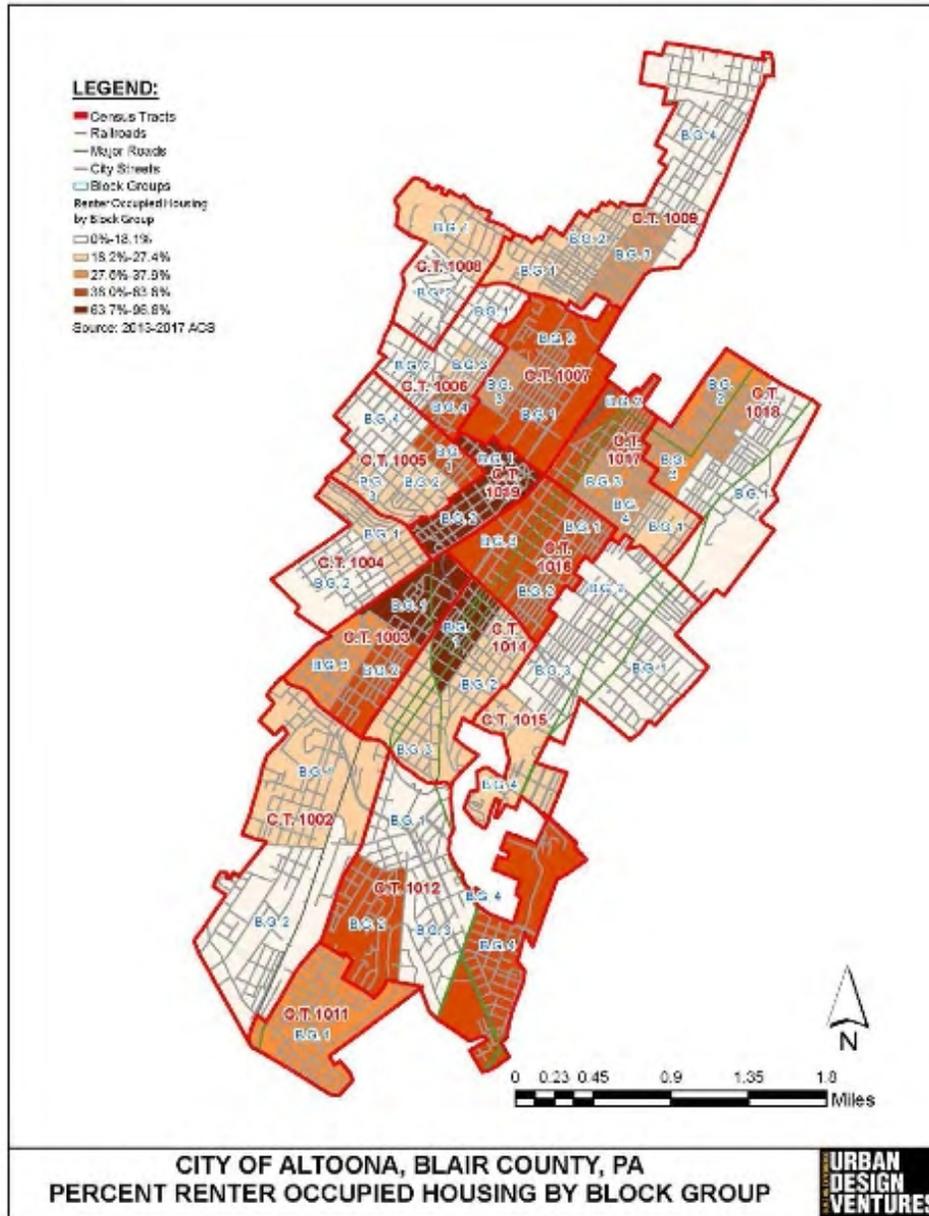
Chart II-5 – Occupancy by Tenure in the City of Altoona, PA



Source: 2010 U.S. Census and 2013-2017 ACS

The following maps illustrate the percentages of Owner and Renter-Occupied Housing Units by Block Points in the City of Altoona.





The following **Table II-6** compares homeowners and renters by race. This table shows that White households represent the largest percentage of homeownership (98.1%) with Black or African American households comprising (1.2%) of the total homeowners.

Of the total number of White households, 62.9% are homeowners and 32.2% are renters. In comparison, of all Black and African American households, 29.6% are homeowners and 70.4% are renters.

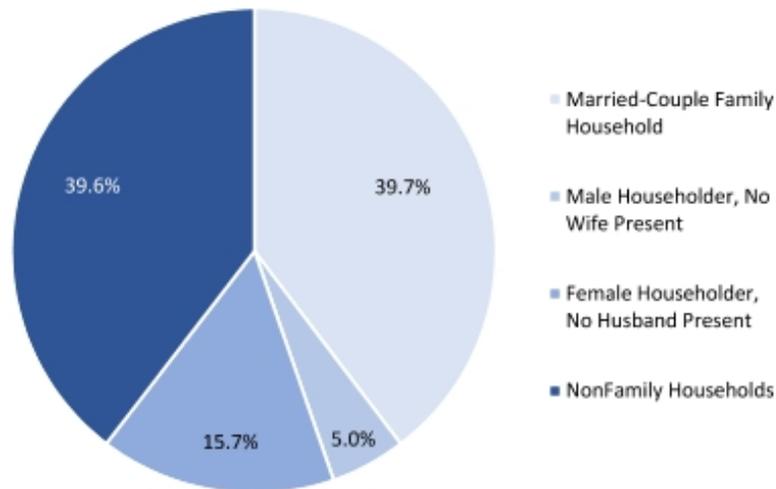
Table II-6 – Household Tenure by Race

Cohort	2010 U.S. Census				2013-2017 ACS			
	Owner	%	Renter	%	Owner	%	Renter	%
Householder who is White alone	12,348	97.6%	5,814	92.4%	11,681	98.4%	6,384	91.7%
Householder who is Black or African American alone	127	1.0%	378	6.0%	146	1.2%	276	4.0%
Householder who is American Indian and Alaska Native alone	25	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Householder who is Asian alone	63	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	0.2%
Householder who is Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	13	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	0.1%
Householder who is some other race alone	13	0.1%	69	1.1%	7	0.1%	42	0.6%
Householder who is two or more races	63	0.5%	31	0.5%	36	0.3%	243	3.5%
Householder who is Hispanic or Latino	63	0.5%	151	2.4%	119	1.0%	133	1.9%
Householder who is not Hispanic or Latino	12,298	97.2%	5,732	91.1%	11,584	97.6%	6,293	90.4%

Source: 2010 Census & 2013-2017 ACS

Families comprised 39.7% of households in the City. Of these households, 15.7% of families were female-headed households. **Chart II-6** illustrates households by type in Altoona.

Chart II-6 – Households by Type in the City of Altoona, PA



Source: 2013-2017 ACS Estimates

C. Income and Poverty:

According to the 2006-2010 American Community Survey the median household income for the City of Altoona was \$35,629, which was slightly less than the median household income of \$42,363 for Blair County, and much lower than the median household income of \$50,398 for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The 2013-2017 American Community Survey reported that the median household income for Altoona increased to \$38,592, compared to \$45,664 for Blair County, and \$56,951 for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. **Table II-7** illustrates household income trends.

Table II-7 – Household Income in the City of Altoona, PA

Items	2006-2010 ACS		2013-2017 ACS	
	Number of Households	Percentage	Number of Households	Percentage
Total Households	18,944	-	18,835	-
Less than \$10,000	2,205	11.6%	1,952	10.4%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1,443	7.6%	1,806	9.6%



\$15,000 to \$24,999	2,981	15.7%	2,801	14.9%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	2,710	14.3%	2,066	11.0%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	2,749	14.5%	2,904	15.4%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	3,545	18.7%	3,345	17.8%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	1,886	10.0%	2,235	11.9%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,109	5.9%	1,217	6.5%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	163	0.9%	286	1.5%
\$200,000 or more	153	0.8%	223	1.2%
Median Household Income	\$35,629	-	\$38,592	-
Mean Household Income	\$46,245	-	\$51,285	-

Source: 2010 ACS and 2013-2017 ACS

Table II-8 below identifies the Section 8 Income Limits for the Altoona, PA Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) based on household size for FY 2019. The Median Family Household Income for a family of 4 living in the Altoona, PA MSA was \$63,000 in 2019.

Table II-8 – Section 8 Income Limits for 2019 for the Altoona, PA MSA

Income Category	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
Extremely Low (30%) Income Limits (\$)	\$13,300	\$16,910	\$21,330	\$25,750	\$30,170	\$34,590	\$39,010	\$41,750
Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$)	\$22,150	\$25,300	\$28,450	\$31,600	\$34,150	\$36,700	\$39,200	\$41,750
Low (80%) Income Limits (\$)	\$35,400	\$40,450	\$45,500	\$50,550	\$54,600	\$58,650	\$62,700	\$66,750

Data obtained from hud.gov

Table II-9 below highlights the low- and moderate-income population in the City of Altoona.

Table II-9 – Low- and Moderate-Income in the City of Altoona, PA

TRACT	BLKGRP	LOWMOD	LOWMODUNIV	LOWMODPCT
100200	1	575	1,250	46.00%
100200	2	185	970	19.07%
100300	1	240	350	68.57%
100300	2	850	1,435	59.23%
100300	3	460	1,020	45.10%
100400	1	460	1,050	43.81%
100400	2	280	750	37.33%
100500	1	635	850	74.71%
100500	2	785	955	82.20%
100500	3	470	950	49.47%
100500	4	165	1,050	15.71%
100600	1	70	710	9.86%
100600	2	250	825	30.30%
100600	3	230	375	61.33%
100600	4	530	775	68.39%
100700	1	755	940	80.32%
100700	2	775	1,085	71.43%
100700	3	405	600	67.50%
100800	1	240	585	41.03%
100800	2	200	695	28.78%
100900	1	205	590	34.75%
100900	2	610	1,220	50.00%
100900	3	580	1,015	57.14%
100900	4	645	1,335	48.31%
101100	1	345	1,525	22.62%
101200	1	80	810	9.88%
101200	2	225	750	30.00%
101200	3	325	1,305	24.90%
101200	4	560	1,130	49.56%
101400	1	1,100	1,180	93.22%
101400	2	690	1,580	43.67%
101400	3	370	890	41.57%
101500	1	230	1,110	20.72%
101500	2	175	530	33.02%
101500	3	260	730	35.62%
101500	4	315	740	42.57%
101600	1	785	930	84.41%

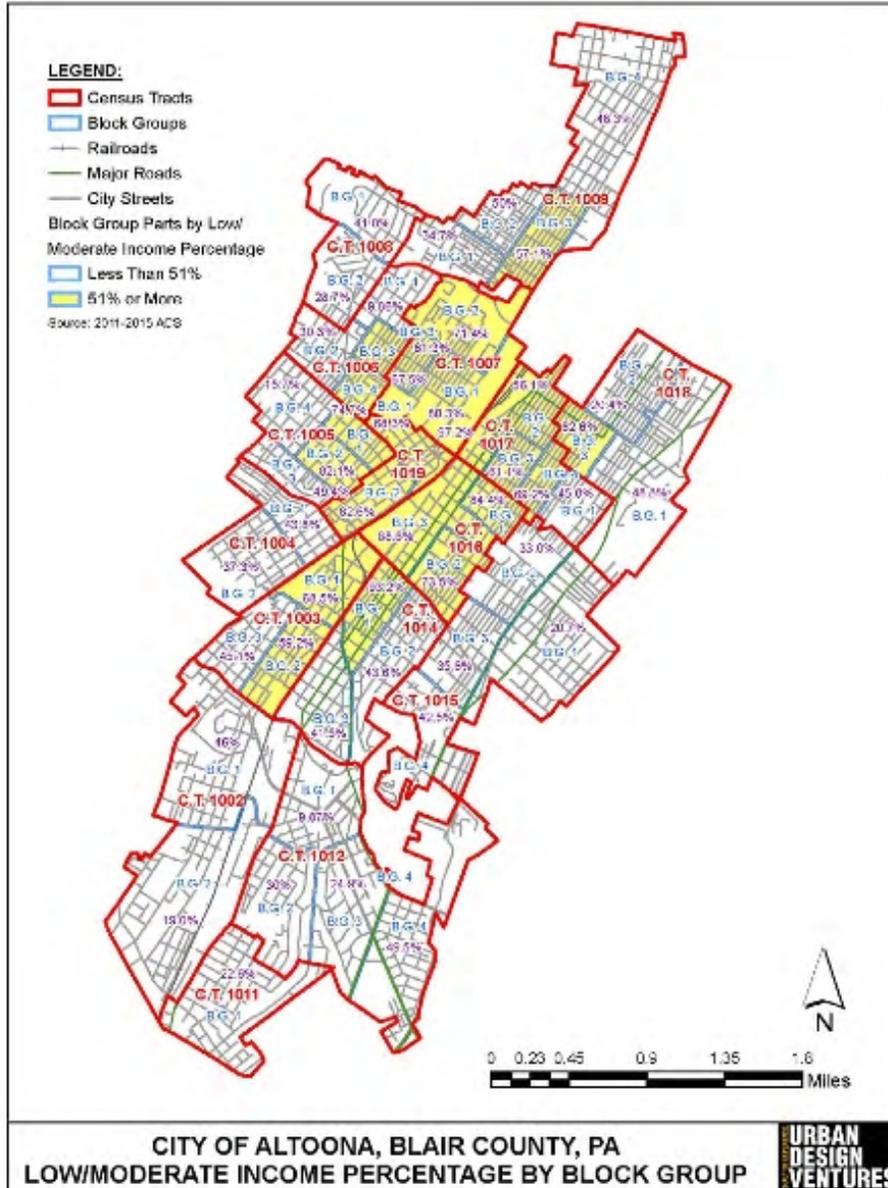


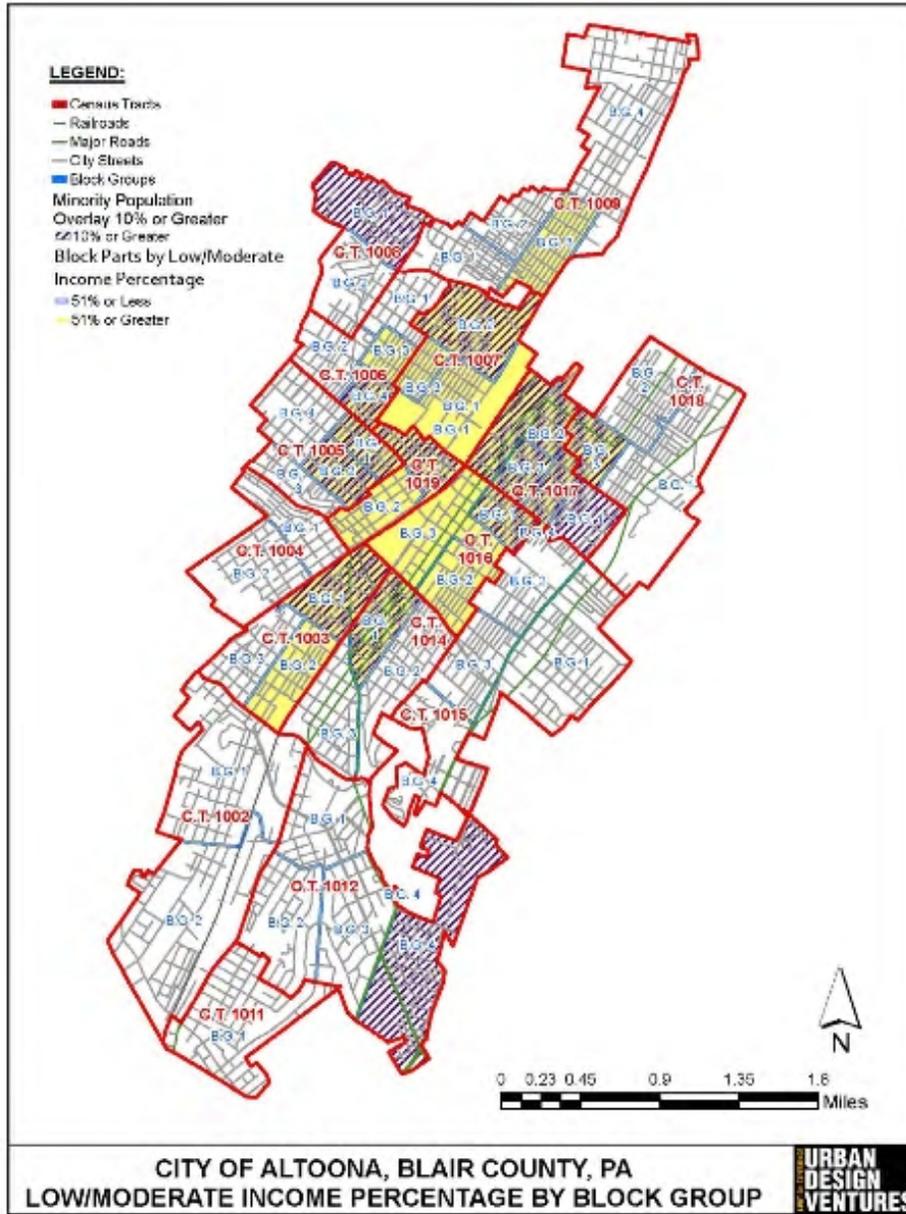
101600	2	905	1,230	73.58%
101600	3	1,135	1,280	88.67%
101700	1	275	610	45.08%
101700	2	780	1,390	56.12%
101700	3	550	900	61.11%
101700	4	575	830	69.28%
101800	1	435	890	48.88%
101800	2	185	905	20.44%
101800	3	605	965	62.69%
101900	1	695	715	97.20%
101900	2	500	605	82.64%
City of Altoona Total		22,700	44,910	44.95%

Data obtained from hud.gov

Over forty percent (44.95%) of all residents in the City of Altoona were considered low- to moderate-income according to the HUD's calculations based on the 2011-2015 American Community Survey data. More than twenty percent (23.2%) of the population in the City of Altoona was living below the poverty level according to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey. In comparison, 15.2% of the population in Blair County was living below the poverty level, and 13.1% of the population in Pennsylvania shared this same economic status.

The following maps illustrate the percentages of Low-Income Population and Low-Income/Minority Population by Block Group in the City of Altoona.

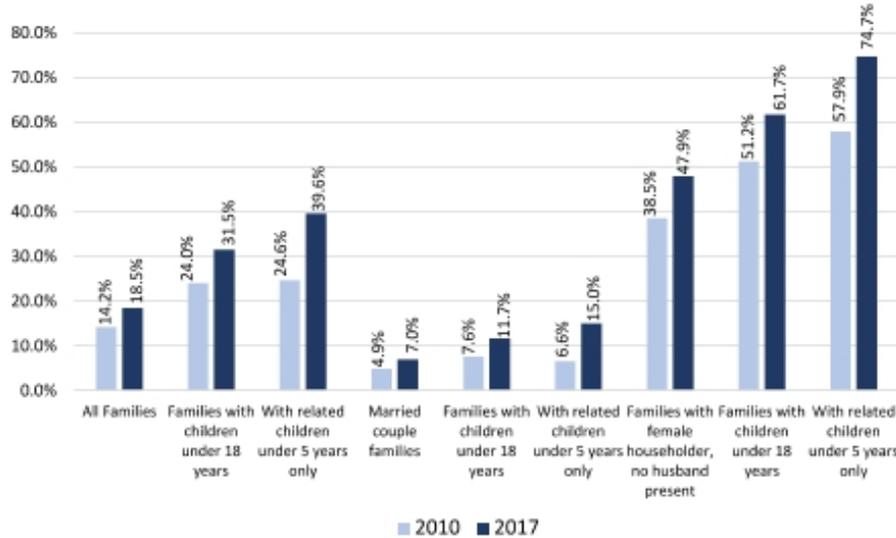




The City's poverty statistics for families with children are significant, particularly for single mothers. In 2010 approximately 14.2% of families were living in poverty and in 2017 approximately 18.5% of families were living in poverty. **Chart II-7** illustrates the poverty statistics for families living in the City of Altoona. At the time of the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, the percentage of some families with children living below the poverty level was as follows:

- Families with related children under the age of 18 was 31.5%.
- Families with related children under the age of 5 was 39.6%.
- Female-headed families with related children under the age of 18 was 61.7%.
- Female-headed families with related children under the age of 5 was 74.7%.

Chart II-7 – Families in Poverty in the City of Altoona, PA

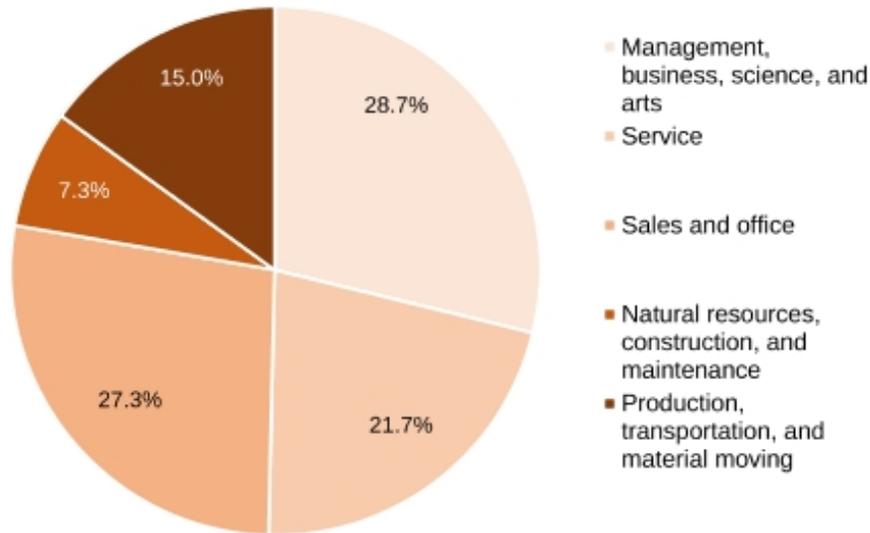


Source: 2010 U.S. Census and 201-2017 American Community Survey

D. Employment:

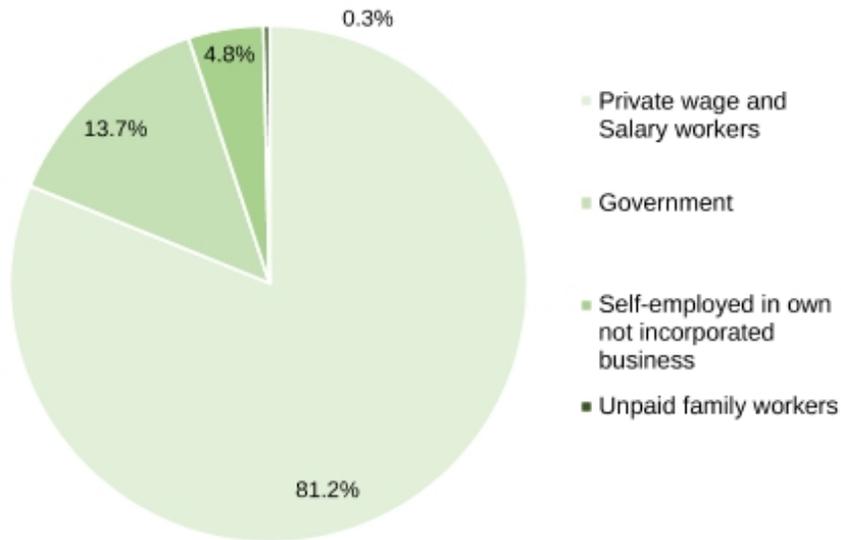
In 2017, according to the 2013-2017 ACS, 58.7% of the City's residents 16 years of age and over were considered a part of the labor force. This compares to 58.7% in Blair County and 62.6% in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. **Chart II-8** and **Chart II-9** below illustrate the classes of workers and the occupations. Most workers were employed in the private sector (81.2%). Management, business, science, and arts occupations were the most common at 28.7%, followed closely by sales and office occupations (27.3%) and service (21.7%) occupations.

Chart II-8 – Altoona Occupations



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

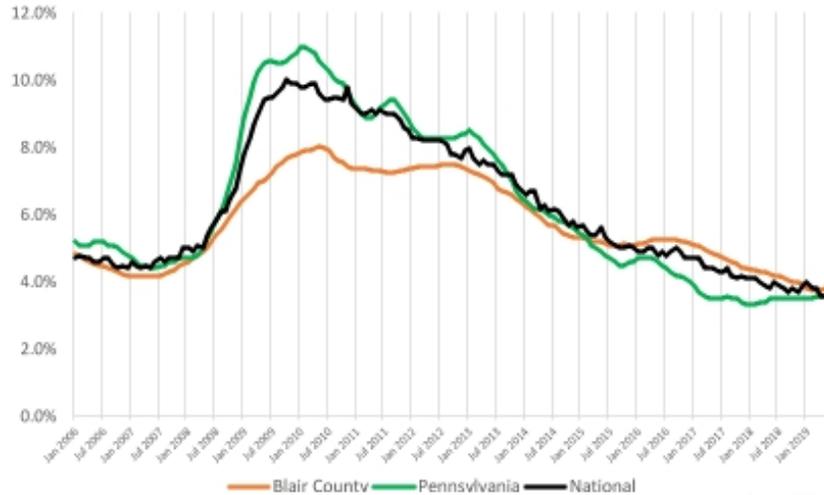
Chart II-9 – Altoona Class of Worker



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Chart II-10 illustrates the unemployment rate trends for section of the Blair County from January 2006 through May 2019 from the Bureau of Labor (www.bls.gov).

Chart II-10 – Altoona Area Unemployment Rate



Source: <http://data.bls.gov>

The unemployment rate for Blair County is represented by the Orange "Blair County" line on chart II-10. The City data was provided by the St. Louis Federal Reserve Economic Database (FRED) and is non-seasonally adjusted, so manual adjustment was required for comparison.

The Blair County data was only available as non-seasonally adjusted data, which is problematic when the objective is to compare said data to other data that is seasonally adjusted. The non-seasonally adjusted County data was manually adjusted to be seasonally adjusted by using weighting each data point against a moving pre-6th month and post-6th month average. By weighting each data point against a moving average, the data becomes seasonally adjusted by eliminating the consistent and cyclical increase in unemployment that is observed during the December-January-February month time frame.

The unemployment rate on Chart II-10 for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is represented by the Green "Pennsylvania" line. The Commonwealth data was provided by the St. Louis FRED Database as seasonally adjusted, so manual adjustment was not required for comparison.



The unemployment rate for the Nation is represented by the Black "National" line. The National data was provided by the St. Louis FRED Database as seasonally adjusted, so manual adjustment was not required for comparison.

From the months of January 2009 through February 2015, the unemployment rate in the County remained lower than the national and state unemployment rates. Across that time period, Blair County had an average unemployment rate 1.2% lower than the Commonwealth unemployment rate and 0.8% lower than the national unemployment rate.

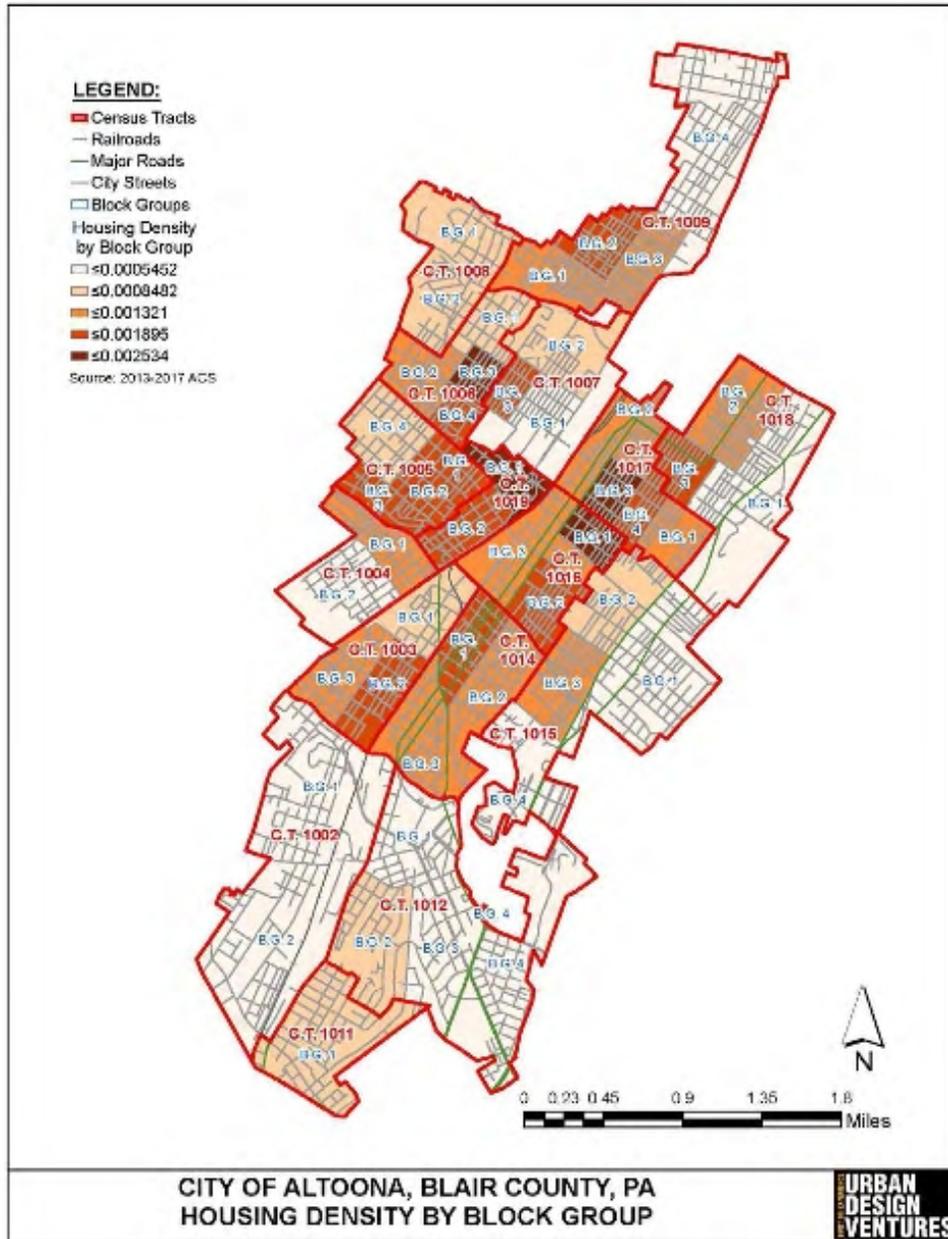
From the months of March 2015 through the most recent data available (May 2019), the unemployment rate in the County remained higher than the national and state unemployment rates. Across that time period, Blair County had an average unemployment rate 0.7% higher than the State unemployment rate and 0.2% higher than the national unemployment rate.

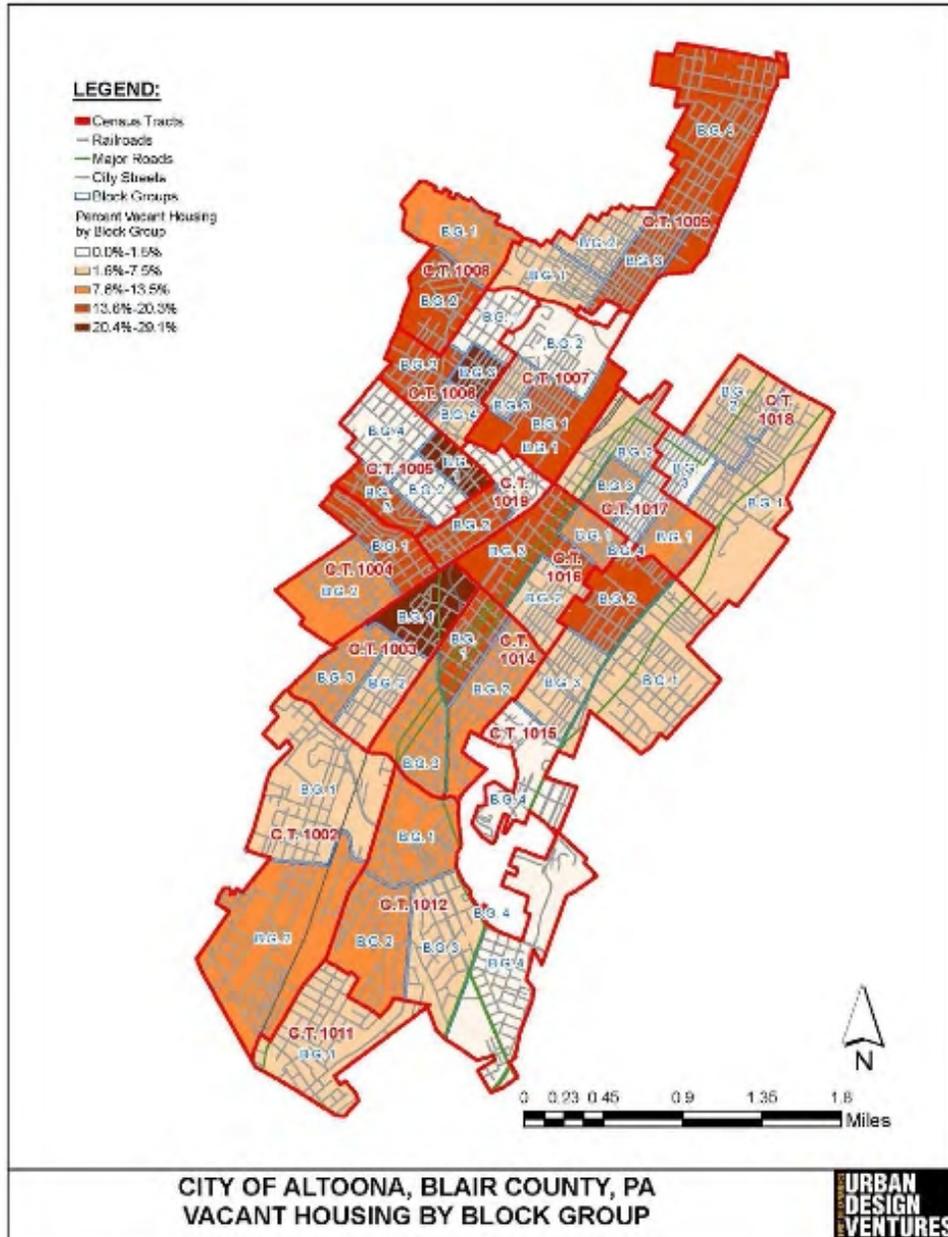
The most recent data available has Blair County's unemployment rate at 3.8% (May 2019) compared to the state and national rate of 3.6%.

E. Housing Profile:

The 2013-2017 American Community Survey Data reported that there were 20,813 housing units in the City of Altoona, of which 18,835 (90.5%) were occupied; this leaves a vacancy rate of 9.5% in the City. Most of the vacant units are located in the center of the City.

The following maps illustrate the number of Total Housing Units per Block Group and the percentage of Vacant Housing Units by Block Group in the City of Altoona.





Based on the 2013-2017 American Community Survey Data, the City of Altoona's housing stock is considered older, since 48.4% of it was constructed prior to 1939, and another 25.8% was constructed between 1940 and 1959. Therefore, almost three quarters of the City's housing stock (74.2%) was built prior to 1960. It is estimated that the City of Altoona has only seen moderate construction of housing to meet the demands of the City's stable population. Since the year 2000, the City has built only 1.1% of its housing stock.

Chart II-11 illustrates the year that housing structures were built in the City of Altoona based on the 2013-2017 American Community Survey.

Chart II-11 – Year Structure Built in the City of Altoona, PA

Housing Profile	2006-2010 ACS		2013-2017 ACS	
	#	%	#	%
Total Housing Units	21,075	-	20,813	-
Built 2010 or newer	-	-	26	0.1%
Built 2000 to 2009	334	1.6%	212	1.0%
Built 1990 to 1999	747	3.5%	627	3.0%
Built 1980 to 1989	780	3.7%	694	3.3%
Built 1970 to 1979	1,771	8.4%	2,198	10.6%
Built 1960 to 1969	1,793	8.5%	1,633	7.8%
Built 1950 to 1959	2,288	10.9%	3,207	15.4%
Built 1940 to 1949	2,560	12.1%	2,162	10.4%
Built 1939 or earlier	10,802	51.3%	10,054	48.4%

Source: 2006-2010 and 2013-2017 ACS

According to the City's Department of Codes and Inspections 2018 annual report there were 3,468 code enforcement complaints. Of those complaints, 28.2% were related to garbage/rubbish, 26.9% for overgrown lots, 15.9% for unregistered rentals, 11.0% for repairs, 7.7% for vacant properties, 7.6% for furniture, 1.5% for condemnations/red-tags, and 1.0% for demolition orders. The compliance rate for 2018 was 87%, for a total of 2,638 incidences corrected.

The Department of Codes and Inspections also conducts inspections of residential rental unit properties every three years. In 2018 the department completed a total of 1,317 unit inspections accounting for approximately 19.1% of the rental unit stock. The most common violations include smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, GFI outlets in kitchens and bathrooms, handrails on stairs, and openable windows. Life-safety related



violations must be addressed within 10 days whereas all other violations must be addressed within 45 days.

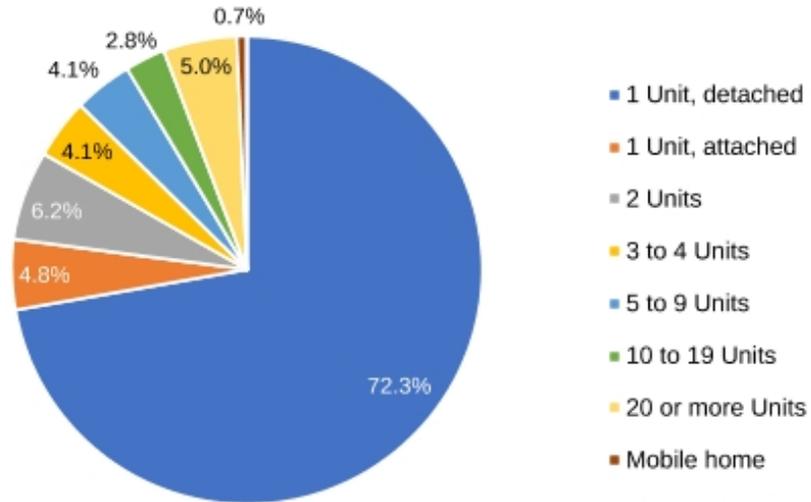
In 2010, the City's housing stock primarily consisted of detached single-family units (71.6%) and attached single-family attached (4.4%). In 2010, multi-family units in the City of Altoona consisted of: two units (7.7%); three to four units (4.8%); five to nine units (3.3%); ten to nineteen units (2.8%); and twenty units or more (4.8%). Mobile homes made up only 0.6% of the housing stock.

The median value of owner-occupied homes in the City of Altoona in 2010 was \$79,800 compared to \$97,400 for Blair County and \$159,300 for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Overall, the values of the housing stock in the City of Altoona seem to be lower than those of Blair County and much lower than the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as a whole.

In 2017, the City's housing stock primarily consisted of detached single-family homes (72.3%) and attached single-family homes (4.8%). In 2017, multi-family units in the City of Altoona consisted of: two units (6.2%); three to four units (4.1%); five to nine units (4.1%); ten to nineteen units (2.8%); and twenty units or more (5.0%). Mobile homes made up only 0.7% of the housing stock.

The median value of owner-occupied homes in the City of Altoona in 2017 was \$87,600 compared to \$117,300 for Blair County and \$170,500 for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Overall, the values of the housing stock in the City of Altoona continue to be lower than those of Blair County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as a whole. **Chart II-12** shows the change in types of housing stock over the last decade.

Chart II-12 – Housing Stock in the City of Altoona, PA



Source: 2013-2017 ACS

F. Financing:

Owner Costs

The median mortgage expense in the City of Altoona for 2010 was \$663, compared to \$674 in 2017. **Table II-13** illustrates mortgage status and selected monthly owner costs. Monthly owner costs increased by only 1.66%, while median income during the same time period increased by approximately 8.32%.

The number of homes in Altoona without a mortgage slightly increased from 42.44% in 2000 to 42.63% in 2012. This is most likely due to the owners having lived in their homes long enough to have paid off their mortgage.

Table II-13 – Mortgage Status and Selected Monthly Owner Costs

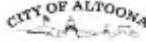
Monthly Owner Cost	2006-2010 ACS		2013-2017 ACS	
	Number of Housing Units	Percentage	Number of Housing Units	Percentage
Owner-Occupied Housing Units	12,652	66.8%	11,870	63.0%
Less than \$300	1,493	11.8%	1,305	11.0%
\$300 to \$499	3,087	24.4%	2,953	24.9%
\$500 to \$799	3,150	24.9%	2,805	23.6%
\$800 to \$999	1,923	15.2%	1,912	16.1%
\$1,000 to \$1,499	2,252	17.8%	2,127	17.9%
\$1,500 to \$1,999	531	4.2%	550	4.6%
\$2,000 or more	215	1.7%	218	1.9%
No Cash Rent	-	-	-	-
Median (dollars)	\$663	-	\$674	-

Source: 2006-2010 and 2013-2017 ACS

A fifth of all owner-occupied households (17.3%) are paying over 30% of their monthly income on housing, indicating a relatively high percentage of owners whose housing is not considered affordable. **Table II-14** illustrates housing costs for owner-households.

Table II-14 – Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income

Owner Costs as a % of Income	2006-2010 ACS		2013-2017 ACS	
	Number of Housing Units	Percentage	Number of Housing Units	Percentage
Owner-Occupied Housing Units	12,652	66.8%	11,870	63.0%



Less than \$20,000	1,822	14.4%	1,423	12.0%
Less than 20 percent	139	1.1%	159	1.3%
20 to 29 percent	430	3.4%	199	1.7%
30 percent or more	1,253	9.9%	1,065	9.0%
\$20,000 to \$34,999	2,594	20.5%	2,139	18.0%
Less than 20 percent	1,139	9.0%	906	7.6%
20 to 29 percent	671	5.3%	587	4.9%
30 percent or more	784	6.2%	646	5.5%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	2,176	17.2%	1,946	16.4%
Less than 20 percent	1,278	10.1%	1,071	9.0%
20 to 29 percent	531	4.2%	638	5.4%
30 percent or more	367	2.9%	237	2.0%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	3,074	24.3%	2,708	22.8%
Less than 20 percent	2,062	16.3%	1,971	16.6%
20 to 29 percent	797	6.3%	681	5.7%
30 percent or more	215	1.7%	56	0.5%
\$75,000 or more	2,973	23.5%	3,636	30.6%
Less than 20 percent	2,720	21.5%	3,344	28.2%
20 to 29 percent	228	1.8%	247	2.1%
30 percent or more	25	0.2%	45	0.3%
Zero or negative income	13	0.1%	18	0.2%
No cash rent	-	-	-	-

Source: 2006-2010 and 2013-2017 ACS

Trulia.com provides comprehensive statistics on current housing market trends for the City of Altoona. According to the "Market Trends" data from Trulia: "The median sales price for homes in Altoona, PA in the September 2018 to December 2018 quarter was \$90,000. This represents an increase of 9.8%, or \$8,000, compared to the prior quarter and an increase of 3.7% compared to the prior year. Over the past five (5) years, the median sales price for home sales in the City, as tracked by Trulia, has fluctuated between a low of \$72,500 and a high of \$99,990.

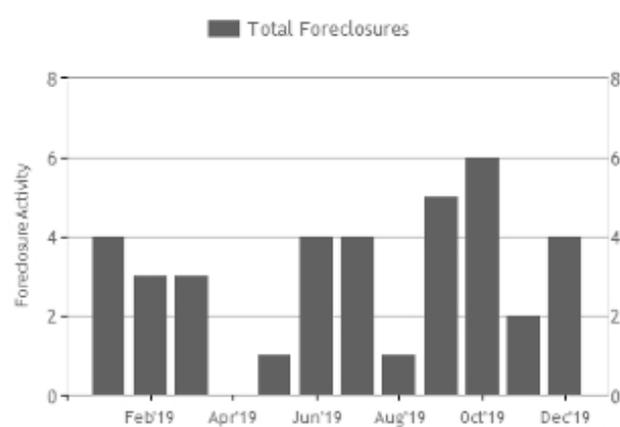
Trulia.com was reviewed for listing on February 10, 2020. At that time, there were 250 homes listed, including foreclosures and homes at auction, when searching for "Altoona, PA". There was a single listing for a 1 bedroom home in the City of Altoona at the price of \$55,000. There were 30 listings for two bedroom homes ranging in price from \$20,000 to \$197,000. There were 199 listings for homes with three or four bedrooms ranging from \$14,900 to \$535,000.

Listings were also reviewed in the online Classifieds in the Altoona Mirror, Altoona's local paper. There were no houses for sale when reviewed on February 10, 2020, only rental apartments.

Foreclosures

According to RealtyTrac, the City of Altoona had 142 homes in foreclosure in May 2019, which is a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 7,177 housing units. Blair County experienced a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 4,854 housing units, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania had a foreclosure rate of 1 in every 3,023 housing units. The following chart illustrates the monthly foreclosure filings in the City of Altoona from February 2019 through December 2019.

Chart II-15 – Foreclosures in the City of Altoona, PA



Source: www.realtytrac.com

The number of foreclosures for the City of Altoona was at its highest in October 2019 with six (6) foreclosures, and lowest was in April 2019 with no foreclosures filed.

Renter Costs

The median monthly rent increased by 22.4% between 2010 and 2017, from \$509 to \$623, respectively. **Table II-16** illustrates rental rates within the City at the time of the 2006-2010 American Community Survey and 2013-2017 American Community Survey.

Table II-16 – Gross Monthly Rent

Monthly Renter Cost	2006-2010 ACS		2013-2017 ACS	
	Number of Housing Units	Percentage	Number of Housing Units	Percentage
Renter-Occupied Housing Units	6,292	33.2%	6,965	37.0%
Less than \$300	1,057	16.8%	905	13.0%
\$300 to \$499	1,856	29.5%	1,043	15.0%
\$500 to \$799	2,328	37.0%	3,105	44.6%
\$800 to \$999	415	6.6%	976	14.0%
\$1,000 to \$1,499	365	5.8%	536	7.7%
\$1,500 to \$1,999	0	0.0%	60	0.9%
\$2,000 or more	13	0.2%	0	0.0%
No Cash Rent	258	4.1%	341	4.8%
Median (dollars)	\$509	-	\$623	-

Source: 2000 U.S. Census & 2008-2012 American Community Survey

The monthly housing costs for 48.7% of all renter-occupied households exceeded 30% of monthly income in 2010, indicating an even higher percentage of renters whose housing is not considered affordable. In 2017, that amount increased to 49.6%, which is a 1.1% increase from 2010. **Table II-17** illustrates the housing cost for renter-households.

Table II-17 – Gross Rent as a Percentage of Household Income

Rental Cost as a % of Income	2006-2010 ACS		2013-2017 ACS	
	Number of Housing Units	Percentage	Number of Housing Units	Percentage
Occupied Units paying rent	5,988	-	6,487	-
Less than 15 percent	721	12.0%	682	10.5%
15 to 19 percent	732	12.2%	660	10.2%
20 to 24 percent	736	12.3%	692	10.7%
25 to 29 percent	739	12.3%	998	15.4%
30 to 34 percent	491	8.2%	703	10.8%



35 percent or more	2,569	43.0%	2,752	42.4%
Not computed	304	-	478	-

Source: 2006-2010 ACS & 2013-2017 American Community Survey

The 2019 Fair Market Rents for Blair County are shown in **Table II-18** below.

Table II-18 –FY 2020 and FY 2019 FMR by Unit Bedrooms

	Efficiency	One-Bedroom	Two-Bedroom	Three-Bedroom	Four-Bedroom
FY 2020 FMR	\$561	\$616	\$770	\$960	\$1,043
FY 2019 FMR	\$600	\$638	\$796	\$997	\$1,076

Source: www.hud.gov

Trulia Real Estate at Trulia.com, and the online classifieds for Altoona Mirror rental listings were reviewed on February 10, 2020 for rental listings and rates. According to Trulia.com the median rental price over the past 12 months for the City of Altoona is \$745 for market rate units. The Altoona Mirror online classifieds had four (4) listings including apartments, single family homes, and manufactured cabins. Of the rental listings posted, one bedroom apartments rented for the price of \$450. Of the two bedroom apartments listed, one did not include a price; the other two were listed for an average of \$850. None of the listings included discriminatory language.

G. Household Types:

Based on a comparison between the 2009 and 2015 population, the City of Altoona had a 1% decrease in population of 505 persons. The number of households decreased by 3%, or 581 households. Furthermore, the median income of the area increased by 8%. 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 10.5%, meaning that the \$33,623.00 median income in 2009 would be \$37,146.15 if it were expressed in 2015 dollars. By taking into consideration the rate of inflation, the median income in Altoona has not kept up with the rate of inflation and the purchasing power of residents is weaker.

Table II-19 – Demographic Changes Between 2000 and 2011

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Population	46,320	45,815	-1%
Households	19,316	18,735	-3%
Median Income	\$33,623.00	\$36,215.00	8%

Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Table II-20 - Number of Households

	0-30% HAMFI	>30- 50% HAMFI	>50- 80% HAMFI	>80- 100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households *	3,230	3,205	3,530	1,905	6,860
Small Family Households *	955	940	1,385	705	3,580
Large Family Households *	120	140	210	210	535
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	620	610	805	435	1,680
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	370	775	600	240	475
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger *	690	420	520	305	539

* The highest income category for these family types is >80% HAMFI
Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Housing Problems

A household is considered to have a housing problem if it is cost burdened by more than 30% of their income, is experiencing overcrowding, or has incomplete kitchen or plumbing facilities. The four housing problems are: lacks complete kitchen facilities; lacks complete plumbing facilities; more than one person per room; and cost burden greater than 30%. The following tables illustrate the households that have one or more housing problems, and those that are cost overburdened.

Table II-21 – 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
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	70	75	0	4	149	15	15	0	0	30
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	20	0	15	20	55	30	20	15	0	65
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,295	210	35	0	1,540	420	230	155	20	825
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	365	710	255	40	1,370	250	510	415	170	1,345
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	140	0	0	0	140	30	0	0	0	30

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

When comparing owner occupied to renter occupied homes, households whose housing cost burden is 30% and 50% of income (and no other listed problems), these are the two most common housing problems, respectively.

Table II-22 – Housing Problems (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
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	1,385	290	50	30	1,755	465	265	170	20	920
Having none of four housing problems	905	1,465	1,025	445	3,840	305	1,190	2,285	1,410	5,190
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	140	0	0	0	140	30	0	0	0	30

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Renter households have more instances of having one or more of the four housing problems, especially those earning 0-30% AMI. A total of 1,755 renter households have one or more housing problems which is almost double, compared to 920 owner occupied households.

Table II-23 – Cost Overburdened Greater Than 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	620	355	134	1,109	195	180	235	610
Large Related	75	29	15	119	24	75	35	134
Elderly	335	250	55	640	340	340	159	839
Other	720	310	100	1,130	145	175	140	460
Total need by income	1,750	944	304	2,998	704	770	569	2,043

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Of the households that are cost overburdened by greater than 30%, the most impacted are those renter households identified as “other” followed by small related households, and elderly households. For owner occupied homes, the elderly and small related households are the most cost overburdened groups.

Table II-24 – Cost Overburdened Greater Than 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	510	45	4	559	130	60	50	240
Large Related	60	25	0	85	4	0	25	29
Elderly	250	75	0	325	185	100	34	319
Other	515	70	30	615	120	75	45	240
Total need by income	1,335	215	34	1,584	439	235	154	828

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Of the households that are cost overburdened by greater than 50%, the most impacted are those renter households identified as “other” followed by small related households, and elderly households. For owner occupied homes, the elderly, “other” and small related households are the most cost overburdened groups.

Table II-25 – Overcrowding Conditions (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
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	20	0	15	24	59	30	10	0	0	40
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	15	0	19
Other, non-family households	10	25	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	30	25	15	24	94	30	14	15	0	59

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS), there were 18,835 households in 2017 in the City of Altoona. Based on this data, 6,289 (33.4%) of all households were single person households living alone. Single person households aged 65 and over comprised 2,566 households, or 13.6% of all households. It is presumed that as these seniors age in place, additional accommodations and special needs will be necessary for this portion of the City's population. The City may need to assist in providing funding, and working with housing service agencies and elderly support agencies to provide programs, activities, and accommodations for its elderly population.

Disabled Population – Based on the 2013-2017 ACS data, a total of 8,390 (18.9% of the population) individuals have a disability. Of the 8,390 individuals who have a disability: 20.3% have a hearing difficulty; 9.8% have a vision difficulty; 24.5% have a cognitive difficulty; 32.9% have an ambulatory difficulty; 12.1% have a self-care difficulty; and 22.1% have an independent living difficulty.

In consultations, interviews and surveys, the lack of safe, affordable accessible housing for people with disabilities is an unmet housing need and problem. In addition to a lack of accessible housing, stakeholders mentioned there are some public amenities such as public pools, and bathhouses, that are not accessible; the City's topography and uneven streetscape sidewalks also present difficulties to people with disabilities.

Many of the elderly and disabled are on a fixed or limited income and are unable to afford costs to maintain their homes. The lack of affordable housing that is decent, safe, and sound forces them into below code standard housing that is often inaccessible to them.

Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking – based on reports, the Altoona Police Department responded to 1,427 calls for domestic violence in 2019, approximately 100 of these calls were determined to be unrelated to domestic violence; 365 calls required an incident report. The Altoona Police Department does not complete lethality assessment reports but all victims are provided with referral materials with the contact information of service providers should they choose to seek help.

Homelessness –

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.



The City of Altoona is a member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care (PA-507). The Continuum of Care is comprised of 33 counties, including Blair County and the City of Altoona. The Continuum of Care is administered by the Blair County Community Action Agency and is comprised of four (4) committees that carry out the mission of the organization: The South-Central PA Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB), the PA Homeless Steering Committee, the Continuum of Care Merger/Governance Committee, and the Ranking Committee.

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

Blair County Family Services Inc. is categorized as an "emergency shelter" and provides beds year-round for adults, families with children, and for unaccompanied youth. The agency provides a total of 7 beds for adults with children and 7 beds for adults without children and 9 beds for unaccompanied youth on a year-round basis.

UPMC Behavioral Health provides rental assistance, transitional housing services, and permanent supportive housing. For households without children they provide a total of 6 beds on a year-round basis through their transitional housing program and 4 beds through the permanent supportive housing. Additionally, they provide 17 beds for singles or couples without children through permanent supportive housing. Care managers will also assist patients in applying for section 8 vouchers and assist with paperwork to apply for the housing authority wait lists.

Blair County Community Action Agency (BCCAP) and Blair County Family Service Inc. (BCFS) both provide rapid rehousing services. BCCAP provides 153 beds on a year-round basis through various projects and BCFS provides 19 beds on a year-round basis for rapid rehousing.

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 30% of their income for housing.

H. Cost Overburden:

A central housing problem facing households in the City of Altoona, PA is a 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 income on

the monthly cost for housing. The following information was noted: 2,995 households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 2,429 households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%. There were 2,790 White households cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 2,245 that were cost overburdened by over 50%; 90 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 70 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 15 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%; 15 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by over 50%; and lastly, no Asian households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50% and no Asian households were cost overburdened by over 50%;

Table II-26 – Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	13,165	2,955	2,429	180
White	12,715	2,790	2,245	180
Black / African American	200	90	70	0
Asian	35	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	150	15	15	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

About 5,035 White households (28.4%) out of a total of 17,750 computed White households were considered cost overburdened by 30% and greater in the City of Altoona. Of the total Black/African American households in the City, there were 160 Black/African American households (44.4%) that were cost overburdened by 30% and greater. In addition, there were no Asian households and 30 (16.7%) Hispanic households that were cost overburdened by 30% and greater.

I. Housing Problems:

A household is considered to have a housing problem if it is cost overburdened by more than 30% of their income, is experiencing overcrowding, or has incomplete kitchen or plumbing facilities. The four housing problems are: lacks complete kitchen facilities; lacks complete plumbing facilities; more than one person per room; and cost burden greater than 30%.

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 the needs of the racial/ethnic groups in comparison to the overall need in the City. Disproportionate need is defined as a group having at least 10 percentage points or higher than the percentage of persons as a whole. The City's Black/African American Population is 1,528 persons; its Asian Population is 367 persons; and its Hispanic Population is 544 persons.

The following tables illustrate the disproportionate needs in the City of Altoona:

Table II-27 – 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	2,465	595	170
White	2,285	560	170
Black / African American	114	4	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	25	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Table II-28 – 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	1,775	1,425	0
White	1,700	1,355	0
Black / African American	25	45	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	20	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Table II-29 – 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	890	2,640	0
White	840	2,555	0
Black / African American	14	40	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	14	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Table II-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	260	1,640	0
White	215	1,575	0
Black / African American	4	45	0
Asian	10	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	20	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

The racial composition of the City of Altoona, according to the 2011-2015 American Community Survey data, was 92.5% White; 2.7% African American; 0.19% Asian; 0.06 Other races; and 2.6% two or more races. The Hispanic or Latino population 1.7%. There were three racial/ethnic groups disproportionately affected by housing problems: in the 0-30% AMI group the Black/African American population makes up 3.6% of households but 96.6% of households are affected by housing problems; in the 50-80% AMI group the Hispanic population makes up 1.2% of households but 68.8% are affected by housing problems and; in the 80-100% AMI group Asian households make up 0.5% of households but 100% of Asian households in this income group are affected by housing problems. Note that these

proportions can largely be attributed to the fact that minorities make up such a small portion, 7.5%, of the overall population of the City of Altoona.

J. Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems:

A household is considered to have a housing problem if it is cost overburdened by more than 30% of their income, experiencing overcrowding, or having incomplete kitchen or plumbing facilities. The four severe housing problems are: lacks complete kitchen facilities; lacks complete plumbing facilities; more than 1.5 persons per room; and cost overburdened over 50%.

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 HUD CHAS 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.

Table II-31– 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	1,850	1,210	170
White	1,690	1,155	170
Black / African American	95	30	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	25	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Table II-32 – 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	555	2,655	0
White	535	2,525	0
Black / African American	4	65	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	20	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

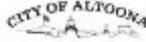
Table II-33 – 50%-80% of Area Median Income

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	220	3,310	0
White	205	3,185	0
Black / African American	0	50	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	15	35	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Table II-34 – 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	50	1,855	0
White	25	1,765	0
Black / African American	0	50	0
Asian	10	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	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
Hispanic	0	20	0

Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

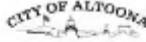
Based on the above tables, there were three racial/ethnic groups disproportionately affected by housing problems: in the 0-30% AMI group the Black/African American population makes up 3.8% of households but 76.0% of households are affected by housing problems; in the 50-80% AMI group the Hispanic population makes up 2.6% of households but 30.0% are affected by housing problems and; in the 80-100% AMI group Asian households make up 0.5% of households but 100% of Asian households in this income group are affected by housing problems. Note that these proportions can largely be attributed to the fact that minorities make up such a small portion, 7.5%, of the overall population of the City of Altoona.

K. Disabled Households:

Table II-36 includes the 2013-2017 ACS data that estimates the population of individuals with disabilities in the City of Altoona. The total estimated population with a disability in the City is 8,390 individuals or 18.9% of the City's population. This is indicative of the need for housing for the disabled which are mainly low- and moderate-income, and do not have housing resources that are accessible and/or affordable.

Table II-36 – Disability Status for Residents in Altoona, PA

Disability Status of the Civilian Non-Institutional Population	2008-2012 ACS		2013-2017 ACS	
	#	%	#	%
Total Civilian Population	46,120	-	44,423	-
Total Population with a disability	7,686	16.7%	8,390	18.9%
Total Population under 5 years	3,255	7.1%	2,748	6.2%
With a hearing difficulty	55	1.7%	26	0.9%
With a vision difficulty	19	0.6%	21	0.8%
Total Population 5 to 17 years	7,643	16.6%	7,383	16.6%
With a hearing difficulty	50	0.7%	70	0.9%
With a vision difficulty	39	0.5%	21	0.3%
With a cognitive difficulty	553	7.2%	697	9.4%
With an ambulatory difficulty	19	0.2%	11	0.1%
With a self-care difficulty	120	1.6%	153	2.1%



Total Population 18 to 64 years	28,221	61.2%	27,333	61.5%
With a hearing difficulty	680	2.4%	871	3.2%
With a vision difficulty	624	2.2%	564	2.1%
With a cognitive difficulty	2,278	8.1%	2,239	8.2%
With an ambulatory difficulty	1,953	6.9%	2,279	8.3%
With a self-care difficulty	474	1.7%	734	2.7%
With an independent living difficulty	1,720	6.1%	1,972	7.2%
Total Population 65 years and over	7,001	15.2%	6,959	15.7%
With a hearing difficulty	1,041	14.9%	1,063	15.3%
With a vision difficulty	567	8.1%	460	6.6%
With a cognitive difficulty	599	8.6%	482	6.9%
With an ambulatory difficulty	1,782	25.5%	1,705	24.5%
With a self-care difficulty	644	9.2%	510	7.3%
With an independent living difficulty	1,244	17.8%	1,037	14.9%
Sex				
Male	3,532	15.9%	4,334	19.8%
Female	4,154	17.3%	4,056	18.0%
Race with a disability				
White alone	7,289	16.9%	7,860	18.9%
Black or African American alone	231	13.7%	219	17.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	28	35.0%	0	0.0%
Asian alone	34	6.7%	5	5.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Some other race alone	14	15.1%	126	50.4%
Two or more races	90	13.0%	180	14.5%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	7,219	16.9%	7,726	18.8%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	96	17.3%	263	33.9%

Source: 2008-2012 and 2013-2017 ACS

III. Review/Update to Original Plan

The previous "Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice" was prepared by the City of Altoona in 2015. The identified Impediments to Fair Housing Choice are reviews twice each year in the City's Annual Action Plan and again in the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPER). The following restates the previously identified impediments from 2015 and summarizes the progress made on each.

Impediment 1: Fair Housing Education and Outreach

There is a continuing need to educate residents of the community concerning their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act and to raise awareness that all residents of the City of Altoona have a right under federal law to fair housing choice.

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.

Accomplishments:

Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, Inc.(SPLAS) has been under contract with the City of Altoona to promote and to affirmatively further fair housing. They have held seminars, distributed literature and used social media to educate all residents and local officials. See response to Impediments #2.

Impediment 2: Continuing Need for Affordable Housing

The median value and cost to purchase and maintain a single-family home in Altoona that is decent, safe, and sound is \$77,380, which limits the choice of housing for lower income households. About 78.8% of homeowners and 51.3% of renters in the City are cost overburdened by more than 30% of their household income.

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.

Accomplishments:

Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, Inc.(SPLAS) has been under contract with the City of Altoona to address the City's Fair Housing Impediments.

Trainings:

PY2015

Altoona Housing Authority's Section 8 Landlords
Improved Dwellings for Altoona

PY2016

Altoona Housing Authority Section 8 Landlords
Blair County Community Action (Housing Case Managers)

PY2017

Veterans Association Staff Training
Altoona Housing Authority Landlord WorkShop regarding assistance animals



Family Services Shelter
VA Reentry Fair (Fair Housing Act/Criminal Background)

PY2018

Family Services Shelter (4) trainings throughout program year
Landlord Workshop hosted by Operation Our Town

PY2019

Landlord Outreach training
Landlord workshop hosted by Altoona Housing Authority
Fair Housing training to Evergreen Manor and IDA property
(low/moderate income housing development)

Meetings:

Attended 22 Local Housing Option Team (LHOT) meeting and 12 Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) Meetings and 1 Operation Our Town Meeting on behalf of the City to promote Fair Housing

SPLAS staff held 2 fair housing trainings at City Hall 1 with local agencies and 1 with the general public.

SPLAS held Poster Contests for local school students

SPLAS partnered with Tri County Patriots for Independent Living (TRIPL) in their Tech Petting Zoo at the Altoona Area Public Library. They highlighted various "assistive technology programs" which entail any device that allows a person with disability to live, work and play more independently and effectively. Staff provided guest with a flash drive containing fair housing info and contact info for the City's Fair Housing Program.

SPLAS hosted two fair housing clinics at Altoona City Hall

SPLAS developed a fair housing network, including a directory of advocates, housing providers and protected class members in the City of Altoona or doing work in the City.

Events:

CommUNITY Resource Fair
Senior Fair
Family Fest Sponsored by the Altoona Housing Authority and CYS
Mental Health Awareness Month
Building Strong Families

The City established a Fair Housing Hot Line – Over the 5-year period there was the following:

202 Hotline calls:

- 20* calls from individuals with legitimate fair housing issues and were further contacted by the Law Center
- 50* callers had landlord/tenant issues and were provided advice on their issues. Where appropriate referrals were made to MidPenn Legal Services
- 32* callers where unreachable after multiple attempts 6 reached hotline number by error
- 34* general housing related questions
- 1* caller was a realtor making a referral to the FHLC testing program to investigate a condo association bylaw that restricted residency to families with children. An investigation was conducted. A housing discrimination complaint was filed with HUD based on positive tests.
- 3* eviction issues
- 2* callers were housing providers who received technical assistance on a fair housing issue
- 8* cases referred to FHLC's Enforcement program for representation; 4 referrals resided in the City of Altoona and the others resided in Blair County outside the City.

Note: * Multiple calls regarding code department complaints, tax sale ejectments, police issues, mental health issues.

SPLAS produced the following and were distributed at all events in the City of Altoona:

- brochures
- posters
- magnets
- claim kits

The City of Altoona has a link on their web site at www.altoonapa.gov under "Government" "City Departments" Community Development" under "Our Links" Fair Housing Program.

The City of Altoona has been under contract with Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, Inc. to provide Fair Housing Services for the duration of the 2015-19 Consolidated Plan.

Impediment 3: Continuing Need for Accessible Housing Units

As an older built-up urban environment, there is a lack of accessible housing units and developable sites in the City of Altoona, since 72.8% of the City's housing

units were built over 50 years ago, and do not have accessibility features, and 20.1% of the City's population is classified as disabled.

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.

Accomplishments:

Annually, the City funds an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program that provides accessibility improvements when needed. The City also funded a project from the Center for Independent Living of Southcentral Pennsylvania that builds accessibility infrastructure for the physically disabled.

City policy and the City building code encourage the development of new accessible housing. Even though no new construction projects were funded, several private market developments built in accessibility measures for market-rate housing.

Reasonable accommodations to rental properties are encouraged by the City, funded by the HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program, and required by the City building code.

Impediment 4: There is a Lack of Financial Resources

The Federal Government continues to reduce the amount of CDBG and other funds for housing programs in HUD's annual budget, which reduces the allocations

to entitlement communities, thus putting a strain on limited financial resources due to the housing crisis and increased unemployment.

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.

Accomplishments:

Mayor Pacifico lobbied for increased CDBG funding on several occasions, contacting the City's U.S. Representative to Congress.

The City applied for a state PHARE grant, using the HOME funds as a match, to help the Redevelopment Authority create affordable housing.

The Altoona Housing Authority has worked with at least one potential developer using LIHTC, but the project did not receive LIHTC funding from PHFA.

Impediment 5: Economic Issues Affecting Housing Choice

There is a lack of economic opportunities in the City which prevents low-income households from improving their income and ability to live outside areas with concentrations of low-income households, which makes this a fair housing concern.

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.

Accomplishments:

The City continues to work with its economic development agency and various Federal and State programs to encourage economic development: including, a local LERTA, a state Keystone Opportunity Zone, local revolving loan funds, and a Federal Qualified Opportunity Zone, as well as business support services.

The Blair County Community Action Program provides employment training to enhance workforce development, as does the Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission, the Altoona Area School District, and the Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center.

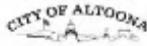
The City continues to work with its economic development agency, Penn State Altoona's Sheetz Fellows, and St. Francis University's Small Business Program to provide business support services to small businesses. Most of these have located in Downtown Altoona.

The City continues to work with the local economic development agency to provide business support services and funding for business expansions. This includes a local LERTA, a state Keystone Opportunity Zone, local revolving loan funds, and a Federal Qualified Opportunity Zone, as well as business support services.

Impediment 6: Public Policy

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.

Accomplishments:

The City of Altoona updated its zoning ordinance and brought it into compliance with the fair Housing Act and American's with Disabilities Act. on 7-12-2017 by Ord. No. 5706. The City added a definition for "Accessibility" on 7-12-2017 by Ord. No. 5706



IV. Impediments to Fair Housing 2020

In order to determine if impediments to fair housing choice exist, interviews and meetings were conducted, and an analysis of the fair housing complaints in Altoona was undertaken.

A. Fair Housing Complaints:

1. City of Altoona Fair Housing Program

The City of Altoona's Fair Housing Program provides educational information and outreach programs to tenants, landlords, lending institutions, housing managers, contractors and anyone in the housing business regarding the Federal Fair Housing Laws. The Fair Housing Program is committed

City of Altoona
Fair Housing Program
Address
Altoona, PA 16601
Phone: (814) 944-9958
Fax: (814) 949-0372
Email:
fairhousing@altoonapa.gov

to raising the level of awareness to the residents and businesses of the City of Altoona with respect to their rights and responsibilities under the Federal Fair Housing Act.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing because of race or color, national origin, religion, sex, disability and familial status. Any person wishing to file a housing discrimination complaint may do so with the assistance of the Fair Housing Administrator (FHA). The FHA will review the complaint, make recommendations and provide help with filing a discrimination complaint. Funding for the City of Altoona's Fair Housing Program is provided by Community Development Block Grant funds through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The City partners with Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services Inc. (SPLAS) to address fair housing complaints made to the City's Fair Housing Program. According to two six-month reports for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 and July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 SPLAS held several opportunities for landlord and tenant outreach and training. Landlords were given a presentation on Service animals by the Altoona Housing Authority, and Operation Our Town meeting, and provided training to Evergreen Manor, a property owned by Improved Dwellings for Altoona Inc. (IDA).

SPLAS completed several outreach events to tenants to help connect them to opportunities such as the VA CHALLENGE, the HOPE Drop In Center, and Blair Family Services and Shelter.

Additionally, SPLAS attended a total of nine (9) Local Housing Collaboration and seventeen (17) Criminal Justice Advisory Board meetings to provide fair housing training and outreach over the course of the year and a half.

SPLAS received forty-six (46) calls to their hotline regarding the following:

- 1 possible fair housing issue
- 3 eviction issues
- 21 landlord/tenant issues
- 2 tax sale/ejectment/other property issues
- 2 for homeless service referrals
- 2 other non-housing issues
- 6 unable to reach
- 8 calls for representation
- 1 call to investigate condo bylaws

SPLAS is dedicated to providing fair housing outreach and education. National Fair Housing Month is in April and the anniversary of the Fair Housing Act will be celebrated. SPLAS will be sponsoring a poster contest as part of the Fair Housing Month events in April.

2. Legal Services

MidPenn Legal Services is a non-profit, law firm that provides civil legal services to low-income residents and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in 18 counties in Central Pennsylvania, including Blair County. The Non-profit corporation was established on July 1, 2000 through the merger of Central Pennsylvania Legal Services (CPLS), Keystone Legal Services Inc. (KLS), Legal Services Inc., and Southern Allegheny Legal services. While MidPenn has been operating since 2000, the predecessor programs have been operating for more than 50 years.

MidPenn Legal Services –
Altoona Office
171 Lakemont Park Blvd
Altoona PA 16602
Toll Free: (800) 326-9177
Local: (814) 943-8139
Fax: (814) 944-2640
www.midpenn.org

MidPenn Legal Services' major areas of work include: Family law, domestic violence, health, housing law, public benefits, consumer law, and elder law. Additionally they offer services to the community including, a Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, Legal Intervention for Victims and Empowerment, Medical Legal Partnership, Employment Law Project, the Pro Bono Program, Ombudsman, and Community Education.

MidPenn spent 4,364 hours on a total of 596 cases in Blair County in Fiscal Year 2018-2019. There were a total of 124 housing related cases that represented 20.8% of MidPenn's FY 2018-2019 caseload. A total of 1,056 residents benefitted from MidPenn's advocacy efforts.

3. Pennsylvania Human Rights Commission

The Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (PHRC) enforces state laws that prohibit discrimination, such as: the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, which covers discrimination in employment, housing, commercial property, education and public accommodations; and the Pennsylvania Fair Educational Opportunities Act, which is specific to postsecondary education and secondary vocational and trade schools.



Pennsylvania law prohibits discrimination based on race; color; religious creed; ancestry; age (40 and over); sex; national origin; familial status (only in housing); handicap or disability and the use, handling or training of support or guide animals for disability. Retaliation for filing a complaint, opposing unlawful behavior or assisting investigations is also illegal.

PHRC investigates employment discrimination complaints on behalf of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or EEOC, and housing discrimination complaints on behalf of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD. These partnerships protect the rights of complainants under both state and federal law.

The law also empowers the commission to educate the public in order to prevent discrimination and foster equal opportunity; and to

address incidents of bias that may lead to tension between racial, ethnic and other groups.

PHRC has administrative, legal and investigative staff, overseen by an executive director in Harrisburg and regional directors in Harrisburg, serving the Cities of Altoona, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh.



Eleven commissioners, appointed by the governor and confirmed by the PA Senate, act as public liaisons, establish policies and resolve cases that are not settled voluntarily. The commission is independent and nonpartisan, with no more than six commissioners from one political party. The chairperson is appointed by the governor, and a vice-chairperson, secretary and assistant secretary are elected by commissioners each year.

The commission holds monthly public meetings, inviting the public to address issues of discrimination or civil tension in their communities. In addition, if an individual feels that they have experienced illegal discrimination, that individual has the right to file a complaint with PHRC, and the PA Human Relations Commission will investigate the complaint.

According to PHRC's 2017-2018 Annual Report, the PHRC indicated a total of 180 housing complaints made during the program year. These complaints accounted for 15% of the total number of cases. The top three complaint bases for the housing category were: Disability, Retaliation, and Race/Color.

4. Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity (HUD)

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Office of Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity (FHEO) receives complaints regarding alleged violations of the Fair Housing Act.

Pittsburgh HUD Field Office
The William Moorhead Federal Building
1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1000
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4004
Phone: (412) 644-6428 (Voice)

The complaints received for the City of Altoona and Blair County are shown in the following **Table IV-1** and **Table IV-2**, respectively, to illustrate the most common basis for complaints over the ten-year span from January 1, 2009 through December 24, 2019.

City of Altoona:

The most common basis for complaints in Altoona were 'Race' (53.3% of the complaints) and 'Disability' (40.0% of the complaints); Retaliation, Familial Status, National Origin, and Color each accounted for less than 15% of all complaints. Of the claims in Altoona, nine (9) were closed for 'no cause', two (2) were conciliated/settled, one (1) was elected to go to court, one (1) was withdrawn after resolution, one (1) the complainant was unable to be located, and one (1) is still open.

Table IV-1 – Basis for Complaint by Percent in Altoona

Basis	Number	Percentage
Race	8	53.3%
Disability	6	40.0%
National Origin	1	6.6%
Family Status	2	13.3%
Sex	0	0.0%
Retaliation	1	6.6%

Blair County:

The most common basis for complaints in the County was 'disability,' making up 50.0% of total complaints. 'Race' was a close second with 33.3% of complaints. Retaliation, Familial Status, National Origin, and Color each accounted for less than 10% of all complaints. Of the cases, eleven (11) of the cases (52.4%) were closed for no cause. Three (3) cases (14.3%) were conciliated/settled, one (1) case (4.7%) was withdrawn after resolution, one case (4.7%) was unable to locate the complainant, one case (4.7%) the complainant failed to cooperate, and one case (4.7%) was made to go to court.

Table IV-2 – Basis for Complaint by Percent in Blair County

Basis	Number	Percentage
Race	8	33.3%
Disability	12	50.0%
National Origin	1	4.1%
Family Status	2	8.3%
Sex	0	0.0%
Retaliation	1	4.1%



The following **Tables IV-3** and **Table IV-4** "HUD-FHEO Complaints" summarize all of the complaints filed with the Office of Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity between January 26, 2009 and December 24, 2019 in the City of Altoona and Blair County, respectively.

Table IV-3 – HUD-FHEO Ten Year Complaints for the City of Altoona

HUD Filed Date	Basis	City	Date Closed	Issues	How Closed
1/6/2009	Race	Altoona	1/26/2009	Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
9/29/2010	Race	Altoona	4/25/2011	Discrimination in services and facilities relating to rental	No cause determination
6/24/2011	Race	Altoona	10/25/2012	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	Election made to go to court
2/6/2012	Race, Disability	Altoona	1/31/2014	Discriminatory refusal to rent; discriminatory advertising, statements, and notices; Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
8/16/2012	Disability	Altoona	2/14/2013	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; discriminatory acts under section 818 (coercion etc.); Failure to make reasonable accommodation	Complaint withdrawn by complainant after resolution
1/2/2013	Disability	Altoona	3/15/2013	Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
2/17/2014	Disability, Retaliation	Altoona	12/30/2014	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; discriminatory acts under section 818 (coercion etc.); Failure to make reasonable accommodation	No cause determination

6/23/2014	Race	Altoona	9/11/2014	Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
9/12/2014	Race, National Origin	Altoona	9/17/2015	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; Discriminatory terms, conditions, privileges, or services and facilities	conciliation/settlement successful
2/9/2016	Disability	Altoona	10/31/2016	Failure to permit reasonable modification; Failure to make reasonable accommodation	Unable to locate complainant
2/7/2017	Familial Status	Altoona	3/6/2018	Discriminatory refusal to rent; discriminatory advertisement-rental	Conciliation/settlement successful
5/18/2018	Race, Color	Altoona	9/4/2018	Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
6/8/2018	Race	Altoona	6/4/2019	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
7/5/2018	Disability	Altoona	5/15/2019	Otherwise deny or make housing unavailable; failure to make reasonable accommodation	No cause determination
6/24/2019	Familial Status	Altoona		Discriminatory refusal to sell or negotiate for sale; Discriminatory advertising, statements, and notices	

Source: U.S. Dept. of HUD-FHEO, Pittsburgh Field Office

Table IV-4 – HUD-FHEO Ten Year Complaints for Blair County

HUD Filed Date	Basis	City	Date Closed	Issues	How Closed
1/6/2009	Race	Altoona	1/26/2009	Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
9/29/2010	Race	Altoona	4/25/2011	Discrimination in services and facilities relating to rental	No cause determination
6/24/2011	Race	Altoona	10/25/2012	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	Election made to go to court
12/22/2011	Disability	Hollidaysburg	7/2/2013	Failure to make reasonable accommodation	Conciliation/settlement successful
2/6/2012	Race, Disability	Altoona	1/31/2014	Discriminatory refusal to rent; discriminatory advertising, statements, and notices; Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
8/16/2012	Disability	Altoona	2/14/2013	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; discriminatory acts under section 818 (coercion etc.); Failure to make reasonable accommodation	Complaint withdrawn by complainant after resolution
1/2/2013	Disability	Altoona	3/15/2013	Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
2/17/2014	Disability, Retaliation	Altoona	12/30/2014	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; discriminatory acts under section 818 (coercion etc.); Failure to make reasonable accommodation	No cause determination
6/23/2014	Race	Altoona	9/11/2014	Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination

8/12/2014	Disability	Hollidaysburg	1/26/2015	Discriminatory in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental; discriminatory acts under Section 818 (coercion, etc.)	No cause determination
9/12/2014	Race, National Origin	Altoona	9/17/2015	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; Discriminatory terms, conditions, privileges, or services and facilities	Conciliation/settlement successful
2/9/2016	Disability	Altoona	10/31/2016	Failure to permit reasonable modification; Failure to make reasonable accommodation	Unable to locate complainant
1/9/2017	Disability	Hollidaysburg	6/21/2017	Discriminatory terms, conditions, privileges or services and facilities; failure to make reasonable accommodation	Complainant failed to cooperate
2/7/2017	Familial Status	Altoona	3/6/2018	Discriminatory refusal to rent; discriminatory advertisement-rental	Conciliation/settlement successful
5/18/2018	Race, Color	Altoona	9/4/2018	Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
6/8/2018	Race	Altoona	6/4/2019	Discriminatory refusal to rent and negotiate for rental; discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental	No cause determination
7/5/2018	Disability	Altoona	5/15/2019	Otherwise deny or make housing unavailable; failure to make reasonable accommodation	No cause determination
7/16/2018	Disability	Tyrone	5/30/2019	Discriminatory refusal to rent; Failure to make reasonable accommodation	No cause determination
6/24/2019	Familial Status	Altoona		Discriminatory refusal to sell or negotiate for sale; Discriminatory advertising, statements, and notices	



7/24/2019	Disability	Duncansville		Otherwise deny or make housing unavailable; failure to make reasonable accommodation	
12/24/2019	Disability	Hollidaysburg		Discrimination in terms/conditions/privileges relating to rental; Failure to make reasonable accommodation	

Source: U.S. Dept. of HUD-FHEO, Pittsburgh Field Office

5. Housing and Human Services Agencies

The City of Altoona interviewed agencies offering housing and human services within the City in order to obtain their input and gain insight into potential impediments to fair housing. The following agencies were engaged in roundtable discussions or individual meetings:

- Altoona Blair County Development Corporation
- Altoona Center for Nursing Care
- Altoona Housing Authority
- Altoona School District
- AMTRAN
- Blair County Community Action Agency
- Blair County Drug and Alcohol Services
- Blair County Senior Services
- Catholic Charities
- Center for Independent Living of South Central PA
- Family Services, Inc.
- Improved Dwellings of Altoona
- NAACP
- The Nehemiah Project
- Twenty-Eighth Street church of the Brethren
- UPMC-Altoona
- UPMC-Behavioral Health

Each of these agencies provided feedback on housing-related issues in the City of Altoona. Complete meeting notes can be found in Part VI, Appendix A. The following is a summary of some of the comments that were received during the roundtable discussions:

Housing Agencies:

The City needs to focus on:

- Building affordable housing that is accessible and safe for the elderly and persons with disabilities.

- Blight remediation.
- Fair housing education for renters and landlords.
- Providing housing services for persons with criminal records who cannot receive housing from the non-profit housing providers.
- Providing rental assistance to low- and moderate-income individuals who cannot afford a decent, safe, and sanitary place to live.
- Addressing issues facing veterans such as homelessness, employment, and mental health.
- Providing options for halfway homes and long term recovery homes to provide stable, safe, and sanitary housing for individuals recovering from addiction.
- Providing more shelter beds for homeless individuals, especially for victims of domestic violence.

The City needs to reduce:

- Slum and blight, and the deterioration of housing conditions.
- Opioid use and other illicit substance abuse and the crimes related to drug use.

Housing Authority:

Resident Programs:

- At Fairview Hills the following resident programs are offered:
 - o Altoona Police Department: Police Officers Stop and Talk program.
 - o After School Program from September through May.
 - o Fairview Hills Food Bank service is available by appointment and available to the whole community.
 - o Resident Organization meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month,
 - o Summer Program from June through August in cooperation with Penn State Altoona and the Blair Recreation Commission
 - o Family Self Sufficiency Program
- At the Towers the following resident programs are offered:

- o Bible Study.
- o Blood pressure screenings are offered twice a month.
- o Altoona Police department "Stop and Talk" Program.

Issues and needs:

- There is a need to employ effective maintenance and management policies to minimize the number of public housing units off line due to modernization.
- Need to continue working with the City of Altoona on Code Enforcement, Fair Housing, workshops
- Work on expansion of home-ownership programs working with the City of Altoona Planning and Community Development Office.
- There is a need to recruit more landlords to participate in the Section 8 Voucher program.
- There is a need to increase the amount of housing available to the lowest income individuals (those with incomes less than 30% AMI).

Social Services Agencies:

Issues and needs:

- Major employers, such as retail, are being lost and need to be replaced.
- Need for affordable housing that is also accessible.
- Need for permanent supportive housing.
- A need for senior and mixed income housing units.
- There is a need for more fair housing education for tenants and landlords; several tenants rent on a verbal contract leading to problems down the road.
- There are not many healthy food grocery stores in the City.
- Criminal records and past rental history is an issue for several people trying to find housing.
- Public transportation access needs to be improved for people to achieve and retain employment.
- Agencies are seeing more homeless families as opposed to chronically homeless individuals.

- There is an influx of Arabic speaking families and families with Asian origin in the school district with limited programming to assist them.
- Public resources, such as community centers and pools, are not entirely accessible to individuals with physical disabilities.
- Older homes are often more difficult and costly to rehab due to high labor costs; there is a need to build newer homes and units.
- People with limited or fixed incomes have difficulty in meeting their needs, especially housing.
- Workforce development is an unmet need in the City.
- The City of Altoona needs to reduce the amount of drug activity in the City.
- There is a need for childcare services for working parents, especially those working irregular hours.
- The Weatherization Program has been successful in the past year and should be expanded to meet the City's needs.
- There is a need for alternative activities for the City's youth.
- Lead paint is an issue for families with children under the age of 6.
- There is a need for a "one-stop-shop" for individuals experiencing homelessness in the City of Altoona.

Other Comments:

- The City of Altoona should address the livability of neighborhoods outside of housing, such as sidewalk conditions, street trees, storm sewers, etc.
- The City should explore other ways to access capital for business and economic development, including upper floor residential development.
- Identifying projects that can bridge the gap between current developments and the downtown area.
- There is a lack of broadband access for Fire and Emergency services to have vehicles connected to the 911 Center.
- The City should improve its infrastructure to include multi-modal options such as bike lanes, roads, improved sidewalks etc.

B. Public Sector:

Part of the Analysis of Impediments is to examine the public policies of the jurisdiction and the impact on fair housing choice. The local government controls land use and development through the comprehensive plan, zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, and other laws and ordinances passed by the local governing body. These regulations and ordinances govern the types of housing that may be constructed, the density of housing, and the

various residential uses in a community. Local officials determine the community's commitment to housing goals and objectives. The local policies therefore determine if fair housing is to be promoted or passively tolerated.

This section of the Analysis of Impediments evaluates the City's policies to determine if there is a commitment to affirmatively further fair housing.

1. CDBG Program

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, PA. The following goals and objectives have been identified for the period of FY 2020 through FY 2024:

Table IV-5 – Five Year Strategies and Objectives for the City of Altoona

Housing Priority – HS – High Priority
Objective
HS-1 Housing Construction - Encourage the development of new housing by private developers and non-profits that is affordable, decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary.
HS-2 Housing Rehabilitation - Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the community by addressing code violations, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility for persons with disabilities.
HS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance – Provide short term rental assistance or security deposit assistance for low- and moderate-income renters.
Homeless Priority – HMS – Low Priority
Objective
HMS-1 Housing Construction – Encourage the development of new housing by private developers and non-profits that is affordable, decent, safe, accessible, and sanitary.

<p>HMS-2 Housing Rehabilitation – Conserve and rehabilitate existing affordable housing units occupied by owners and renters in the community by addressing code violations, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility for persons with disabilities.</p>
<p>HMS-3 Emergency Rental Assistance – Provide short term rental assistance or security deposit assistance for low- and moderate-income renters.</p>
<p>Other Special Needs Priority – SNS – Low Priority</p>
<p>Objective</p>
<p>SNS-1 Housing - Increase the supply of affordable, accessible, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing buildings and new construction.</p>
<p>SNS-2 Social Services - Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.</p>
<p>Community Development Priority – CDS – High Priority</p>
<p>Objective</p>
<p>CDS-1 Community Facilities - Improve parks, recreational facilities, neighborhood facilities, and trails including accessibility improvements to public buildings and all community facilities in the City.</p>
<p>CDS-2 Infrastructure - Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of streets; sidewalks; bridges, curbs; walkways; water; storm water management; sanitary sewers; lighting; handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers; etc..</p>
<p>CDS-3 Public Services - Improve and enhance public services, programs for youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, along with general social/welfare public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons and households.</p>
<p>CDS-4 Clearance/Demolition - Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures.</p>
<p>CDS-5 Accessibility Improvements - Improve handicap accessibility improvements and removal of architectural barriers to public and community facilities.</p>
<p>CDS-6 Transportation - Support the expansion of transportation options for low- and moderate-income residents, the disabled and elderly to access services, shopping, and employment.</p>

Economic Development Priority – EDS – Low Priority
Objective
EDS-1 Employment - Support and encourage job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities.
EDS-2 Development - Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development.
EDS-3 Redevelopment - Plan and promote the development, redevelopment, and revitalization of vacant and underutilized commercial and industrial sites.
EDS-4 Financial Assistance - Support and encourage new economic development through local, state, and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), tax abatements (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, Opportunity Zones, etc.
EDS-5 Access to Transportation - Support the expansion of public transportation and access to bus and automobile service and facilities serving alternate modes of transportation to assist residents to get to work or training opportunities.
Administration, Planning, and Management Priority – AMS – High Priority
Objective
AMS-1 Overall Coordination - Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
AMS-2 Fair Housing - Promote fair housing choice through education, training and outreach to affirmatively furthering fair housing.

The City of Altoona receives both CDBG and HOME funds from HUD. The City anticipates that it will receive \$1,643,245 in CDBG funds and \$353,129 in HOME funds in FY 2020. The City will allocate its funds to public facility improvements, public services, senior services, youth services, and emergency housing assistance.

The City in its FY 2020 CDBG and Home Programs has allocated the funds as follows:

Table IV-6 – CDBG Activities

Program Administration	
Community Development Administration	\$ 327,270.00
Fair Housing	\$ 25,000.00
Total:	\$ 352,270.00
Public Facility Improvements	
Altoona Housing Authority's Fairview Hills Playground Revitalization	\$ 65,500.00
6 th Avenue Playground Installation Phase II	\$ 101,543.00
2020 CDBG Street Reconstruction	\$ 200,500.00
Washington Avenue Storm Drainage Installation	\$ 385,581.00
Total:	\$ 753,124.00
Rehabilitation	
Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation	\$ 487,540.00
Total:	\$ 487,540.00
Public Service	
Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program	\$ 10,000.00
Total:	\$ 10,000.00
Clearance Activities	
Blighted Property Program	\$ 164,311.00
Total:	\$ 164,311.00
Total FY 2020 CDBG Funds for Project Activities	\$1,767,245.00

The following HOME activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan:

Table IV-7 – HOME Activities

HOME Activities	
Rental Rehabilitation Program	\$ 156,816.10
CHDO – Improved Dwellings for Altoona	\$ 161,000.00
HOME Administration	\$ 35,312.90
Total	\$ 353,129.00

2. Other Funds

In addition to its CDBG and HOME funds, the following other public resources have been received by agencies in the City of Altoona:

Table IV-8 – Other Funds

City Department	Grant/Fund Name	Source	Amount	Project
Engineering	ARLE Red Light	State	\$12,394	17th St School Signals
Engineering	ARLE Red Light	State	\$25,266	17th Street Coswalks
Engineering	7th Ave Juniata Pipe (Phase 1)	State	\$15,400	BCCD Dirt and low Volume
Engineering	7th Ave Vacation	State	\$30,360	BCCD Dirt and low Volume
Engineering	Green Light Go 2020	State	\$60,000	Green Light Go Fund
Police	Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant	Federal	\$13,297	
Police	Bullet Proof Vest Grant	Federal	\$2,187.50	
Police	Aggressive Driving/Buckle Up Pa	Federal	\$14,000	
Police	Bullet Proof Vest Grant		\$3,937.50	
Fire Department	State Fire Commissioner Grant	State	\$15,000	Gear Washers
Clerk's Office	Martin & Mabel Goodman Trust Recreation Grant	Local/Private	\$9,920	Recreation



HOME Funds	50/50 Match	Federal	\$156,816	Rental Units in the City
CDBG Funds		Federal	\$585,581	Proposing Street Reconstruction & Storm Drainage Projects
CDBG Funds		Federal	\$177,543	Recreational Upgrades

3. Low Income Housing Tax Credits

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program was created under the Tax Reform Act of 1986 and is intended to attract private investment to develop affordable rental housing for low- and moderate-income households.

There are currently no known projects, proposed projects, or planned projects in the City of Altoona that will be using LIHTC funds. The City is supportive of the use of LIHTC projects to provide affordable housing to low-income households, and had ten (10) previously developed LIHTC projects, between 1987 and 2011, totaling 310 housing units.

The following is a list of LIHTC projects which were built in the City of Altoona from 1987 through 2011:

Table IV-9 – LIHTC in the City of Altoona

HUD ID Number:	Year Placed in Service	Project Name:	Project Address:	Project City:	Project State:	Project ZIP Code:	Total Number of Units:	Total Low-Income Units:
PAA1989005	1989	1015 LEXINGTON AVE	1015 LEXINGTON AVE	ALTOONA	PA	16601	1	1
PAA1989010	1989	109 S 16TH ST	109 S 16TH ST	ALTOONA	PA	16602	1	1
PAA1989150	1989	2135 19TH ST	2135 19TH ST	ALTOONA	PA	16601	1	1
PAA1989695	1989	PENN ALTO	1130 13TH AVE	ALTOONA	PA	16601	150	138
PAA1989780	1989	TOWN HALL APARTMENTS	1100 13TH AVE	ALTOONA	PA	16601	6	6
PAA1993020	1993	1500 19TH STREET	1500 19TH ST	ALTOONA	PA	16601	2	2
PAA1993175	1993	LEXINGTON PARK		ALTOONA	PA		24	24
PAA1993180	1993	LEXINGTON PARK		ALTOONA	PA		24	24



PAA1999045	1999	CHARLES E WOLF APARTMENTS	1501 11TH AVE	ALTOONA	PA	16601	90	90
PAA2011015	2011	CHATHAM MEWS	200 LEXINGTON AVE	ALTOONA	PA	16601	11	

Source: <http://lihtc.huduser.org/>

4. Planning, Zoning, and Building Codes

City of Altoona Planning

The City of Altoona has a planning commission which was established in accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act of 1968. P.L. 805, No. 247, as reenacted and amended. The Community Development Department is the planning agency for the City and the head of the department is the Planning Director.

The Altoona Planning Code divides the City into eleven (11) zoning districts. Each zoning district contains permitted and conditional land uses, along with associated development standards. These development standards establish minimum lot sizes, maximum lot coverage, parking requirements, minimum yard setbacks and related requirements. The City of Altoona has refined these broad categories into eleven (11) use districts:

- R-S - Suburban Residential
- R-SH - Single Household Residential
- R-L - Limited Residential
- R-MH - Multiple Household Residential
- R-U - Urban Residential
- M-RC - Residential/Commercial
- C-NB - Neighborhood Business
- C-HB - Highway Business
- C-CB - Central Business
- I-L - Light Industrial
- I-G - General Industrial

The City's Comprehensive Plan, "Positively Altoona", was adopted by City Council on May 22, 2013 and it appears to be in compliance with the Federal regulations governing fair housing. "Ahead of the

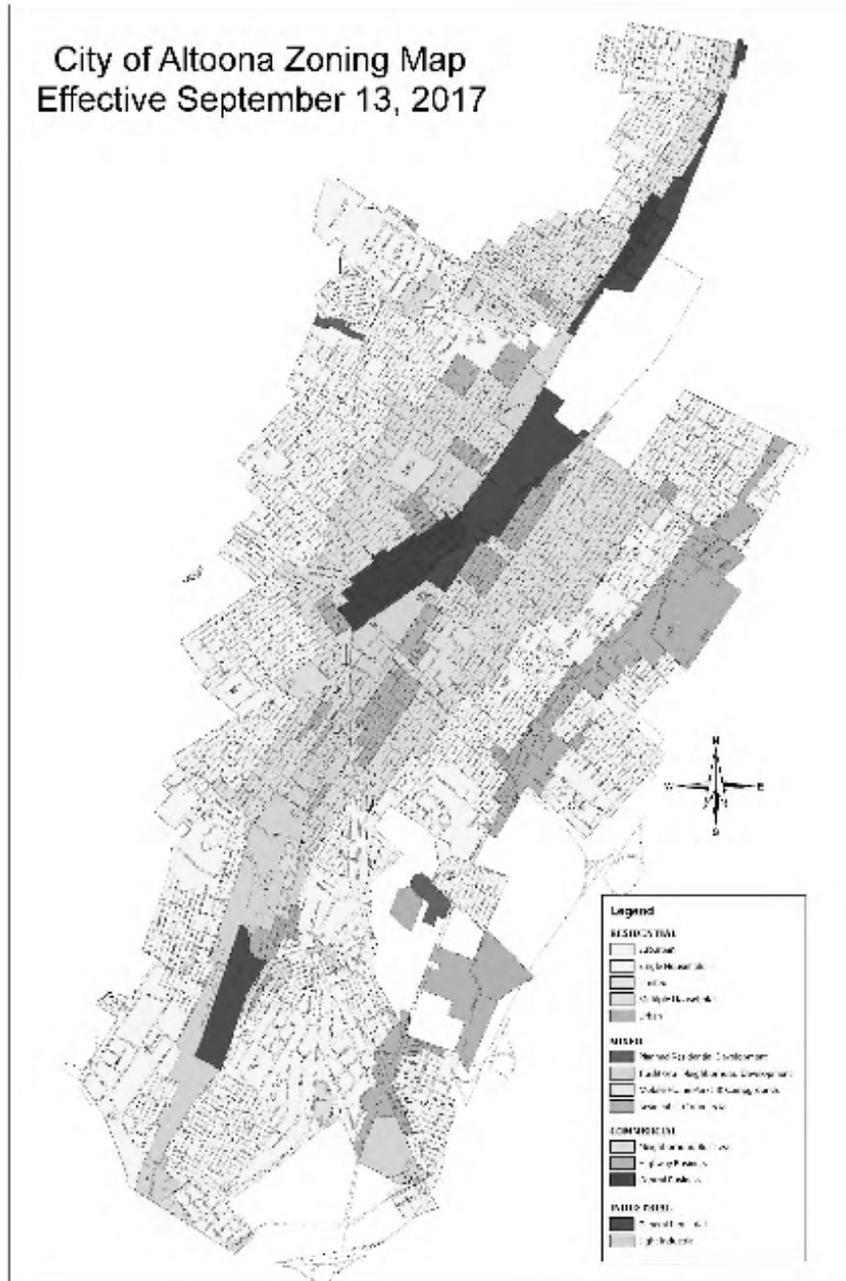
Curve Altoona” is an addition to “Positively Altoona” that focuses on a housing strategy and improving the Downtown Altoona as mandated as part of the City’s Act 47 Plan. The City’s Zoning Ordinance was amended and codified in September 28, 2016 by Ordinance number 5686.

The previous 2015 Analysis of Impediments suggested several areas for improvement within the City’s Zoning ordinance in order to conform to the Federal Fair Housing Act. These suggestions are below.

- Creating a new subsection:
 - O: Fostering housing choice and affirmatively furthering fair housing. This subsection of the ordinance is intended to affirmatively further fair housing in the City of Altoona by:
 - Abiding by the provisions of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended.
 - Promoting fair housing choice for all residents in the City of Altoona.
 - Assuring the rights of all individuals that are identified as members of a protected class by the Federal Government.
 - Prevention of discrimination in housing based on a person’s race, color, national origin, religion, sex familial status or handicap.
- The City’s Zoning Ordinance does not appear to contain any discriminatory language, however several definitions should be reviewed by the Altoona Development and Planning Department, as well as the City’s Legal Counsel and consideration should be given to revising them through a minor text amendment.
 - Accessibility: A definition should be included; nothing is presently listed in the Zoning Ordinance. A suggested definition should include the ease of access into and around the interior of a building or facility without obstruction to a person who may be physically disabled.

The City of Altoona has made all of the above changes to its zoning code and is in conformance to the Fair Housing Act and Americans with Disabilities Act.

The following is a copy of the City of Altoona’s Zoning District Map:



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD encourages its grantees to incorporate “visitability” principles into their designs. Housing that is “visitable” has the most basic level of accessibility that enables persons with disabilities to visit the home of a friend, family member, or neighbor. “Visitable” homes have at least one accessible means of egress/ingress for each unit, and all interior and bathroom doorways have 32-inch clear openings. At a minimum, HUD grantees are required to abide by all Federal laws governing accessibility for disabled persons.



Federal laws governing accessibility requirements include Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Fair Housing Act.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (24 CFR Part 8), known as “Section 504” prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in any program receiving Federal funds. Specifically, Section 504 concerns the design and construction of housing to ensure that a portion of all housing developed with Federal funds is accessible to those with mobility, visual, and hearing impairments.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12131; 47 U.S.C. 155, 201, 218, and 225) (ADA) prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in all programs and activities sponsored by state and local governments. Specifically, ADA gives HUD jurisdiction over housing discrimination against persons with disabilities.

The Fair Housing Act was amended in 1988 to include persons with disabilities as a protected class, as well as to include design and construction requirements for housing developed with private or public funds. Specifically, this law requires property owners to make reasonable modifications to units and/or public areas in order to allow the disabled tenant to make full use of the unit. Additionally, property owners are required to make reasonable accommodations to rules or procedures to afford a disabled tenant full use of the unit. As it relates to local zoning ordinances, the Fair Housing Act prohibits local government from making zoning or land use decisions, or implementing land use policies that exclude or discriminate against persons of a protected class.

5. Taxes

Real estate property taxes may not be an impediment to fair housing choice, but it may impact the affordability of owner and renter housing.

The general residential real estate tax receipts in the City of Altoona are divided among the School District, Blair County, and the City of Altoona. The total levy rate for owner-occupied and non-owner occupied properties, including real property, personal property and utility, is as follows:

- School District 6.2053 levy rate
- City of Altoona 5.1290 levy rate
- Blair County 3.925 levy rate
- Total 15.2593 levy rate

Table IV-10 illustrates the taxes assessed for property valued at \$100,000 and the City's median value of \$87,600. Real Estate taxes have been identified as a significant cause of housing cost overburden, especially for those who are on a fixed income.

Table IV-10 – Real Estate Property Taxes

Taxes for Owner and Non-Owner Occupied Property Assessed at \$100,000 In City of Altoona	
School	\$ 620.53
City of Altoona	\$ 512.90
Blair County	\$ 392.50
Total Owner Occupied	\$ 1,525.93

Taxes for Owner Occupied and Non-Owner Median Property Value (\$87,000) In City of Altoona	
School	\$ 539.86
City of Altoona	\$ 446.22

Blair County	\$ 341.48
Total Non-Owner Occupied	\$ 1,327.56

6. Public Housing

The Altoona Housing Authority is the public housing agency that serves the City of Altoona. The mission of the Altoona Housing Authority is to provide affordable, quality housing that promotes self-sufficiency and other opportunities based upon sound management which is a valuable asset to the community.

The Housing Authority owns and manages 536 units of public housing, of which 27 units (5%) are accessible. In addition, the Housing Authority administers 974 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and 27 VASH Vouchers for Veterans.

According to the Altoona Housing Authority's Five Year Plan for the period of 2020-2024, the goals of the Housing Authority are as follows:

Current plans/goals of Housing Authority:

- Continue to reduce public housing vacancies through collaboration efforts between Management and Maintenance to reach 98% occupancy.
- Increase level of landlord participation in the Section 8 Voucher Program through landlord educational workshops and recruitment efforts.
- Continue to lease up Section 8 Vouchers for those applicants needing assistance through the Voucher Program based upon funding.
- Maintain Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) score with High-Performer status.
- Maintain Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) score with High-Performer status.
- Continuation of customer service training for staff and conduct resident customer satisfaction surveys to determine areas for improvement.
- Continuation of work with the City of Altoona on Code Enforcement, Fair Housing, workshops and work on

expansion of home-ownership programs working with the City of Altoona Planning and Community Development Office.

- Renovate and modernize public housing units through Capital Fund modernization.
- Dispose of scattered site public housing properties and utilize proceeds of sale of scattered sites to expand the Authority's Home Buyer program and upgrades at our Fairview Hills Development. Received approval from the Special Applications Center (SAC) for removal of 20 units (10 properties) from public housing. Utilize said funding to expand home ownership program. Properties are currently being sold. These include:
 - 114 Lexington Avenue
 - 504 Crawford Avenue
 - 705 6th Avenue
 - 820 6th Avenue
 - 1407 1st Street
 - 1501 15th Street
 - 1904 6th Avenue
 - 2021 811 Avenue
 - 2114 7th Avenue
 - 2514 West Chestnut Avenue (Vacant Lot)
- Continue to work with Blair County Housing Authority in housing VASH participants within the City of Altoona limits.
- Continue to update and monitor Authority's Physical Needs Assessment (PNA)
- Continue the educational community workshops with surrounding agencies to meet the needs of clients with housing assistance.
- Continue security services to keep safety of our residents a top priority.
- Install additional security cameras and conduct staff training on safety protocols.
- Continue to hold resident and staff training on Emergency Procedures

- Continue to provide a Head Start/ Day Care Facility on site at public housing family development for the residents needing day care services.
- Continue health awareness programs for the residents.
- Recruit residents to become active in Resident Organizations in their housing community.
- Continue education for residents and staff on Fair Housing regulations.
- Update Maintenance and Prevention Maintenance Plans.
- Continue promoting self-sufficiency through the ROSS-Family Self Sufficiency Coordination Program.
- Continue to partner with the Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation to provide an After-School Enrichment Program for public housing family development.
- Undertake affirmative measures to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or disability.
- Continue marketing the rental units through the Authority with advertisements and open houses.
- Effectively manage and continue of upgrades for ADA compliance deficiencies.
- Continue to promote a healthy living environment for the residents residing in public housing.
- Continue to monitor Section 8 funding to house as many participants as possible within the PHA funding level.
- Continue to upgrade Section 8 Vouchers and Public Housing policies on regulatory changes.
- Continue staff training on regulatory changes to maintain compliance requirements.
- Continue internal staff cross training for employees.

The Altoona Housing Authority is not rated as a "troubled" agency by HUD. The Housing Authority's biggest challenges are the lack of sufficient Housing Choice Vouchers to meet the demand for housing by low income persons, and renovating the existing public housing units. There is a total of 236 people on waiting lists for Fairview Hills, Pleasant Village, and Green Avenue and 11th Street Tower. At least 50 persons on the waiting list are elderly or disabled persons

indicating a need for additional accessible housing units and 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 Housing Authority's current operating budget provides funds for routine maintenance and operating costs. The Altoona 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 Housing Authority's FY 2020 Capital Fund Program Budget for Fairview Hill and Green Avenue Tower is as follows:

Operations = \$50,000
Site Improvement = \$716,614
Dwelling Improvement = \$169,659
Total = \$936,273

The Altoona Housing Authority is working to recruit additional landlords to expand the Section 8 Voucher Program. The Housing Authority offers landlords training and resource guides to help educate and guide landlords on policies and procedures, such as the inspection, payment, and termination of the Section 8 process, as well as Fair Housing laws. The Housing Authority also offers several workshops and trainings to tenants throughout the year to educate about available programming, such as the Family Self-Sufficiency program, and Fair Housing laws.

7. Comprehensive Plan

On May 22, 2013, the City of Altoona's Comprehensive Plan, "Positively Altoona", was adopted by the Altoona City Council. "Positively Altoona", was developed simultaneously with the City's Act 47 Recovery Plan and emphasizes the necessary balance between the City's planning initiatives and fiscal investments.

The following principles were adopted to help guide planning in the City of Altoona:

- Instill Pride in the City.
- Build new community partnerships.

- Nurture local economic development.
- Promote transportation options for convenient, healthy living.
- Improve the infrastructure and appearance of the City.
- Incorporate sustainable development principles.
- Invest for future generations.

The "Positively Livable" section of "Positively Altoona" explains that the City's livability is dependent upon the relationships of land use and housing, services and infrastructure, transportation, economic development, urban design, and the public realm. This section identifies objectives and action steps in order to achieve housing, transportation, service and infrastructure, economic development, and urban design goals. The plan identifies key partners in order to achieve the goals and objectives including but not limited to, local and state representatives and legislators, Civic Groups, the Justice System, Penn State University-Altoona Campus, and Volunteers, among others.

The Comprehensive Plan provides recommendations for the City to prioritize it's needs, improve the quality of life, and identify patterns of short and long term spending. The final takeaway points for the City are as follows:

1. Continue to advocate for an update to the real estate property for Blair County.
2. Re-evaluate and amend the charges for services it collects in context of the specific rates that the other communities assign to the various services that are offered.
3. Determine ways in which to facilitate new income generating opportunities. One area worth discussion may be determining ways in which some or all of the 8.3% of Altoona's land area that is classified as public and/or quasi-public could become revenue generating.
4. Identify public amenity sites which could be redeveloped and maintained at limited cost to the City while serving as catalysts for surrounding investment and initiate greater investment.
5. Define and act upon ways in which culture and recreation-related spending and/or investments of the City's time in cooperating with the Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission can be increased.
6. Re-examine the Altoona earned income rates/percentages in comparison with other cities/municipalities/home rule

communities to determine if adjusting to that rate/percentage would be applicable and advantageous.

8. Transportation

Altoona Metro Transit, better known as AMTRAN, is over 50 years old, though the transportation entity has existed in some form since 1882. AMTRAN has consistently met the transportation needs of the people of Altoona and Logan Valley by constantly reinventing itself and adapting to the needs of its riders.

The Altoona Metro Transit (AMTRAN) operates a number of transportation programs within the City of Altoona. AMTRAN operates fifteen (15) routes within city limits throughout the workday and workweek, plus a Saturday service. There are no buses running on Sundays, or between the hours of approximately 11 PM and 6 AM. The transit's HelpLine assists riders on finding route options and is open from 6:30 AM to 6:30 PM, Monday through Saturday.

Fares are expected to increase on July 1, 2020. Adults paying with cash will be charged \$1.75, adults using the myFare Smart Card will be charged \$1.65, Seniors over the age of 65 can ride for free with a Senior Transit ID card. AMTRAN vehicles and operators are equipped to serve customers who use mobility devices, such as wheelchairs. AMTRAN will also accommodate individuals with equipment such as oxygen tanks, service animals, will announce bus stops and display stops on an LED sign, and buses are equipped with a speaker on the outside of the bus which announce the route at stops served by multiple bus routes. Additionally, riders can request a bus deviate from its fixed route before 7:00 am and after 6:00 pm in order to get a rider closer to their destination. Individuals with disabilities and persons with a Medicare Card are charged \$0.85 per ride on fixed routes. For individuals, not able to access fixed routes, paratransit services are available for a fee of \$3.40, Monday through Friday and Saturdays.

All day passes are available to riders at the cost of \$3.30. Monthly passes are also available for the price of \$50.00. Students (age 6-21) can purchase a punch card for 10 rides for \$10. AMTRAN also services Penn State Altoona campus through its Crosstown, Flash, and Pleasant Valley routes, which connect the Ivyside Campus to the Downtown Campus; students are also able to access businesses at the Logan Towne Centre, Logan Valley Mall, and Walmart.

AMTRAN has a vehicle fleet of 26, including 16 buses that run on compressed natural gas, 3 that are diesel-electric hybrids and 7 buses that are electric.

In September 2017, PennDOT initiated an Act 44-mandated performance review for AMTRAN

1. Initial notification of performance review selection and transmission of document request:
 - a. Review available data and request additional information.
 - b. Peer selection: AMTRAN and PennDOT agree to a set of peer agencies that would be used for comparative analysis.
2. Conduct PennDOT-sponsored customer satisfaction survey (CSS).
3. Review of Act 44 variables including current performance, targets from the previous 2012 review, and action plan implementation.
4. Perform Act 44 performance criteria analysis.
5. Conduct on site review, interviews and supplementary data collection/reconciliation.
6. Evaluate performance, financial management and operations.
7. Report results and determine agency compliance with performance requirements.
8. Finalize performance review report.
9. Develop, implement and monitor five-year action plan.

In 2017, PennDOT sponsored a fixed-route rider survey to be conducted for AMTRAN based on 15 questions that addressed customer satisfaction, rider characteristics and patterns in service usage. Over a period from February 1, 2017 to February 17, 2017 AMTRAN surveyed their fixed-route passengers and collected 435 completed surveys:

1. 98% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the service.
2. 95% of respondents indicated they would continue using the service.
3. 96% of respondents said they would recommend the service to others.

AMTRAN received the highest ratings in driver courtesy and friendliness, safe and competent drivers, and helpfulness of employees. AMTRAN received the lowest ratings for frequency of weekend service, comfort at bus stops, and comfortable bus seats.

AMTRAN was found to be “incompliance” for four measure and “At Risk” for four. It was identified that management’s efforts in coming years should continue to focus on containing costs, increasing ridership, and improving farebox recovery. Performance targets will be reviewed again in 2023.

9. Education

Education is often an important factor influencing where people choose to live. According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 10.9% of the population does not have a high school diploma; 46.7% of the population age 25 and over has a high school diploma or GED; 26.4% of the population 25 and over has an Associate’s degree or higher;

The public schools serving Altoona are part of the Altoona Area School District. There are eleven (11) public schools that serve the area, including eight (8) elementary schools, one (1) junior high school, one (1) alternative school and one (1) high school. During the 2019-2020 school year, there were a total of 7,755 students, of which 3,970 were male and 3,785 were female. In terms of demographics, 6,855 students were White, 683 students were Black, 136 students were Latino/Hispanic, 48 students were Asian and 9 students were Native American. There is a total of 146 homeless students in the Altoona Area School System. Homeless students receive free lunch, transportation, and school supplies in order to give homeless students equal opportunities for learning in a school environment. Additionally, 63.6% students were classified as economically disadvantaged; a total of 4,687 students received free or reduced lunch, 20.3% are enrolled in special education, and 0.3% are English Language Learners.

The 2018-2019 Future Ready PA Index was analyzed for academic performance measures, as well as how students performed in comparison to the Pennsylvania Statewide 2030 Goals.

In the Junior High School the district performed worse than the statewide average and did not meet the interim goal/improvement target set by the State for English/Language Arts, Mathematics, or Science/Biology.

The High School performed better than the Statewide average and exceeded Interim Goal and Improvement Targets in both English/Language Arts, and Mathematics however, the district did not meet these goals for Science/Biology.

Of the high school students in the four-year cohort, 86.1% graduate compared to the statewide average of 85.8%. The Statewide 2030 graduation rate goal is a rate of 92.4% in four years. For students who belong to the five-year cohort 89.3% graduate within five years compared to the state-wide average of 88.5%.

Table IV-11 – Trend Data of Student Performance Altoona Area Jr. High school (percentage of student's scores at proficient level)

	Altoona School District % Proficient	State of Pennsylvania % Proficient	Statewide 2030 Goal
English/Language Arts	58.8%	62.1%	81.1%
Math	34.6%	45.2%	71.8%
Science	55.1%	66.0%	83.0%

Table IV-12 – Trend Data of Student Performance Altoona Area High school (percentage of student's scores at proficient level)

	Altoona School District % Proficient	State of Pennsylvania % Proficient	Statewide 2030 Goal
English/Language Arts	76.0%	62.1%	81.1%
Math	70.6%	45.2%	71.8%
Science	64.3%	66.0%	83.0%

10. Section 3

HUD's definition of Section 3 is:

Section 3 is a provision of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968. The purpose of Section 3 to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by certain HUD financial assistance shall, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing Federal, State

and local laws and regulations, be directed to low- and very low income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing, and to business concerns which provide economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons.

The following is the City of Altoona's guidelines that are used to accomplish Section 3 compliance:

- The City will notify residents of the Section 3 requirements of HUD and the City, as well as the opportunities these requirements create. This notification will appear on the City website (www.altoonapa.gov), and annually in newspaper advertisements. It will also be publicized through the Altoona Housing Authority.
- The City will notify contractors of the Section 3 requirements of HUD and the City, as well as the opportunity these requirements create.
- The City will maintain databases of known Section 3 businesses and residents. This list may be developed with the help of the Altoona Housing Authority, the Blair County Community Action Agency, minority and women's business enterprise (MBE/WBE) contractor associations, the Blair County Chamber of Commerce, the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation, and other community organizations.
- The City will notify known Section 3 businesses of any bidding opportunities in which the City feels they may be interested.
- The City will help interested Section 3 businesses find training on contracting procedures, bonding, insurance, or other pertinent requirements.
- The City will penalize contractors for noncompliance by barring them from future bidding on Section 3 covered projects after they cannot provide an adequate explanation as to why Section 3 goals were not met.
- The City will incorporate Section 3 clauses into all applicable contracts.

- The City will facilitate the training of the City's Section 3 residents by maintaining links with and referring residents to training providers.
- The City will award contracts to Section 3 Business Concerns (defined as companies that are at least 51% or more owned by Section 3 residents, that have a staff that is at least 30% current Section 3 residents, or that assign 25% or more of their subcontracts to Section 3 businesses) whenever feasible or required by HUD.
- The City will hire Section 3 residents as City staff to perform work related to housing construction, rehabilitation, or other public construction whenever it is feasible, whenever they are among the most qualified candidates, and whenever the civil service and union rules allow.
- The City will assist contractors with compliance by explaining Section 3 to them and maintaining lists of Section 3 residents and business concerns available for their use.
- The City will submit annual 60002 forms, as well as certifications signed by the highest elected officials, as required by HUD.
- The Department of Planning Community Development, as a whole, shall serve as the designated Section 3 Coordinator, responsible for the requirements of this section of our plan, as well as for reporting any relevant grievances to HUD. The Department will work in concert with the Altoona Housing Authority and the Blair County Community Action Agency to help the City's Section 3 residents take advantage of the opportunities provided by this plan.
- The City Department of Planning & Community Development will document actions made to reach Section 3 goals and the results. This will also be documented: job vacancies, notification efforts, solicitations for bids or proposals, selection materials, penalties imposed, 60002 forms, contract documents, and any Section 3 grievances filed.

All contractors/businesses seeking Section 3 preference must, before submitting bids/proposals to the City, be required to complete certifications, as appropriate, as acknowledgement of the Section 3 contracting and employment provisions required by the City. Such

certifications shall be adequately supported with appropriate documentation as referenced in the form.

C. Private Sector:

The private sector has traditionally been the greatest impediment to fair housing choice in regard to discrimination in the sale, rental or advertising of dwellings, the provision of brokerage services, or in the availability of financing for real estate purchases. The Fair Housing Act prohibits such practices as the failure to give the same terms, privileges, or information, charging different fees, steering prospective buyers or renters toward a certain area or neighborhood, or using advertising that discourages prospective buyers or renters because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin.

1. Real Estate Practices

The Allegheny Highland Association of Realtors serves Blair County and surrounding areas. The Allegheny Highland Association of Realtors has an open membership policy and does not discriminate. Members are bound by the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Realtors (NAR). This Code of Ethics obligates its members to maintain professional standards including efforts to affirmatively furthering fair housing. All realtors are required to complete annual continuing education classes. These classes cover the Federal Fair Housing Act and related laws.



2. Newspaper Advertising

Under Federal Law, no advertising with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling unit may indicate any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin. Under the Fair Housing Act Amendments, descriptions are listed in regard to the use of words, photographs, symbols or other approaches that are considered discriminatory.

Real estate advertisements were reviewed for several real estate publications, including the Altoona Mirror, which is the local newspaper. The real estate and lender's advertisements in each of these publications include the equal housing opportunity logo. However, the publications included the HUD publisher's notice. None of the sample advertisements that were reviewed contained language that prohibited occupancy by any group.

3. Private Financing

The Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (F.I.R.R.E.A.) requires any commercial institution that makes five (5) or more home mortgage loans, to report all home loan activity to the Federal Reserve Bank under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA). The annual HMDA data can be found online at www.ffiec.gov/hmda/. This analysis uses 2018 HMDA data. The available data indicates there may be discriminatory lending patterns between minority and non-minority households. The following tables provide an analysis of the HMDA data in the Altoona, PA Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Data for the City of Altoona and Blair County is highlighted where possible. All other data is that of the entire Altoona, PA MSA, which includes Blair County.

The following table provides a summary of the home loan activity in the City of Altoona and Blair County. The Altoona MSA is comprised of the City of Altoona and all of Blair County. The population of the City of Altoona represents approximately one-third of the population of Blair County. With the exception of refinancing and home improvement loans, the percentage of Home Purchase Loans in the City was slightly greater than the comparative population; it is not a disproportionate comparison. Disproportionate is defined as a group having at least 10 percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in that group as a whole.

TABLE IV-13 HMDA Data Analysis for 2018

	Home Purchase Loans							
	FHA, FSA/RHS & VA		Conventional		Refinancing		Home Improvement Loans	
	#	Amount	#	Amount	#	Amount	#	Amount
Altoona	204	20,200,000	317	26,315,000	521	43,405,000	178	7,220,000
Blair County/MSA	531	64,385,000	901	114,545,000	1656	186,770,000	600	27,330,000
% of lending in Altoona	38.4%	31.3%	35.2%	22.9%	31.5%	23.2%	29.7%	26.4%

Source: <http://www.ffiec.gov/hmda/>

The following table provides a summary of the disposition of conventional loans in the City of Altoona as compared to Blair County. Just over forty-percent (41.1%) of applications were completed for the City of Altoona. Approximately, one-third (31.2%) of loans originated in Blair County are attributed to the City of Altoona.

TABLE IV-14 Disposition of Conventional Loans

	Altoona Applications	Blair county Applications	% of Altoona Applications	% of Blair County/MSA Applications
Loans Originated	155	373	75.9%	31.2%
Approved, Not Accepted	1	11	0.49%	0.2%
Applications Denied	21	59	10.3%	4.2%
Applications Withdrawn	22	52	10.8%	4.4%
File Closed for Incompleteness	5	48	2.5%	1.0%
TOTAL	204	496	--	41.1%

Source: <http://www.ffiec.gov/hmda/>

The following table provides a summary of the disposition of conventional loans in the Altoona Metropolitan Statistical Area. The data indicates that there is a direct correlation between incomes and loans originated in the City; the higher the income level of the loan applicant, the higher the acceptance rate with the exception of the 100-119% AMI group. The data also supports that the lower the income level of the loan applicant, the higher the denial rate with the exception of the 100-119% AMI group.

The following tables show the disposition of conventional loans disaggregated by minority status and income level for the Altoona MSA. The number of applications for conventional loans submitted by White, non-Hispanic applicants significantly outnumbers minority applicants in each income level analyzed.

In general, the loan origination rates were much lower for minorities and denial rates were higher for minorities. While the data may appear to support that lending discrimination exists in the area it may be problematic to infer that lending discrimination exists in the

Altoona MSA due to the small sampling size of the data, meaning the results may not be statistically significant.

TABLE IV-16 Conventional Loan Disposition Rates by Minority Status, 2018
Less than 50% of MSA Median Income

Minority Status	Applications Received	% of Total Applications	Loans Originated	% of Applications Received	Applications Approved but Not Accepted	% of Applications Received	Applications Denied	% of Applications Received	Applications Withdrawn	% of Applications Received	Applications Closed for Incompleteness	% of Applications Received
White, Non-Hispanic	588	97.1%	307	52.2%	10	1.7%	189	32.1%	54	9.2%	28	4.8%
Minority, Including Hispanic	17	2.9%	6	35.3%	0	0.0%	6	35.4%	2	11.7%	3	17.6%
TOTAL	605	100%	313	51.7%	10	1.6%	195	32.2%	56	9.3%	31	5.1%

Source: <http://www.ffiec.gov/hmda/>

In the MSA there were a total of six hundred five (605) applications made by households that have incomes less than 50% of the MSA median income. Of those applicants, 35.3% of minority applications resulted in loan originations. This is considered disproportionate compared to white applicants with a difference of 16.4%. However, further research is necessary sine two minority applications were withdrawn (11.7%) and 3 minority applications were incomplete (17.6%). Based on denial rates: 32.1% of White loans were denied and 35.4% of minority loan applications were denied.

**TABLE IV-17 Conventional Loan Disposition Rates by Minority Status,
50-79% of MSA Median Income**

Minority Status	Applications Received	% of Total Applications	Loans Originated	% of Applications Received	Applications Approved but Not Accepted	% of Applications Received	Applications Denied	% of Applications Received	Applications Withdrawn	% of Applications Received	Applications Closed for Incompleteness	% of Applications Received
White, Non-Hispanic	888	98.1%	568	63.9%	8	0.90%	192	21.6%	95	10.7%	25	2.8%
Minority, Including Hispanic	17	1.9%	7	41.1%	0	0.0%	8	47.1%	2	11.8%	0	0.0%
TOTAL	905	100%	575	63.5%	8	0.88%	200	22.1%	97	10.7%	25	2.8%

Source: <http://www.ffiec.gov/hmda/>

There was a total of nine hundred five (905) applications made by households that have incomes between 50% and 79% of the MSA median income. Of those applicants, 41.1% of minority applications resulted in loan originations compared to 63.9% of the white population. When comparing the loan originations for minority applicants the amount is considered disproportionate with a difference of 22.4%. However, there were only 17 minority applications filed versus 888 White applications.

**TABLE IV-18 Conventional Loan Disposition Rates by Minority Status,
80-99% of MSA Median Income**

Minority Status	Applications Received	% of Total Applications	Loans Originated	% of Applications Received	Applications Approved but Not Accepted	% of Applications Received	Applications Denied	% of Applications Received	Applications Withdrawn	% of Applications Received	Applications Closed for Incompleteness	% of Applications Received
White, Non-Hispanic	223	98.2%	159	71.3%	1	0.45%	32	14.3%	18	8.1%	13	5.8%

Minority, Including Hispanic	4	1.8%	2	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%
TOTAL	227	100%	161	70.9%	1	0.445	33	14.5%	19	8.4%	13	5.7%

Source: <http://www.ffiec.gov/hmda/>

There was a total of two hundred twenty-seven applications made by households that have incomes between 80% and 99% of the MSA median income. Of those applicants, 50.0% of minority applications resulted in loan originations. When comparing the loan originations and denials for minority applicants the amount is considered disproportionate with a difference of 20.9% and 16.6%, respectively. Once again, this is skewed by the fact there were only 4 minority applications and only 1 was denied.

**TABLE IV-19 Conventional Loan Disposition Rates by Minority Status,
100-119% of MSA Median Income**

Minority Status	Applications Received	% of Total Applications	Loans Originated	% of Applications Received	Applications Approved but Not Accepted	% of Applications Received	Applications Denied	% of Applications Received	Applications Withdrawn	% of Applications Received	Applications Closed for Incompleteness	% of Applications Received
White, Non-Hispanic	706	97.6%	477	67.6%	19	2.7%	127	17.9%	55	7.8%	28	3.9%
Minority, Including Hispanic	17	2.4%	9	52.9%	1	5.9%	6	35.3%	1	5.9%	0	0.0%
TOTAL	723	100%	486	67.2%	20	2.8%	133	18.4%	56	7.7%	28	3.9%

Source: <http://www.ffiec.gov/hmda/>

There was a total of seven hundred twenty-three (723) applications made by households that have incomes between 100% and 119% of the MSA median income. Of those applicants, 52.9% of minority applications resulted in loan originations. When comparing the loan originations for minority applicants the amount is considered slightly disproportionate with a difference of 14.3% This may also be skewed since there were only 17 minority applications received.

**TABLE IV-20 Conventional Loan Disposition Rates by Minority Status,
120% or More of MSA Median Income**

Minority Status	Applications Received	% of Total Applications	Loans Originated	% of Applications Received	Applications Approved but Not Accepted	% of Applications Received	Applications Denied	% of Applications Received	Applications Withdrawn	% of Applications Received	Applications Closed for Incompleteness	% of Applications Received
White, Non-Hispanic	1240	97.3%	924	74.5%	10	0.81%	153	12.3%	115	9.3%	38	3.1%
Minority, Including Hispanic	34	2.7%	18	52.9%	0	0.0%	4	11.8%	8	23.5%	4	11.8%
TOTAL	1274	100%	942	73.9%	10	0.78%	157	12.3%	123	9.6%	42	3.3%

Source: <http://www.ffiec.gov/hmda/>

There was a total of one thousand two hundred seventy-four (1,274) applications made by households that have incomes above 120% of the MSA median income. Of those applicants, 52.9% of minority applications resulted in loan originations. The percentage of applications denied for White applicants was 12.3% and the percentage for minority applicants was 11.8%. This tends to show that the denial rates for both White and minority loan applications is similar. Which leads to the possible conclusion that loan applicants in the higher income bracket are not being denied because of race, however there is a disproportionate denial rate for lower income applicants. Further study by an outside organization may be necessary.

The table below provides a closer look at the denial rates of conventional loans by denial reason and income level. The data reported is from 2017 as data for 2018 was not available in this format. For applicants earning less than 50% AMI the most common reason for denial was debt-to-income ratio; for those earning 50-79% AMI the most common reasons were credit history and collateral was; for those earning 80-99% AMI the most common reason was credit history; and for those earning 100-119% and 120% or more AMI the most common reason was an incomplete credit application.

TABLE IV-21 Conventional Loan Denial Rates by Denial Reason and Income Level (2017)

	Less than 50% Low		50-79% Middle		80-99% Upper-Middle		100-119% Upper		120% or More High		Income Not Available		Total Denials	
	Count	% of Income Level	Count	% of Income Level	Count	% of Income Level	Count	% of Income Level	Count	% of Income Level	Count	% of Income Level	Count	% of Total
Debt-to-Income Ratio	4	57.1%	2	25.0%	1	11.1%	0	0.0%	2	33.3%	0	0.0%	9	25.7%
Employment History	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	1	11.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	3	8.6%
Credit History	1	14.3%	2	25.0%	4	44.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	20.0%
Collateral	0	0.0%	2	25.0%	2	22.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	11.4%
Insufficient Cash	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%
Unverifiable Information	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	1	2.8%
Credit Application Incomplete	1	14.3%	1	12.5%	0	0.0%	2	66.7%	4	66.7%	0	0.0%	8	22.8%
Mortgage Insurance Denied	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%	1	12.5%	1	11.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	5.7%
Total Denials and % of Total	7	20.0%	8	22.8%	9	25.7%	3	8.6%	6	17.1%	2	5.7%	35	100%

Source: <http://www.ffiec.gov/hmda/>

D. Citizen Participation:

The City of Altoona's FY 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice was made available for public comment on the City's website (<http://www.altoonapa.gov/>).

The document was available beginning on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 until Monday, April 20, 2015. Citizens were encouraged to submit written or oral feedback on the Analysis of Impediments by Monday, April 20, 2015.

As a part of the consolidated planning process, the City of Altoona distributed a Resident Survey. Surveys were made available through the Department of Planning and Community Development. Additionally, a link was posted on the City's website to an electronic version of the survey. A total of twenty (20) surveys were completed.

Some of the notable characteristics of respondents included (as a percentage of those that answered each question):

- The majority of respondents are female at 65.0% and 84.21% of respondents are White.
- 45.0% were between the ages of 21 and 29.
- Of those that answered the question, 82.3% are low- to moderate-income for their family size.
- More than half, (75.0%), come from one or two-person households.
- 88.24% indicated they are renters.

Some of the notable needs identified by respondents included problems with the following (as a percentage of those that answered each question):

- Litter – 50.0%
- Curbs/Sidewalks – 42.86%
- Property Maintenance – 35.71%
- Parking – 35.71%
- Streets – 14.29%
- Storm Sewers – 14.29%
- Traffic – 14.29%
- Handicap Access – 7.14%
- Public Safety – 0.0%
- Sanitary Sewers – 0.0%

Additional Comments or Concerns:

- Rats
- Street lights that turn off when they shouldn't

The following is a list of needs/issues associated with different areas of community and economic development. Values were calculated as a percentage of those that answered each question.

Recreation:

- Playground Equipment – 63.64%
- Benches and Picnic Tables – 45.45%
- Open Grass Fields – 36.36%
- Pools – 36.36%
- Baseball Fields – 18.18%
- Basketball Courts – 27.27%
- ADA Surfacing – 27.27%
- ADA Equipment – 27.27%
- Splash pads – 27.27%
- Tennis Courts – 9.09%

Additional Comments or Concerns:

Residents did not share any additional comments or concerns for recreation.

Social Services:

85% of respondents indicated that they use the social services. The following indicate the most commonly used services among those who answered the question.

- Homeless – 65.0%
- Medical – 64.71%
- Mental Health – 58.82%
- Employment – 23.53%
- Addictions – 11.76%
- Aging – 5.88%

The following received 0.0% of responses:

- Legal
- Child Development
- Disabled

Programs that are Missing or Under-funded:

- Homeless Shelters
- Mental Health Services
- Affordable Housing
- WIC Agency

Employment:

- 56.25% indicated there is a lack of job opportunities available.
- 31.25% indicated a lack of transportation as a barrier to employment.
- Less than 20% indicated job training, discriminatory practices, and legal issues as a barrier to employment opportunities.

Housing:

- 66.67% indicate a lack of affordable housing, and 58.33% mention a lack of accessible, safe, quality, and affordable rental housing.
- 58.33% also indicated the need for major home rehabilitation.
- 33.33% indicated the need for minor home rehabilitation.
- One resident also included the need for yard care in their open response.

Blight:

- 84.62% indicated vacant residential structures as an issue within the City.
- 69.23% indicated uncut lawns.
- 53.85% indicated vacant commercial structures.
- The following received less than 50% of responses: Squatting, Open Dumping Grounds, and Vacant Lots.

Transportation:

- 58.33% of residents indicated there are not enough service hours for public transit services.

- 33.33% indicated a lack of parking as an issue.
- 16.67% indicated both the cost of service, and no reliable transit as an issue.
- 8.33% indicated unsafe public transit as an issue.

Crime:

- 92.86% indicate that drugs are a problem in the City
- The remaining responses: Violent Crime, Theft, Gangs, Lack of Interaction between police and Residents, received less than 50%.

Fair Housing:

- Responses to whether or not residents are aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns:
 - 57.89% Yes
 - 10.53% No
 - 31.58% Unsure

Reasons Fair Housing Complaints Are Not Reported:

- People don't know how
- People don't want to start conflict
- People are afraid to speak up
- Lack of knowledge of how to report/lack of knowledge of discrimination

The following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

TABLE IV-22 SUMMARY OF CITIZEN COMMENTS

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	21.05%	21.05%	57.89%	0.0%	0.0%
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	20.0%	45.0%	25.0%	10.0%	0.0%



Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	15.0%	30.0%	40.0%	10.0%	5.0%
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	20.0%	25.0%	35.0%	15.0%	5.0%
Lack of fair housing education	15.0%	25.0%	40.0%	10.0%	10.0%
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	10.53%	31.58%	52.63%	0.0%	5.26%
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	15.0%	30.0%	40.0%	10.0%	5.0%
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	15.0%	45.0%	30.0%	10.0%	0.0%
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	15.0%	40.0%	40.0%	5.0%	0.0%
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	25.0%	40.0%	35.0%	00%	0.0%
Other barriers	5.56%	22.22%	66.67%	5.56%	0.0%

Public Meeting on the Draft AI Public Comments

The City of Altoona’s FY 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice was made available for public comment on the City of Altoona’s website (<http://www.altoonapa.gov/>).

The document was available beginning on Friday April 10, 2020. Citizens were encouraged to submit written or oral feedback on the Analysis of Impediments by Wednesday May 6, 2020. The City of Altoona also held a Public Hearing on the “draft” 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments on Wednesday May 6, 2020.

V. Actions and Recommendations

The City of Altoona's FY 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice has identified the following impediments, along with the goals and strategies to address those impediments.

IMPEDIMENT 1: FAIR HOUSING EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

There is a continuing need to educate residents of the community concerning their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act and to raise awareness that all residents of the City of Altoona have a right under Federal Law to fair housing choice.

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 partnerships, 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 and to make reasonable accommodations.
- **1-C:** Continue to affirmatively further fair housing and continue working with Southwestern PA Legal Services to provide fair housing services.

IMPEDIMENT 2: CONTINUING NEED FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The median value and cost to purchase and maintain a single-family home in Altoona that is decent, safe, and sound is \$87,600, which limits the choice of housing for lower income households. About 24.1% of homeowners and 65.7% of renters in the City are cost overburdened by more than 30% of their household income.

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 and renter 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.
- **2-D:** Continue to promote the rental rehabilitation program through outreach to landlords and partnership with the CHDO.

IMPEDIMENT 3: CONTINUING NEED FOR ACCESSIBLE HOUSING UNITS

As an older built-up urban environment with a varied terrain, there is a lack of accessible housing units and developable sites in the City of Altoona, since 74.2% of the City's housing units were built over 50 years ago and do not have accessibility features, and 18.9% of the City's population is classified as disabled.

Goal: Increase the number of accessible housing units through new construction and rehabilitation of existing housing units for people with disabilities and those who are 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 available accessible housing through the rehabilitation of the existing owner occupied housing stock by making accessibility improvements.
- **3-B:** Encourage private and non-profit development of accessible housing through new construction of 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 with disabilities.
- **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: ECONOMIC ISSUES AFFECTING HOUSING CHOICE

The City of Altoona is experiencing a slow but steady decline in population, and companies are unable to fill employment positions due to low pay and an underqualified work force. There is a gap in the type of employment available and the employability of the City's working age population. This prevents low-income households from improving their income and ability to live outside areas with concentrations of low-income households, thus creating a fair housing concern.

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

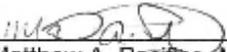
Strategies: In order to meet this goal, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **4-A:** Support and enhance workforce development and technical skills training that result in more opportunities to earn a "livable" wage and increases job opportunities.
- **4-B:** 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.
- **4-C:** Support programming that enhances entrepreneurship and small business development, expansion, and retention within low- and moderate-income areas and minority neighborhoods.
- **4-D:** Promote and encourage economic development with local commercial and industrial firms to expand their operations and increase employment opportunities.
- **4-E:** Explore opportunities for improving public transportation through expansion of existing routes and times, or partnerships with third parties to allow residents to access new employment opportunities.

VI. Certification

Signature Page:

I hereby certify that this FY 2020-2024 Fair Housing Analysis is in compliance with the intent and directives of the Community Development Block Grant Program and HOME Investment Partnerships Program regulations.



Matthew A. Pacifico, Mayor
City of Altoona

05/13/20
Date

VII. Appendix

The following items are included in the appendix:

- A. Appendix A – Agency/Organization Meeting Notes and Additional Consultations
- B. Appendix B – Surveys and Agency Surveys
- C. Appendix C – Citizen Participation

A. Appendix A – Agency/Organization Meeting Notes and Additional Consultations

Attached are summaries of the following meetings:

- Community Development Staff – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 9:00 AM
- AMTRAN – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 10:00 AM
- Public Works Department – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 10:00 AM
- Public Safety – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 11:00 AM
- Meeting with Mayor Matt Pacifico – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 1:30 PM
- Building Codes Department – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 2:30 PM
- Housing Authority – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 2:30 PM
- Healthcare Agencies – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 3:30 PM
- Meeting with Dave Butterbaugh – Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 5:30 PM
- Social Service Providers – Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 8:30 AM
- Redevelopment Authority – Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 10:00 PM
- Housing Agencies – Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 1:30 PM
- Social Services Meeting Two – Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 3:00 PM
- Faith Based Organizations – Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 4:00 PM
- Education Providers – Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 8:30 AM
- Recreation Department – Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 8:30 AM
- Fair Housing Organizations – Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 9:30 AM
- Business & Economic Development Organizations – Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 11:00 AM

List of Organizations, Agencies and Stakeholders to Interview for the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the City of Altoona, PA

ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Key City Staff/Departments			
Department of Planning & Community Development/Redev. Auth.	Lee C. Slusser	(814) 949-2470	lslusser@altoonapa.gov
Public Works	David L. Diedrich, P.E.	(814) 949-2446	ddiedrich@altoonapa.gov
School District	Dr. Charles Prjatelj	(814) 946-8350	cprjatelj@wsdcat.com
City Clerk	Linda M. Rickens	(814) 949-2486	cityclerk@altoonapa.gov
Department of Accounts and Finance	Omar Strohm	(814) 949-2435	ostrohm@altoonapa.gov
Human Resources	Omar P. Strohm	(814) 949-2428	ostrohm@altoonapa.gov
City Solicitor	Larry C. Clapper	(814) 946-4393	lclapper@shscolaw.com
Information Technology	Victor Curfman	(814) 949-2536	vcurfman@altoonapa.gov
AMTRAN (Public Transportation)	Eric Wolf	(814) 944-4074	ericwolf@amtran.org
Altoona Parking Authority	Patrick Miller	(814) 944-6113	patm@abcdcorp.org
Public Safety			
Police Chief	Janice Freshling	(814) 949-2489	jfreshling@altoonapa.gov
Fire Chief	Tim Hilomary/Mike Tofano	(814) 949-2529	thilomary@altoonapa.gov
Elected & Public Officials			
Mayor	Matt Pacifico	(814) 949-2486	council@altoonapa.gov
City Manager	Peter S. Marshall	(814) 949-2408	manager@altoonapa.gov
Housing Agencies/Organizations			
Altoona Housing Authority Board	Robin Beck, Chairperson	(w) (814) 944-0884	rbeck@unitedwayofblaircounty.org
	Robin Beck	(h) (814) 942-6973	rbb@sol.com
Altoona Housing Authority Staff/Section II Pub. Housing	Cheryl Johns, Director	(814) 494-2000	Cheryl.Johns@altoonahousing.org
Assisted Living-Center for Nurse Care Altoona	Chrissy Dambach	(814) 946-2700	cdambach@grane.com
HUD Assisted Housing Providers	Marj Kashella	(814) 946-0603	mkashella@cabiliteridential.com
Housing Counseling Services - Bl. Co Community Action	Ms. Billie Egan	(814) 946-3653	billie.egan@blaircap.org
CHDO - Improved Dwellings for Altoona (IDA)	Michelle Peterson	(814) 944-9466	mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org
CDCs	Michelle Peterson	(814) 944-9466	mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org
Blair Senior Services	Dana Shadle	(814) 946-1235	
Blair Senior Services	Alicia Madden		
Habitat for Humanity	Kathy Spade	(814) 943-3480	hffbc@verizon.net
Altoona Evergreen Mansions, Inc.	Michelle Peterson	(814) 944-9466	mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org
Allegheny Highland Realtors	Dolores Capriotti President	(814) 946-9355	
	Scott Strayer VP	(814) 472-4763	
Home Nursing Agency	Jimmy Hoyer		
Home Nursing Agency	Kelly Williams		
American Rescue Workers	Nicole Davidson		
Homeless Agencies and Providers			
Home Nursing Agency Community Services	Diana Packerch	(814) 943-0414	DPACKERCH@HOMENURSINGAGENCY.com
Blair County Community Action	William Hunter	(814) 946-3653	bill.hunter@blaircap.org
Family Services, Inc.	Lisa Hann	(814) 944-3583	lhann@familyservicesinc.net
Skills of Central PA	Kristen Luciano	(814) 944-4519 x 331	kluciano@skilgroup.org
Altoona Veterans Association	Ginny Vayda	(814) 943-8164	vi@mvavofpa.org
Social Service Agencies			
Home Nursing Agency - Blair County	Diana Packerch	(814) 943-0414	DPACKERCH@HOMENURSINGAGENCY.com
Children and Youth Services - Family Services, Inc.	Lisa Hann	(814) 944-3583	lhann@familyservicesinc.net
Altoona Area Public Library	Jennifer Neilsley	(814) 946-0417 ext. 134	
Blair County Community Action	Sergio Carmona	(814) 946-3653	Sergio.carmona@blaircap.org
Blair County Mental Health- Dept of Social Services	James Hudack	(814) 693-3023	jhudack@blairco.org
Blair County Drug and Alcohol Services	Judy Rosser	(814) 381-0923	jrosser@blaircap.org
Blair County Assistance Office	Christine Lysinger	(814) 946-7113	clysinger@pa.gov
Skills of Central PA	Kristin Luciano	(814) 944-4519 x 331	kluciano@skilgroup.org
Salvation Army	Captains Ashley & Larry Fulmer	(814) 942-8104	ashley.fulmer@usa.salvationarmy.org
Child Advocates of Blair County Child Care	Terry Wasovich	(814) 946-5247 ext 104	twasovich@cabcc-bccs.org
Lilly Pond Child Care Services	Emily Freidhof	(814) 943-8177	efreidhof@lillypondblair.org
Kids First Blair/Lilly Pond	Casey Shoup	(814) 943-8177	cshoup@kidsfirstblair.org
Central Blair Recreation Commission	Mike Hofer	(814) 949-2233	hofer@cbrcparks.org
Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation	Toni Bilk	(814) 949-8838	director@pamf.org
Blair/Clearfield Assoc. for the Blind & Visually Impaired	Gloria Pattie	(814) 944-2023	bcabgloria@verizon.net
Catholic Charities	Beth Dodson	(814) 944-9388	bdodson@diocese.org
Catholic Charities	Michelle Johnston		
Blair Health Choices	Trina Hlg		
Department of Social Services	Cathy Crum		
PA Department of Aging	Beth Gerber		
Fair Housing Organizations			
Fair Housing Advocates - Catholic Charities	Jean Johnstone	(814) 944-9388	jjohnstone@diocese.org
Legal Services - Mid Penn Legal	Diana Ingersoll	(814) 943-8130	dingersoll@midpenn.org
NAACP	Donald Witherspoon	(814) 942-1126	DW1312@yahoo.com
Self-Determination Housing Project of PA Inc.	Howard Ermin	(814) 502-4448	howard@sdhp.org

Center for Independent Living	Marty Dombrowski		mdombrowski@ciispa.org
Center for Independent Living	George Palmer	(814) 949-1905	gpalmer@ciispa.org
Operation Our Town, Inc. (OOT)	Shawna Hoover	(814) 296-8730	OOT@siore.com
Blair County Human Relations	Ron Miller		ronm1944.1@verizon.net
Landlord Association	William Kitt	(814) 695-2138	lraconnects@hcomail.com
Blair/Beford Builders Association	John Degenhardt	(814) 693-9710	info@blairbedfordbuilders.com
Local Housing Option Team (LHOT)	Luann Rabenstein	(814) 693-3046 x1482	lrabenstein@blairco.org
PA Eastern CDC/Local contact	William Hunter	(814) 946-3651	bill.hunter@blaircap.org
Economic Development Agencies			
Chamber of Commerce	Joe Hurd	(814) 945-8151	jhurd@blairchamber.com
Altoona Redevelopment Authority Board	Ron Beatty Secretary/Treasurer	(814) 931-6919	
Altoona Redevelopment Authority Staff	Lee Slusser	(814) 949-2470	slussling@altoonaparc.gov
Altoona and Blair County Development Corporation	Stephen McInight	814-944-6113 ext 1105	stevem@abcokorp.org
Altoona and Blair County Development Corporation	Tom Seanultz	814-944-6113 x 1108	tom@abcokorp.org
Enterprise Zone	Patrick Miller	(814) 944-6113	patm@abcdcorp.org
Job Training- Southern Alleghenies P&D Commission	Susan Whisler	(814) 949-6507	whisler@spdc.org
Greater Altoona Economic Development Corporation	Pat Miller	(814) 942-3925	patm@abcdcorp.org
Appalachian Intermediate Unit 08	Dr. Thomas Butler	(814) 940-0223	tbutler@iu08.org
Local Banks			
Altoona First Savings Bank	Troy Campbell	(814) 945-3411	tcampbell@firstsavingsbank.com
Refiance Bank	Lisa Michelone	(814) 949-6266	lmichelone@refiancebank.com
First Commonwealth Bank	Michele Banks	(814) 943-8790	mbanks@fcbanking.com
First National Bank	Dave Clary	(814) 946-0817	dclary@fnb-corp.com
C&G Savings Bank	Wendy Nagle	(814) 944-2011	wnagle@cgsbonline.com
M&T Bank	Dave Worthing	(814) 946-6633	malbright@mtb.com
Credit Unions:			
ARC Federal Credit Union	Victor Gioiosa	(814) 946-0857	vgioiosa@arcfcu.org
American Pride Credit Union	Ted Glunt	(814) 946-3045	apcu@atlanticbbs.net
Blair County Federal Credit Union	Milly Pincher	(814) 944-2821	apcu@rcu.com
Altoona Area Employees Fed CU	Darci Robison	(814) 942-5431	aaefcu@altoonafcu.com
A B Federal Credit Union	Robin Walls	(814) 944-4025	rwalls@yahoo.com
Altoona Reg Health System FCU	Carol Ann Stevens	(814) 949-3076	carstevens1@verizon.net
Your Choice FCU	Delores Lepore	(814) 946-1293	dlepor@yourchoicefcu.com
Insurance Agents:			
Warren A. Gingrich Agency	Gary Gingrich	(814) 204-2418	gingrich@gingrichinsurance.com
Allstate	Cullen Sheehan	(814) 944-1615	cullen@sheehanallstate.com
Major Employers			
LPMC Altoona	Ron McConnell	814-889-2011	rmcconnell@altoonaregional.org
Shevitz Corporation	Bob Franks		bfranks@shevitz.com
Faith-Based Institutions			
Altoona Bible Church	Linda	(814) 942-2131	altoonabible@altoonabible.org
Cornerstone Fellowship	Pastor Steve Oliveri	(814) 942-4003	stoliveri2005@yahoo.com
Mount Carmel Rectory	Father Frank Scornalenchi	(814) 942-8501	olmc806@aol.com
Abundant Life Assembly of God	Pastor Walt and Lynn Smith	(814) 942-6656	smiththrough@gmail.com
Our Lady of Fatima	Father Zatalava	(814) 943-0371	zatalava@hotmail.com
Sovereign Grace Chr-CENTRAL PA	Tom Kurtz	(814) 949-5940	tomkurtz@sovereigngrace.org
Twenty-Eighth Saint Church Brethren	Pastor Barron K Deffenbaugh	(814) 241-8956	altoonas28stcob@verizon.net
Pleasant Valley Assembly of God	Karen Maher	(814) 944-1948	kmaher@pvag.org
Evangelical Methodist Church	Bradley Raider	(814) 945-8786	
Riggles Gap Bible Church	Riggles Gap BC	(814) 946-3376	rigglesgap@verizon.net
Sacred Heart Formation Center	Msr. Stanley Carson	(814) 943-8553	sacredheart513@verizon.net
St. Mary's Rectory	Msr. Stein	(814) 942-2414	stmaryaltoona@dioceseaj.org
Seventh-Day Adventist Church	Robert Snyder	(814) 945-2658	
Christ Community UMC	Rev. Rebecca L. Holland	814-942-5584	ccumc@outlook.com
Grace Brethren Church	No answer	(814) 942-8861	
Fields of Harvest Fellowship	Hud Crossman	(814) 943-4384	
Simpson Temple United Parish	Patty Jo	(814) 942-0840	simpsontemple@atlanticbbs.net
Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament	Msr. Robert C. Mazur	(814) 944-4603	altocathedral@dioceseaj.org
Hope Community Church	Tammy Gray	(814) 381-7020	tgray@vbaptistcbb.net
Junata United Methodist Church	Pastor Brent Salsgiver	(814) 942-6065	junataumc@atlanticbbs.net
Altoona Restoration Church of God	Pastor Jeff Suhsorny	(814) 941-2773	coq913@atlanticbbs.net
Lighthouse Ministries	Leif Messing	(814) 949-4031	
Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Charles DuPree	(814) 215-4095	chasranduncan@yahoo.com
Eighteenth Street Community Church	Pastor Paul Johnson	(814) 943-3850	
Islamic Center of Altoona		(814) 949-0577	



Healthcare Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Community Development Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Tuesday August 6th, 2019 at 3:30pm

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Jake Cross <i>for Mike Corson</i>	UPMC Altoona	814-889-2223	CorsonM@UPMC.edu
Ron Hodgson	ACNC	814-946-2700	---
Carl Fischer	City of Altoona	814-949-2472	
Dave Jory	YDU	(717) 553-7747	
Dale Haymond	U. D. V.	(412) 461-6916	
Diana Packech	UPMC Behavioral Health	814-943-8114	packechd@upmc.edu



Social Service Agencies and Providers Round Table
 City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 8:30am

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Rhonda Smith	Family Services Inc	814 944 3583	rsmith@familyservicesinc.net
Dennis Wilson	Blair Senior Center	814-685-3500	dwilson@blair-senior.org
Pave Jordan	YDL	717 553-7147	
Jean Johnstone	Catholic Charities	814-944-9388	jjohnstone@diocesegj.org
Mary Johnson	City's OD Staff	814-949-2499	mjohnson@altoonapage.org
Sergio Carrama	BCCAP	814-946-3651	sergiocarrama@blair-caps.org
Judy Rossen	BOAP	814 381 0921	jrossen@blandag.org

Social Service Agencies and Providers Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 8:30am



Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
<i>Carl E. Specker</i>	<i>COA</i>	<i>935-6341</i>	
<i>Walt Hayden</i>	<i>Urban Design/Vision (A12)</i>	<i>461-6916</i>	
<i>Tina Illey</i>	<i>County of Blair</i>	<i>643-3023</i>	



Housing Agencies and Organizations Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 1:30pm

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Michelle Peterson	IDA, Inc.	814-944-9466	mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org
Cheryl Johns	AFAA	814-949-2020	Cheryl.Johns@altoonahousing.org
Dee Jordan	UDV	(717) 553-7747	



Homeless Agencies and Providers Round Table
 City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Community Development Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 3:00pm

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Lisa Hann	Family Services Inc.	814-944-3583	L.hann@family-services-inc.net
April Hileman	Blair County Community Action	814-946-3051	April.Hileman@blaircap.org
Erica Matko	Blair County Community Action	814-946-3051	Erica.Matko@blaircap.org
Jodi Williams	Blair County Community Action	814-946-3051	Jodi.Williams@blaircap.org
Amy Compton	Blair County Community Action	814-946-3051	amy.compton@blaircap.org
Dore Jordan	LPC	(717) 553-7747	

Faith Based Organizations Round Table

City of Altoona, Pennsylvania

2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan

Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor

Wednesday August 7th, 2019 at 4:00pm



Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Barrow K. Deffenbaugh	Twenty-Eighth St Church of the Brethren	814-241-8256	bks@breub@homestead.to
PETER A JOUDRY	THE NEWSPAPER PROJECT	814 201 2096	PAJoudry@aol.com
CRYSTAL BAILES	THE NETWORKING PROJECT	814 201 2096	CRYSTAL@TNPPA.ORG



Education Round Table
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan
 Community Development Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor
 Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 8:30am

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Su Franks	Altoona Area School District	814 946-8207	sfranks@aasdcat.com
Bread Hatch	Altoona Area School District	814-946-2218	bhatch@aasdcat.com



Fair Housing Organizations Round Table

City of Altoona, Pennsylvania

2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan

Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor

Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 9:30am

Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
DONALD WITHEASPEAN	NAACP	814-944-5390	DEW 2312@ypha.org
Marty Dombrowski	Center for Independent Living of South Central PA	814-949-1905	m.dombrowski@cilscca.org
GEORGE MUMER	Center for Independent Living of South Central PA	" "	gmumer@cilscca.org
CASH FISCHER	City of Altoona	814-935-6341	cfischer@altoonapa.gov
Walt Heyland	Urban Design Visions	(412) 461-6916	walt@urbanvisions.com
Mary Johnson	City of Altoona	814-949-2477	mjohnson@altoonapa.gov
Bill Kitt	Central PA Landlords Assn	814-932-4181	bvproperties@hotmail.com

Fair Housing Organizations Round Table

City of Altoona, Pennsylvania

2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan

Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor

Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 9:30am



Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Dave Jordan	MDU	(717) 553-7747	

Business and Economic Development Round Table

City of Altoona, Pennsylvania

2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan

Large Conference Room; City Hall Fourth Floor

Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 11:00am



Name	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Brandon Peters	SAP & DC	814 949 6543	bpeters@sapdc.org
Pat Miller	ABCD Corp GAEDC/Parking Auth.	844-946-6119	patm@abcdcorp.org
Cbe Hurd	Blair County Chamber	(814) 943-8151	jhurdo@blairchamber.com
Duck Martin	Altoona Curve	814-283-3102	dmartin@altoonacurve.com
Carl Fischer	City of Altoona	814-949-2470	cfischer@altoona.pa.gov
Walter Urban	Urban Design Ventures	(412) 461-6916	walt@urban.designventures.com
Frederick	UDV	(717) 552-7747	

**FY 2020 – 2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, 2020 Annual Action Plan
and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
City of Altoona, Pennsylvania
August 6 – 8, 2019**

Transcription of Meeting Minutes – Day One

Community Development Staff – 8/6/19 @ 9:00 a.m. (Mary Johnson & Carl Fischer)

- Good drawdown ratio – 1.05 as of the end of June
- Rehab Program going strong
 - \$25k Loan
 - \$10K Lead Based Paint Grant
- HOME Funds allow the city to do affordable housing
 - Low/mod
 - Elderly
- Working with housing authority

Problems – Needs:

- Curb and walk replacement
- Codes office doesn't push for people to vacate
- Better connection w/Codes & C.D. Department
- Rehab working well w/ Codes
- BSRA System (Computer Software) is working well
- Need more contractors for the Rehab Program
 - 10 rehabs per year
 - 12 this year
- HOME \$ for rental rehab
 - 8 per year plus the CHDO
 - Down to 2 small landlords
 - Will do 50 units this year through C-DD
- Currently funding an accessibility program
 - Rentals
 - Homeowners
 - Blair CAP is doing accessibility up to 11 units to prevent DBRA
- Center for Independent Living
 - 12 houses in 2019
- Pat Obringner – CD Rep from Pittsburgh HUD
 - FY 2019 CDBG Application approved HUD Rep
 - In the system
- Homelessness does not appear to be a problem – visually
 - Not living in the street
- Blair CAP
 - Building a shelter w/ six – 2-bedroom units
 - One stop shop for homeless
 - \$2.8m cost

- FY 2019 CDBG Funds
- Plus 12 beds
- CIL provides rent to landlords for +/- 5 mo.
- UPMC Behavioral Health Services
 - Rental assistance
 - Case management
- Blair CAP managing the COC Program
- City created blight taskforce
 - Housing Alliance facilitated meeting
 - Involved various departments, realtors, business community
 - Discovered a lot of blight in the community
 - Need to upgrade the entrance portals
 - 10 – 15 demolitions per year w/ 2-man crew
 - City does most of the demolitions
 - Board up structures
 - Large structures are contracted out – large brick home
 - Lien the property

amtran – Public Transportation – 8/6/19 @ 10:00 a.m. (Eric Wolf)

- Considered small urban transit system
- Covers central portion of county around Altoona
- More operating \$ from the state than feds
- Used to receive some CDBG
- Leverage 30 to 1 on local funds to other funds
- Receive from general funds
- Hollidaysburg Borough and Logan Township main service area with Altoona

Problems – Needs:

- Opioid crisis and resulting crime
- Poverty
- Shootings have decreased
- Starting to see people communicating to resolve issues
- “Operation Our Time”
 - Corporate leaders committee
 - \$3-4M to address shootings & drugs
 - Related to treatment
- Portage proposal
 - Build a treatment center
 - Had public meeting and it was wanted
- Railroad was major employment center
- Retail is major employment which is being lost
- Community college has increased its footprint at the mall
- Steve McKnight
 - Altoona Blair Economic Development
 - Finding qualified employees
- Not hearing about housing discrimination
- Middle range housing is an issue

- Lots of cheap housing
- Issue of blight
 - Push back of owners to do anything to their properties

Public Works Department – 8/6/19 @ 10:00 a.m. (Jane Gill & Mark Criste)

- Sidewalks & curbs
- Street reconstruction and paving
- Area without storm sewers and drainage
- 4 streams that are in a flood plain
- Nuisance drainage problems
 - Lack of storm sewers in CD8G areas
 - Upcoming 2020 storm sewer project.
 - Got approval from HUD based on city's survey
- Inventory Street annually
 - Projected 5-year plan
 - No problems getting contractors
- Engineering work 50% in house
- EADS is the consulting engineer
- City staff does curbs and walks
- Paving work is in house
- Using \$ for Parks & Rec Dept.
 - Works w/ CD8G & other depts for doing work
- Update the Sec. 504 plan
 - Every time they do an upgrade to a facility
 - Do handicap work
- Takes care of police, parks & City Hall
- Fire Dept does their own building
- 9-13 staff in engineering dept. including electrical and janitors
- Engineering prepares a Capital Improvement list & CD8G list
- Construction season starts in April/May
- Pave in June done by end of June
- May have a small parks project coming up this year
- Question on Beall Ave.
 - State Access Route
 - Not a State Road
 - Applying for a State Motor Grant
- Mary – Sec. 504 Plan updated regularly
- City's Policy & Procedures Manual
 - Mary will provide

Public Safety – 8/6/19 @ 11:00 a.m. (Janice Freehling – Chief of Police & Tim Hileman – Fire Chief)

Police Chief:

- Resurgence of Meth
- Still have Opioid problem
- Not enough treatment centers/providers for the addicted
- Not enough long-term treatment facilities

- Meth problems
 - More violence
 - More crime
- Crimes decreased over the last five-years
- Full complement (66 total)
 - 6 in police academy
 - Was down by 7 in January
- Still does bike patrol
- Community Policing
 - Sargent in charge of program
 - 3 officers
 - 6:00 p.m. tonight – National Night Out
 - Work with non-profit agencies
 - Fire Department
 - At Heritage Plaza

Public Safety Needs:

- Mental Health Issues – not enough facilities
- Domestic Violence – staying about the same
 - Lethality Assessment Program
 - Ask 11 questions
 - Answer yes to three or more
 - A number is provided to call for help
 - Family Services is promoting it
 - Need to train entire department on this
- Don't have a lot of homeless
- Homeless tend to hide
- Many live in cars
- Only one police station – no substations
- County supplies people to stay with Homeless at fire stations during extreme weather

Fire Chief:

- 4 stations
- 1 reserve station/garage w/back-up facility
- Manned 24/7/365
- 85 firefighters
 - All paid
 - Surrounded by volunteer companies
- City goes outside city limits for Technical Assistance and Hazardous aide
- 3 ½ minute response time
- QRS – Quick Response Services
 - Does all basic life support
 - Can be anywhere in the City
- Community Risk Reduction Program
 - Joined the Blair County Drug & Alcohol program
 - Police & Fire do drug prevention & assistance
 - All police and fire carry Narcan
- All firemen are EMT's
 - No problem recruiting

- Problem with retention
- Likely due to cuts in benefits
- Same issue in police dept
- Wage freezes and cuts under Act 47 hurt public safety personnel
- Foresee recruitment problem in the future
- Higher cost of maintenance of fire equipment
- Equipment is very good
- Able to raise funds when the City was under Act 47
- Need to sustain the equipment
- I.S.O. 2 – rating for insurance purposes
- Fire hydrants
 - Excellent
 - 90 psi at most
- City owns the water system
- Water Authority maps in G.I.S. all hydrants
- Can pull on phone app all data on each hydrant
- All firefighters classified FF1, many are FF2
 - 600 hours per year training goal
 - Last year achieved 800 hours
- Had 2 train incidents last year
- Norfolk Southern goes through city not very cooperative
- Fire Chief also Emergency Management Coordinator
 - City set up
 - County now manages
- Lacking broadband access to have vehicles tied to 911 Center
- Probably won't be done for next 5 years
- Police already has good broadband
- Upcoming pilot program w/MSA equipment
- First commercial building fire this year hadn't had one in many years
- Only 1 fire inspector previously
 - 128 inspections up to 700+ inspections per year
 - 1 official inspector
 - 2 overtime inspectors
- 2012 150 working structure fires
- 2019 under 100
- Fire Prevention – JS fire fighting
- Talk to 20,000 students about fire prevention
- Number of caused fires (arson)
 - has not gone down
 - 17 – 19 this year
- Abandoned buildings a problem and homeless living in them
- Emergency demolition program in cooperation with CD Dept
- "Get Out Alive" Program
 - Smoke alarms
 - Fire extinguishers
 - CO detectors

- City-wide
- Income eligible
- Use 10-year lithium batteries

Meeting w/ Mayor – 8/6/19 @ 1:30 p.m. (Matt Pacifico)

Needs:

- Entrance corridors
 - 6th & 7th Avenues
 - 7th & 8th Avenues
 - Entrance portals
 - Sidewalks & Trees
- Housing
 - Market rate & Affordable
 - Accessibility improvements
- Reconstruct Margaret Avenue and Broad
 - URA Project
 - Needs improvement
- Expanding/Redo area onto Margaret & Beall Avenues at 24th St.
- Expansion of downtown
 - Create new district in old industrial area
- Blight is a top priority
- More Multi-modal uses
 - Bike and pedestrian opportunities
 - Incorporate into future road projects
- Park & Rec is in pretty good shape
 - More all ability equipment has been installed
 - Walking trail through City
 - Need a rec plan
 - Going through planning process, starting to do RFP
- City now has a land bank
- Can't weed out the speculators

Code Enforcement – 8/6/19 @ 2:00 p.m. (Rebecca Brown)

- Logantown Area – lower Fairview
 - By the UPMC hospital area
 - Properties in very poor condition
 - Older homes
- 7th & 8th Streets – access to UPMC
- Rental properties increasing
 - Almost 4,000 structures in city are rental
 - 8 – 7,000 units
 - Do have land bank
 - About 50/50 of local & outsiders
 - A number of these units are purchased and flipped
- Parts of Juniata/lower Dutch Hill are getting rough
- 5th Avenue from 12th to 8th – 4 block area to 3rd Avenue by the bakery
- Spotty areas

- The "Hole" behind the Jaffa (Shriners) behind Dawdu's (?)
- Rental registry – yes
 - \$50 per year for each up to 4 units
 - \$15 for additional units
- County repository
 - County takes care of their properties
 - City cites bad property and County boards it up
- Vacant program
 - For all vacant properties
 - \$0 for first year
 - \$,500 per year after
- Workload
 - 65-70% complaint-based code enforcement
 - 4 Code Officers
 - Scheduled weekly sweeps of areas
 - 4-5 hot spots
 - More complaints in the bad areas
- 2 good Magistrates
 - Split by areas of the city
 - 40 hearings per month
 - About 260 open complaints at the magistrates
 - First Thursday of every month
 - Owners live out of town
- Sidewalk problems throughout the City
- Complaints
 - Garbage, gutters sidewalks
- Inspections on rentals but not owner occupied
- Talk to realtors
 - Disclose prior to purchase any outside code violations
- With code violations send out CD pamphlet
- Complaint about eviction not discrimination
- Not hearing anything related to discrimination
- Issue of not reporting due to fear of eviction
- Who handles escrow issues

Healthcare Services – 8/6/19 @ 3:30 p.m. (Janah Cross – UPMC; Ron Hodges – Altoona Center for Nursing Care; Diana Packeck – UPMC Behavior Health)

Ron

- Have 6 residents that need accessible and affordable housing
- 200 bed capacity – 30 rooms – 3 units 2 bedroom, 2/ are single
- Assisted living facility
- 92% capacity most of the time
- Length of stay – unknown
- Program started by Altoona Hospital

Diana

- Owned by UPMC
- Affiliated w/ Hospital for 5 years

- Operates a personal care home
 - Resources, services
 - Mental health services
 - Drug and alcohol services
 - Own and operate a personal care facility
 - Have a housing manager for transitional and supportive housing
 - Need for permanent supported housing
 - Housing for non-elderly
 - 3 buildings for the elderly downtown
 - 2 of 3 are public
 - Run through CDC
 - Primarily for elderly waiting list open couple of times a year for a couple of weeks
 - Have been successful in getting Sec. 8 vouchers for their clients
 - 5 or 6 people on Sec. 8 last year
 - Not refunded for COC funding as of July 1st
 - Do M.H. assessment
 - Come in for a service and get connected to several
 - Works with homeless population or mental health
 - COC Program was a housing first program
 - Last building done by organization had a lot of interest and concerns from area residents when the unit was rehabbed but didn't say no
 - No problems with tenants and has worked out well
 - Need for more personal care homes in the City
 - Would be willing to open up another if \$ were available acquisition and rehab
 - Currently 13 beds in community
 - Have not experienced any discrimination complaints
 - Good relationship with landlords
 - Lead paint is an issue for families with children under 6
 - No longer does its rental assistance program
- Jacob
- Clients have problems finding accessible units
 - Safety issues with defective units
 - Recruiting issues for people moving into the area finding good, sound housing
- Carl
- Nehemiah housing 24 new condo units coming on-line
 - 11 new units in last year
 - Not many new units being built in the City
 - Most new units in Holidaysburg
- Jacob
- Child-care a concern w/ nurses (recruiting)
- Diane
- Transportation issues – buses run every hour
- Jacob
- Need for food pantries/food banks

Meeting w/ City Council - 8/6/19 @ 5:30 p.m. (Dave Butcherbaugh)

- Blight remediation in the City
- Housing repair program – old housing stock
- Senior housing – affordable condos
- Mixed income housing
- Altoona doesn't have siums
- Sidewalks
- Storm Sewers – Margaret Avenue
- Trees – need a street tree program – Dutch Hill area – 8th & 9th Street

Transcription of Meeting Minutes – Day Two

Social Service Meeting 1 – 8/7/19 @ 8:30 a.m. (Blair Senior Services – Dennis Wisur; Catholic Charities – Jean Johnston; Family Services – Rhonda Smith; Blair County Drug & Alcohol Services – Judy Rosser; Blair County Community Action – Sergio Carmona; Blair County – Trina Illy)

Dennis Wisur

- amtran does good transportation service
- Blair Senior Services also provides Shared Ride Monday – Friday
- Saturday service is amtran no Sunday service
- Seeing less senior citizen riders
- 3-5% decrease per year over the last several years
- Paratransit rides 450-500 trips per day to and from
- 20-23 vans
- PennDOT funds
- DHR 30% of funds
- 62% from Lottery funds
- All vehicles purchased through PennDOT funding
- 12-year capital replacement program on vehicles
- Last year 2,700 unduplicated consumers
- Schedule 2 weeks out at least 24 hours in advance
- Avg. cost/mileage based
- MH/MR -\$0-
- Senior up to 3 miles \$1/\$3.40 max. round trip, most pay less than \$2.00
- Have care management drivers
- Referrals 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. – paratransit
- Paratransit 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. general public - mandated off the bus
- Can't do restricted contracts during regular hours/only in the evenings
- Problem – flat funded for years

Jean Johnston

- 8 county service area – Altoona office serves 4 counties
- 8:30 to 4:30 daily
- Private funded
- PHARE Funds
- Some grants
- \$70-80,000 for housing & rental payments 3-4 times more in requests
- Avg. \$300/case, generally \$50 – 300 in assistance

- They are last resort for services
- Seniors are a big need
- People on fixed income -- not enough affordable housing
- \$500 - \$600 cost of apts. Not affordable
- No domestic violence shelter
- Can't find housing for criminal offenders
- Referrals for fair housing to legal services
- Has come across fair housing issue "rent for sex"
- The city has a substantial number of landlords
- Tenants don't know what to do in "Withholding Rent", really no process for escrowing rent

Trina Illy

- Grants Coordinator for Blair County
- CDBG Admin for the County
- County is Admin for ESG funds
- Also has applied for State HOME funds
- Was awarded a lead abatement program grant
- Receives PHARE funds from Marcellus Shale

Rhonda Smith

- Counseling programs for victims of domestic violence
- 2 intervention staff
- 16 bed shelter, 160 people assisted – men, women & children
- Need to build new family shelter – 35 bed facility – 6 units on 2nd floor for 12 persons
- 300 persons will be provided in a year
- Largest program is Intellectual Disabilities Program
- Community Rehabilitation Program
- 10 group homes in the county
- Drop-in Shelter for Children at a teen center
 - 12 – 17 age group assisted
- Victims Services
 - +/- 300 open cases at any time
- Victims of domestic Violence Program
 - PA Victims of Crimes Funds
 - Legal Aid
 - Mobile Advocacy
 - Civil Protection Orders (PFAs) – last week 10 PFAs
- Sexual Advocacy & Domestic Violence
 - DV Shelter is not what it was, model is changing
 - PFA process goal to keep victims in their own homes and get perpetrator out
 - Strict confidentiality goal of program
 - Try to place victims in homes of relatives
 - Trying to break the cycle of violence
 - Peer to Peer group – Batters Program
 - Possible use HOME for rental units @ new shelter
- Serve about 4,000 persons per year
- Purchased 2 buildings in July

Judy Rosser

- Planning & Implementation for folks in recovery
- Serves person coming out of jail
- Housing for ex-offenders
- Transportation need
- Couch surfing, half-way houses, recovery housing, monitoring recovery housing
- State has issued new regulations on recovery houses – will send link
- 40% of the persons served are City residents
- Need a stable housing situation to prevent relapse
- Employment issues
- Trying to provide additional structure
- Some issues with zoning particularly related to recovery houses
- Adoption of recovery regs in zoning ordinance
- Generally 4-5 persons per house

Sergio Carmona

- 20 contracts w/state in Blair & Cambria Counties
- 9 counties served – Center to Adams to Somerset
- Serves veterans also working with Lawrence Community Action
- Homeless prevention services – main focus
- Operates a large weatherization program
 - 220 units this past year
 - Furnace replacement - \$750,000
- Rental assistance - \$30 - \$40,000/month
- \$10 - \$20,000 per week for moving, rental payments, utilities
- 50-60 call per day
- Using the HUD coordinated entry system
- State agencies are switching to system also
- Housing Insecure definition more flexibility
 - Will allow couch surfers or those with eviction notice to receive assistance
- Op-oid use – program to assist
 - May allow those addicted to stay in treatment longer
- intensive case management for clients w/ long term assistance
- Affordable housing is disappearing

Needs

- Better transportation
- Affordable housing
- Employment
- Resources for chronic homeless
- County & City jail
- The COC local rep is Sergio
- Do January P.I.T. count
- Notable increase in numbers
 - No longer 1st come 1st served now most needy
- Abuses of Fair Housing
 - Don't get the rent in writing
 - Verbal contracts
- 2 great food banks in the City

- Community Action provides the Back-Pack program
 - 700 – 800 back packs a week
- Food Insecurity
 - Dollar General sells food
 - Not inexpensive or always healthy
- Blair Senior Services does Meals on Wheels
 - 2,500 meals per week
- Why not set-up a HDC to develop new family and affordable housing

Redevelopment Authority – 8/7/19 @ 10:00 a.m. (City of Altoona – Lee Slusser, Mayor Matt Pacifico; ABC Development Corp. – Stephen McKnight)

Loc

- Redevelopment Area Plan to repurpose area adjacent to downtown
- Feasibility
- Repurpose of old hospital – “Grey Stone”
- \$15m investment in tech site
- Mixed use – office/commercial/ high end residential
- Trying to develop an intermodal facility and transit stop
- ABC-DC paid for an appraisal but owners wouldn’t accept
- Construction of 27 new townhomes by the project area
- Silk Mill property
- Mayor envisions it as Strip District in PGH
- Bridge the gap between the downtown and what is being developed
- Occupied
 - Smoke shop
 - Pharmacy
- Discussion of Redevelopment Area Plan
- Certification of an overall plan
- NS – Norfolk Southern
- Can eminent domain be used on railroad property
- Economic Development
 - Need townhomes \$185-\$250,000
 - 24-27 townhomes 6th & 7th Avenue & 24th & 25th Street
 - Elizabeth Apts. 27 units
 - \$850 off.
 - \$1,100 1 bed
 - \$1,495 top floor
 - 13 units in the Mill – same price point

Housing Agencies – 8/7/19 @ 1:30 p.m. (Altoona Housing Authority (AHA) - Cheryl Johns; Improved Dwellings of Altoona (IDA) – Michelle Peterson)

Public Housing

- 536 Public Housing Units
- 974 Section 8 Vouchers
- 27 VASH
- 0 Reunification
- Mainstream for Disabled Vouchers – applying for

- 5% of all units are 504 compliant per regulations
- Pay exception rents when landlord does accessible units
- Does an annual landlord workshop
- 120 landlords attend Section 8 Program
- Waiting list open twice a year
- 374 on Section 8 wait list
- 100 on PH wait list
- 98% occupancy rates
- Elderly
 - 55 years old or
 - Disabled
- Preferences
 - Working family
 - Veterans
 - Residency
 - Homeless

Improved Dwellings of Altoona

- 600 units in Altoona
- 400 in the 4 counties
- 98-99% occupied
- In business 50 years
- 501 (c) 4 also a CHDO
- Mainly rehab some new construction

Housing Authority applying for Mainstream vouchers for the disabled

Transportation issues

Limited Life Skills of low and very low-income households

- Housekeeping, parenting, etc.

Social services coordinator at the Evergreen Project 159 1 to 4 bedroom

Housing Authority – family units

Blair Towers – elderly units

- has an active resident council
- age 62+
- any disability

Public Housing 84 in Family Self Sufficiency from both public housing and Section 8

No project based Section 8

No Housing Development Corporation

Low crime rate in the public housing communities

Has a resident police officer living at Fairview Apts

136/176 at hotel across from city hall

- a number are section 8

Getting ready to expand to scattered site PH units received HOME Choice Units

Interim City Manager – 8/7/19 @ 3:00 p.m. (City of Altoona – Peter Marshal)

- 3rd Class City – property taxes
- 50 years no reassessment
- 15 years at its cap
- Became a home rule community

- \$450m to \$1b tax assessment
- City took back its water authority
- Sewers and infrastructure were let go for 15 years
- 20 years to catch up on infrastructure

Social Service Meeting 2 – 8/7/19 @ 3:00 p.m. (Family Services – Lisa Hann; Blair County Community Action – April Hileman, Erica Matko, Jodi Williams, Amy Compton)

Lisa

- Affordable, decent housing
- Tenancy background has been on family member with accessibility

April

- \$523 one-bedroom FMR
- Past history is still a major issue
- Prison system – local jail and release
- Water & sewer deposits where landlords are charging
- Each person over 18 must pay application fee
- Substance abuse it's are increasing
- People with mental health disorders
- Used to be chronic homeless – seeing more families
- CAA does limit amount of assistance
- Assistance from other agencies will add to the limit amount
- People are coming back more often
- A lot of young families for eviction
- Smallest group is elderly homeless
- Do see youth
- Community has a program for 18-25 year-old youth

Faith Based Organizations – 8/7/19 @ 4:00 p.m. (Twenty-Fifth Street Church of the Brethren – Barron Deffenbaugh; The Nehemiah Project – Peter Joudry, Crystal Balios)

Barron

- Problems/Issues
 - Accessibility issues and affordability
 - Handicap accessibility

Crystal

- Lifelong resident
- Storm drainage poor, clogged
- Maintenance of property
- Trash
- Prospect pool is not accessible
- Problem w/ fed regs on housing and services for former felony offenses
- Nehemiah School
 - Need more activities for children
- Nehemiah Project built playground at 16th St. and 10th Avenue
- Paying over \$900/month for the water consumption
 - 3" line
 - Capacity not consumption being billed

- Paying for water on playground that doesn't have use of water
- City has removed houses in the neighborhood
 - Would like to develop housing in the neighborhood
- Problem of landlords not taking care of their properties
- Problem with "anti-skid" on roads left from winter
- Nehemiah lunch program was serving 50-60 kids now down to 25

Barron

- Church serves 800 families/month in the pantry
- Seeking ways (cooperation!) for partnerships with political parties and faith-based organizations

Crystal

- Hope Center pantry is open 3 nights per week

Transcription of Meeting Minutes – Day Three

Education – 8/8/19 @ 8:30 a.m. (Altoona School District – Brad Hatch & Susan Franks)

- 21% Special Ed students to age 21 w/ diploma
- 10-12% don't graduate w/their cohorts
- 89% graduate w/cohorts
- Mainstreamed – only a small group in a sheltered setting
- GED testing – multiple testing throughout the year
- Future Reading Index
 - 8 elementary standards
 - 2 secondary standards
 - ATSI designation w/state
 - Have a mentoring program
 - Academic
 - Attendance
- 8.5% African American
- 1.9% Hispanic
- 0.7% Asian
- 88% white
- No charter schools
- 2 magnet schools
- Cyber school operated by school district
- In house local program for troubled youth
- Total enrollment +/- 7,600 students
- College & career readiness – train students for the future
- Increasing the STEM education fields
- C.T.C. program for vocational training
- Eric Palmer, C.T.C. Executive Director
- Free to students – School District pays
- 56-58% on free & reduced lunch
- At risk population of students is growing
- Not a lot of drugs in schools
- Increase in marijuana use

- Increase in vaping and e-cigarettes
- Not seeing a lot of meth in schools
- Limited English
 - Not a lot of Hispanic
 - Influx of Arabic speaking & Asian
 - 30 to 35 students
- School doesn't have a literacy program
- Hired former community police officer

Recreation Department – 8/8/19 @ 8:30 a.m. (Mike Hofer)

- 3 entities
 - City
 - Township
 - School District
- 2 funding sources & fair support
- Have received CDBG and used it quite extensively
- Prospect Pool
 - Access to bathhouse is problem
 - Do have a lift chair
 - Could be substantial improvement due to topo
 - Bathhouse is accessible inside
- Do use school district pool as well as 3 other private pools
- 2 community centers
 - Both built in the 70's
 - Both are accessible
 - Restrooms are not
 - +/- \$75,000 per building to make accessible
- Parks are in pretty good shape generally do upgrades every year
- * Finding lifeguards has become a problem
- ADA accessibility is biggest priority
 - Topo is major factor
- Have a source for scholarships
 - CDBG was source
 - Could be beneficial if brought back
- Blight issue in community particularly in center part of city
- Occasionally have folks spending the night in parks but not to great extent
- Camp at Garfield & Prospect Parks
- Vandalism in parks has significantly gone down
- Last 5 years +/- 10 new parks

Fair Housing Organizations – 8/8/19 @ 9:30 a.m. (NAACP – Don Witherspoon; C.I.L. – George Palmer, Marty Dombrowski; Landlord Association – William Kitt; SWPAFH – Jamie Milligan)

Don

- President of NAACP for Blair County
- Evergreen Manor & Fairview Hills
- City planning -- Fair & equal treatment
- Over the years number of complaints

- Education is still needed
- Ramps in zoning ordinance are a special exception

George

- Serve people with disabilities
- They are "invisible"
- Need to build "new" hard to rehab to make homes accessible
- Will provide data on numbers
- SSDI - \$700 - \$800 per month

Marty

- Her background is education
- A lot of their clients do not have jobs
- Provide
 - Exercise
 - Support groups
 - Nurturing
 - Sign language, etc.
 - Community garden
 - Program called "Thursdays" when most clients come in includes a meal
 - Fellowship is big
- Federally funded center
 - 5 core areas
 - Free services
 - Hunger is a main "pain point"
 - 260 consumers case load
 - 100 clients through the office per month
- Para Transit
 - Covers 7 counties in South-Central PA
 - Positive experience w/Paratransit and amtran
 - Evenings and weekends are a problem
 - Service best in the City

Bill

- Represents the landlords
 - 160 members
 - +/- 2,000 properties
 - Covers large area including State College & Johnstown
 - Police illegal student housing
- Issue of rehab cost for accessibility vs renting to non-handicapped
- Caliber of landlords
 - Have a landlords workshop in the fall
 - Willing to be conduit to address issues with landlords
 - Sponsor a program w/ city on college rentals and illegal rentals
- Sits on "Our Town" committee meetings
- Developed a resource book
- Works to educate landlords
- Also involved with state association

Marty

- C.I.L. doesn't own or manage any housing

- Trying to place 3 or 4 individuals in a good residence
- Partnerships could be formed

ee – City

- A.i.
 - Need to look at families & group homes
 - Recovery houses & Half-way houses
 - Ramps by special exception can be built within the setbacks
 - Need for ramps increasing daily

DGJ

- Where are housing discrimination complaints filed
- Escrow of rent – Bill has never experienced putting rent in escrow
- Legal process

Jaimie

- Need to do more outreach on where to report a fair housing complaint

Bill

- Monthly training & yearly conference of Landlords
- Average rent w/o utilities \$500 - \$600/month

Business & Economic Development Organizations – 8/8/19 @ 11:00 a.m. (Chamber of Commerce – Joe Hurd; Altoona and Blair County Economic Development Corporation (ABCD) – Pat Miller; Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAPDC) – Brandon Peters; Altoona Curve – Derek Martin)

Pat

- Business & economic development organization
 - Work with Sheetz, Penn State Econ. Dev.
- Marketing for potential clients
- Grantsmanship
- Coordinate job training opportunities
- * Manage small revolving loan fund for upper floor residential development
- Unmet need
 - Access to capital for development
 - Managed a revolving loan fund in the past from CDBG funds
 - End due to complexity of program requirements
- Infrastructure in pretty good shape and city is doing a lot of upgrades
- Need more downtown parking
 - \$46/month surface lot
 - \$51/month garage
- Section 108 loans
- Land becoming a premium
- New development to increase space in downtown
- Blight problem spreading
- Need for more affordable housing and market rate housing
- Workforce development
 - City unemployment below state average
 - Population is slowly declining
 - May turn around but still need employees
 - Companies have openings and can't fill with workers

- There are employment opportunities
- People come to Altoona from surrounding counties

- Slight removal

Brandon

- Serve business, non-profits and municipalities
- Division of business development w/ an international trade association
- Marketing for small business
- Small business development
 - Ben Franklin grants, etc.
- Work w/ municipalities and offer grantsmanship
- Training for municipalities
- Job training programs to build technical expertise
- Serve 6 counties
- Located in Blair County
- Paid internship program
- Companies can't fill positions
- Some companies are dropping drug testing
- Potential issue of training people and then they leave the area

Derek

- AA baseball
- Second smallest market in AA league
- 2023 collective bargaining is up
- MLB team wants housing for 6 months for players
- 21 years in business
- Workforce
 - 25 full time
 - 150 game day
 - 70 home game schedule
 - Most full-time staff comes from out of state
 - Struggle with Millennials and work ethic
 - Cost of living is low
 - Long hours and low pay
 - \$28k starting salary
 - 290k to 315k yearly attendance
 - Stadium is owned by County
 - Ground is owned by another entity
 - Affordable family entertainment
- Ballpark Improvement Fund
 - Team was required to pay for all improvements
 - County redirected some of "bed tax" to pay loan on improvements
 - \$1.5m in improvements

Joe

- 1,000 to 1,100 businesses w/ 46,000 employees
- Mainly Blair County organizations
- One of largest chambers in the state
- May establish a PAC
- Advocates recruitment of businesses

- Works closely with Explore Altoona on Travel & recruitment
- Works with ABCD Corp. & SAPDC
- Heavy involvement with Hospitality & entertainment
- Strong Transportation committee
- Works with school districts
- B.A.S.I.C.S. for school students
- Youth Programs
 - Young Entrepreneurs
 - Career fair for 8th graders and high school seniors
 - Career technology program at schools has been very good
 - Leadership Blair County and similar program for high schoolers
 - Entrepreneurship program for high schoolers
- Workforce Development biggest need
 - Worked with U.S. Chamber to develop some programs
 - Workforce development is key

B. Appendix B – Surveys and Agency Surveys

Attached are copies and summaries of the following surveys:

- Resident Survey
- Agency Survey

Disabled Childhood Development Other _____

14. Are there any programs or services that are missing or under-funded in the City? Please list:

15. Are there any employment issues in the City of Altoona? (Choose all that apply):

Lack of Job Opportunities Discriminatory Practices Job Training Legal Transportation

Disabled Childhood Development Other _____

16. Are there any transportation issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all applicable boxes:

No Reliable Public Transit Not Enough Service Hours Cost of Service Unsafe Public Transit

Lack of Parking Other _____

17. Are there any crime issues in the City of Altoona? Please check all applicable boxes:

Theft Drugs Violent Crime Gangs Lack of Interaction Between Police and Residents

Other _____

18. Are there any blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City? (Choose all that apply):

Vacant Commercial Structures Vacant Residential Structures Open Dumping Grounds

Uncut Lawns Vacant Lots Squatting Other _____

Fair Housing concerns/impediments include any act of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

19. In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns? Yes No Unsure

20. What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

21. Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/ Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of fair housing education	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	<input type="checkbox"/>				
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Other barriers	<input type="checkbox"/>				

22. Are there any additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

(Turn Over to Complete)

Q1 What is the name of the street and ZIP Code where you live?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Street Name:		100.00%	20
ZIP Code:		95.00%	19

#	STREET NAME:	DATE
1	8th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:30 AM
2	13th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:28 AM
3	Pine Avenue	1/21/2020 9:26 AM
4	5th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:25 AM
5	14th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:24 AM
6	19th street	1/21/2020 9:21 AM
7	Pine	1/21/2020 9:19 AM
8	Beale Avenue	1/21/2020 9:17 AM
9	4th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:14 AM
10	Broad Street	1/21/2020 9:12 AM
11	5th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:11 AM
12	8th avenue	1/21/2020 9:09 AM
13	6th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:07 AM
14	5th avenue	1/21/2020 9:05 AM
15	6th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:04 AM
16	6th avenue	1/21/2020 9:02 AM
17	5th Avenue	1/21/2020 9:00 AM
18	6th Avenue	1/21/2020 8:58 AM
19	4th Avenue	1/21/2020 8:56 AM
20	16th	8/1/2019 10:22 AM

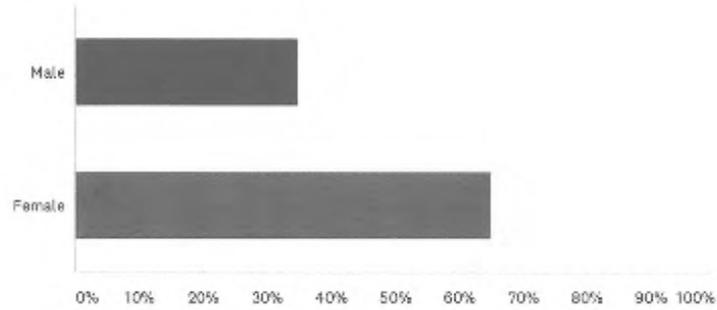
City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

#	ZIP CODE:	DATE
1	16802	1/21/2020 9:30 AM
2	16801	1/21/2020 9:26 AM
3	16801	1/21/2020 9:25 AM
4	16801	1/21/2020 9:24 AM
5	16801	1/21/2020 9:21 AM
6	16802	1/21/2020 9:19 AM
7	16801	1/21/2020 9:17 AM
8	16802	1/21/2020 9:14 AM
9	16801	1/21/2020 9:12 AM
10	16801	1/21/2020 9:11 AM
11	16802	1/21/2020 9:09 AM
12	16802	1/21/2020 9:07 AM
13	16802	1/21/2020 9:05 AM
14	16802	1/21/2020 9:04 AM
15	16802	1/21/2020 9:02 AM
16	16802	1/21/2020 9:00 AM
17	16802	1/21/2020 8:58 AM
18	16802	1/21/2020 8:55 AM
19	16801	8/1/2019 10:22 AM

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q2 Gender

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0

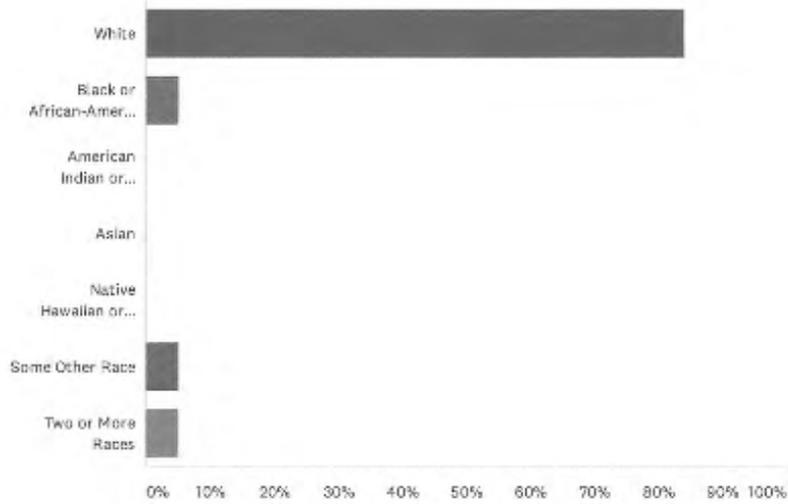


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	35.00%	7
Female	65.00%	13
TOTAL		20

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q3 Race

Answered: 19 Skipped: 1

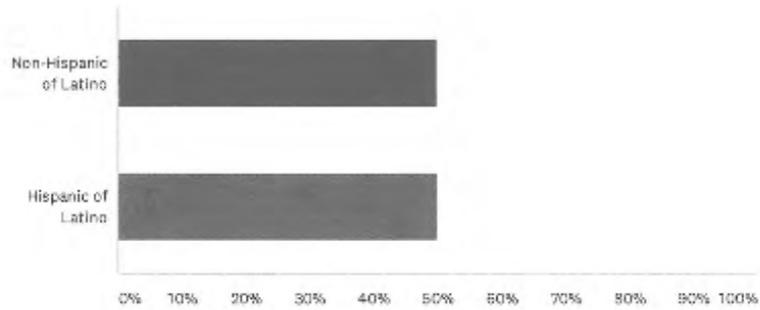


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White	84.21%	16
Black or African-American	5.26%	1
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.00%	0
Asian	0.00%	0
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Some Other Race	5.26%	1
Two or More Races	5.26%	1
Total Respondents: 19		

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q4 Ethnicity:

Answered: 2 Skipped: 18

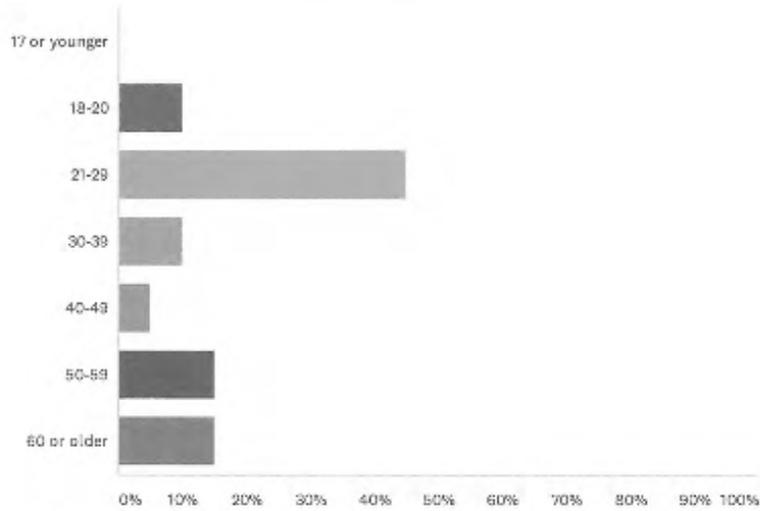


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Non-Hispanic of Latino	50.00%	1
Hispanic of Latino	50.00%	1
Total Respondents: 2		

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q5 Age

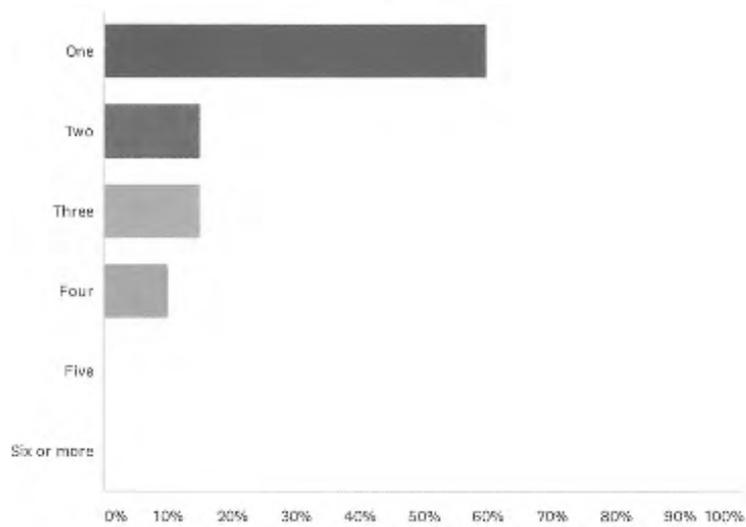
Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18-20	10.00%	2
21-29	45.00%	9
30-39	10.00%	2
40-49	5.00%	1
50-59	15.00%	3
60 or older	15.00%	3
TOTAL		20

Q6 Number of persons living in your household?

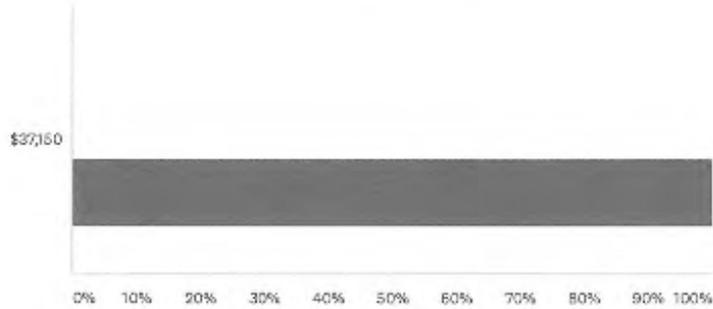
Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
One	60.00%	12
Two	15.00%	3
Three	15.00%	3
Four	10.00%	2
Five	0.00%	0
Six or more	0.00%	0
TOTAL		20

Q7 If you are a one (1) person household, is your total household income above or below \$37,150 per year?

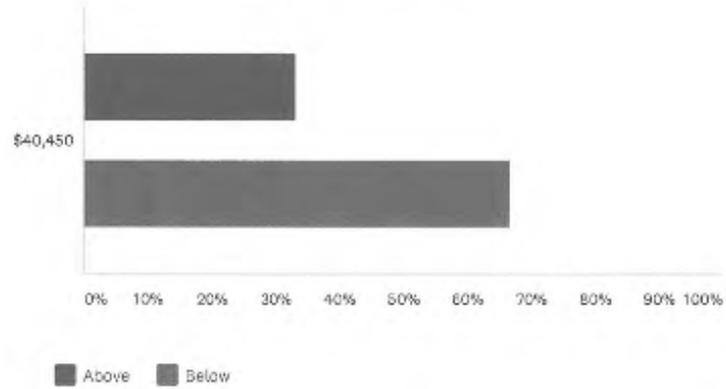
Answered: 9 Skipped: 11



	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$37,150	0.00%	100.00%	
	0	9	9

Q8 If you are a two (2) person household, is your total household income above or below \$40,450 per year?

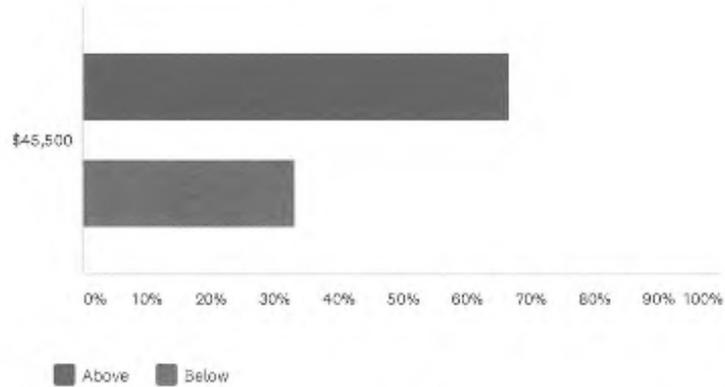
Answered: 3 Skipped: 17



	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$40,450	33.33%	66.67%	
	1	2	3

Q9 If you are a three (3) person household, is your total household income above or below \$45,500 per year?

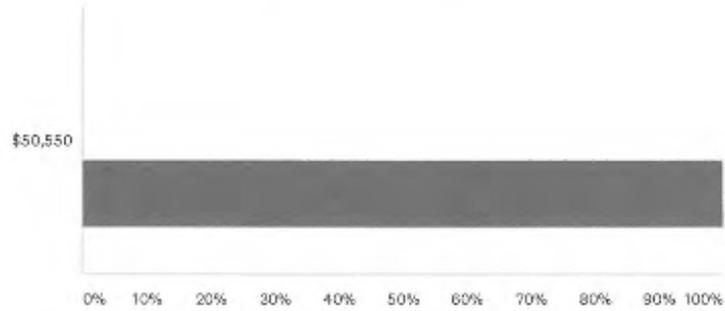
Answered: 3 Skipped: 17



	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$45,500	66.67%	33.33%	
	2	1	3

Q10 If you are a four (4) person household, is your total household income above or below \$50,550 per year?

Answered: 2 Skipped: 18



■ Above ■ Below

	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$50,550	0.00%	100.00%	
	0	2	2

Q11 If you are a five (5) person household, is your total household income above or below \$54,600 per year?

Answered: 0 Skipped: 20

 No matching responses.

	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$54,600	0.00%	0.00%	0
	0	0	0

Q12 If you are a six (6) person household, is your total household income above or below \$58,650 per year?

Answered: 0 Skipped: 50

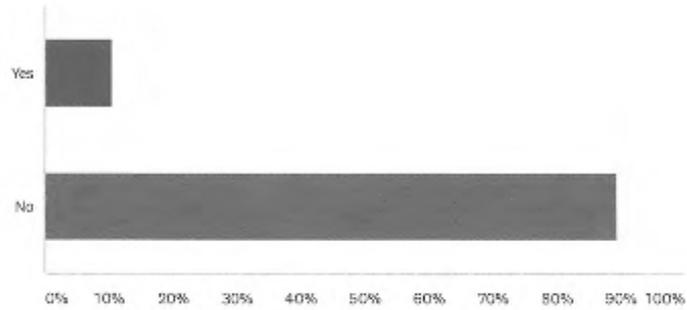
 No matching responses.

	ABOVE	BELOW	TOTAL
\$58,650	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q13 Are you a homeowner?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 1

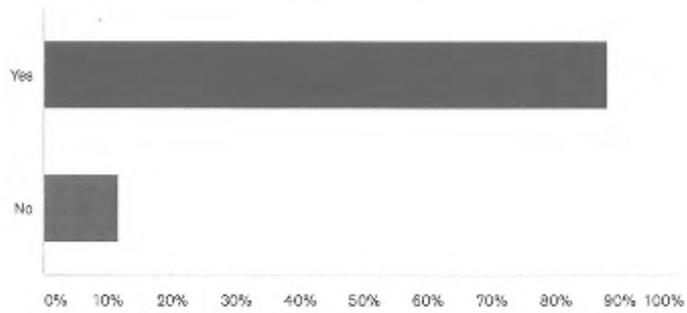


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	10.53%	2
No	89.47%	17
TOTAL		19

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q14 Are you a renter?

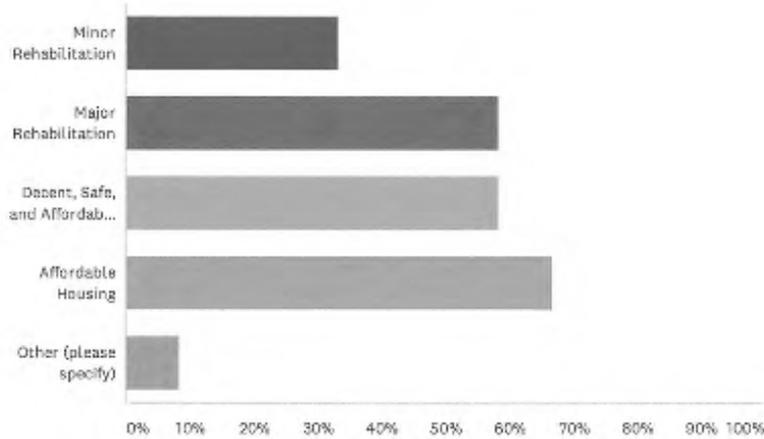
Answered: 17 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	88.24%	15
No	11.76%	2
TOTAL		17

Q15 Housing conditions in the City of Altoona require: (please check all applicable boxes)

Answered: 12 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Minor Rehabilitation	33.33%	4
Major Rehabilitation	58.33%	7
Decent, Safe, and Affordable Rental Units	58.33%	7
Affordable Housing	66.67%	8
Other (please specify)	8.33%	1
Total Respondents: 12		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	yard care	1/21/2020 9:22 AM

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q16 Are there any other housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:

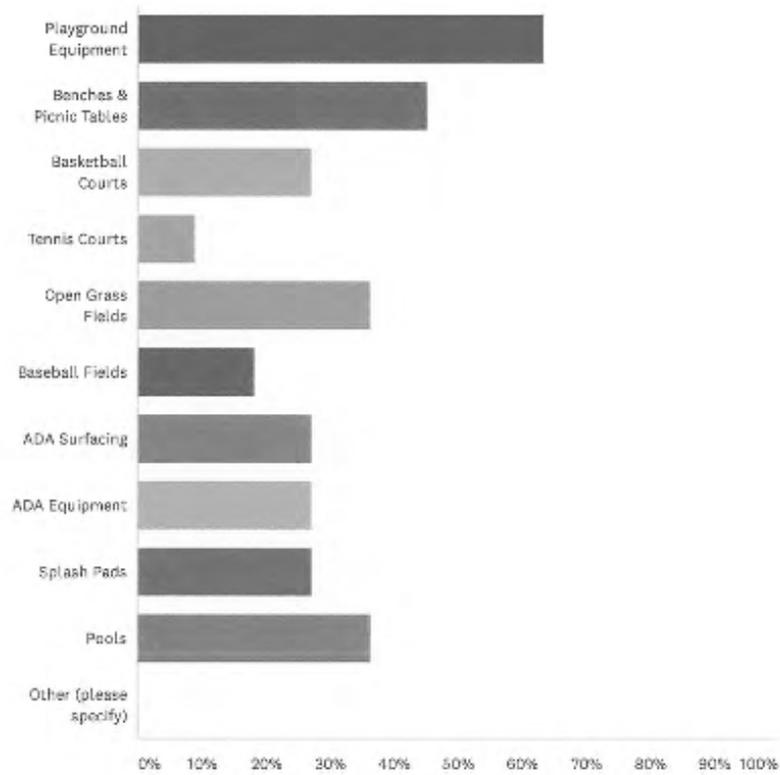
Answered: 2 Skipped: 18

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Lack of affordable rentals	1/21/2020 9:15 AM
2	It is difficult to find housing for individuals who are not senior citizens.	8/1/2019 10:28 AM

non-senior housing

Q17 Are there any needs or improvements to recreational facilities that you would like to see? (Please check all applicable boxes):

Answered: 11 Skipped: 9



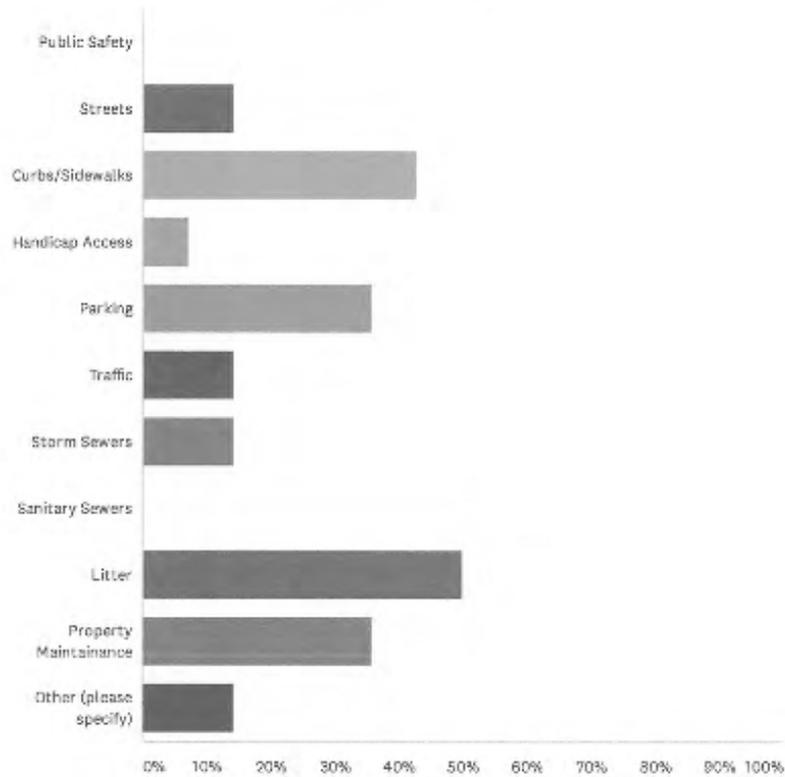
City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Playground Equipment	63.64%	7
Benches & Picnic Tables	45.45%	5
Basketball Courts	27.27%	3
Tennis Courts	9.09%	1
Open Grass Fields	36.36%	4
Baseball Fields	18.18%	2
ADA Surfacing	27.27%	3
ADA Equipment	27.27%	3
Splash Pads	27.27%	3
Pools	36.36%	4
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 11		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q18 Are there any problems in your neighborhood with the following? (Choose all that apply):

Answered: 14 Skipped: 6



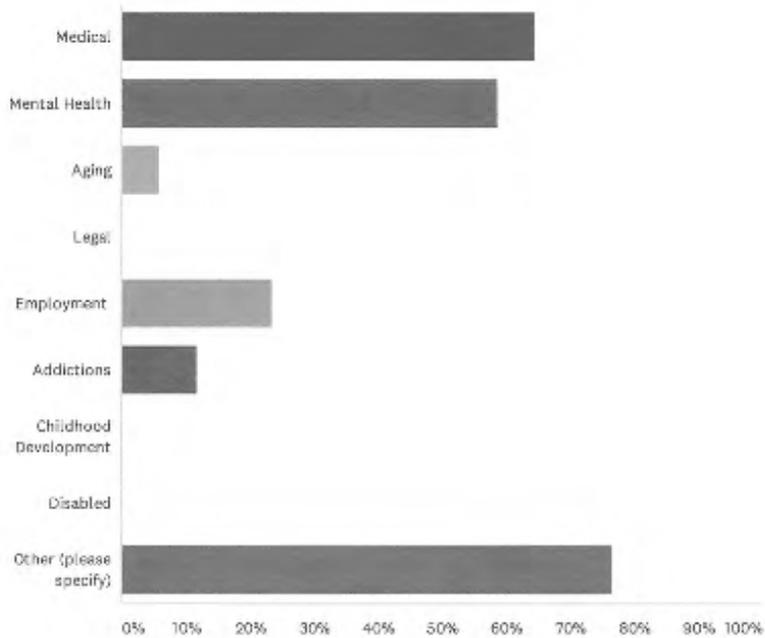
City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Public Safety	0.00%	0
Streets	14.29%	2
Curbs/Sidewalks	42.86%	6
Handicap Access	7.14%	1
Parking	35.71%	5
Traffic	14.29%	2
Storm Sewers	14.29%	2
Sanitary Sewers	0.00%	0
Liter	50.00%	7
Property Maintenance	35.71%	5
Other (please specify)	14.29%	2
Total Responses: 14		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Street lights that turn off when they shouldnt	1/21/2020 9:20 AM
2	Rats	1/21/2020 9:11 AM

**Q19 Do you use any of the social service programs available in the City?
(Choose all that apply):**

Answered: 17 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Medical	64.71%	11
Mental Health	58.82%	10
Aging	5.88%	1
Legal	0.00%	0
Employment	23.53%	4
Addictions	11.76%	2
Childhood Development	0.00%	0
Disabled	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	76.47%	13
Total Respondents: 17		

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:30 AM
2	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:28 AM
3	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:25 AM
4	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:22 AM
5	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:20 AM
6	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:13 AM
7	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:00 AM
8	Homeless	1/21/2020 8:59 AM
9	Homeless	1/21/2020 8:58 AM
10	Homeless	1/21/2020 8:54 AM
11	Homeless	1/21/2020 8:52 AM
12	Homeless	1/21/2020 8:50 AM
13	Homeless	1/21/2020 8:57 AM

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

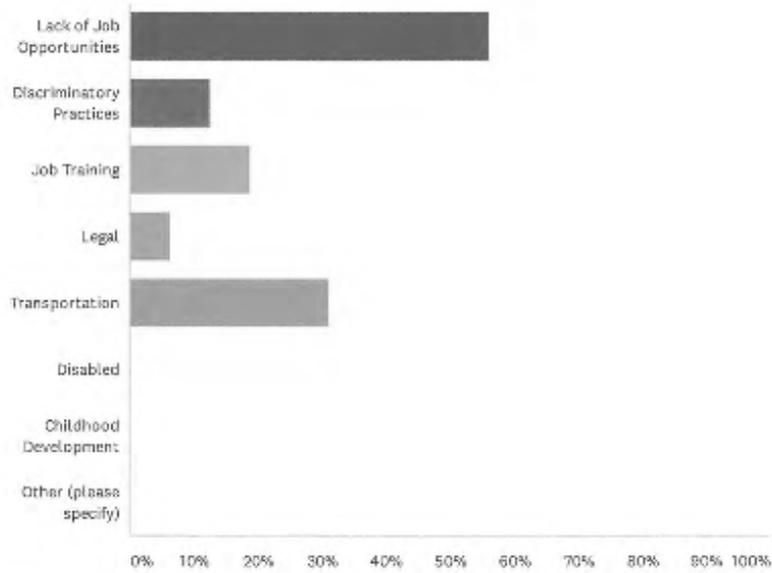
Q20 Are there any programs or services that are missing or under-funded in the City? Please list:

Answered: 4 Skipped: 17

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Homeless Shelter	1/21/2020 9:30 AM
2	Mental Health Services Affordable Housing	1/21/2020 9:06 AM
3	WIC Agency	1/21/2020 9:02 AM

Q21 Are there any employment issues in the City of Altoona? (Choose all that apply)

Answered: 16 Skipped: 4

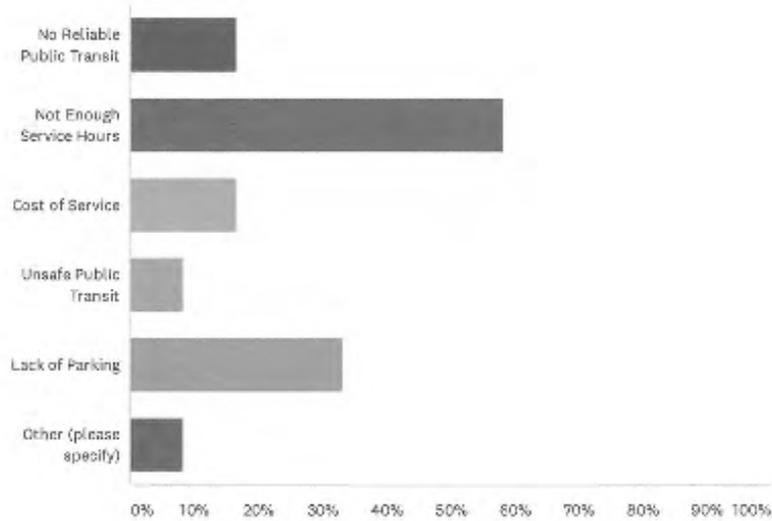


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lack of Job Opportunities	56.25%	9
Discriminatory Practices	12.50%	2
Job Training	18.75%	3
Legal	6.25%	1
Transportation	31.25%	5
Disabled	0.00%	0
Childhood Development	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 16		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q22 Are there any transportation issues in the City of Altoona?

Answered: 12 Skipped: 8

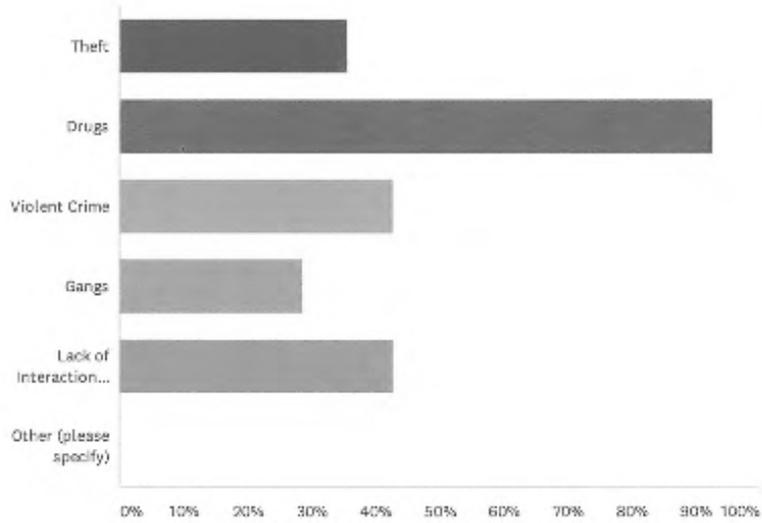


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No Reliable Public Transit	16.67%	2
Not Enough Service Hours	58.33%	7
Cost of Service	16.67%	2
Unsafe Public Transit	8.33%	1
Lack of Parking	33.33%	4
Other (please specify)	8.33%	1
Total Respondents: 12		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Nothing available on Sundays	1/21/2020 9:27 AM

Q23 Are there any crime issues in the City of Altoona?

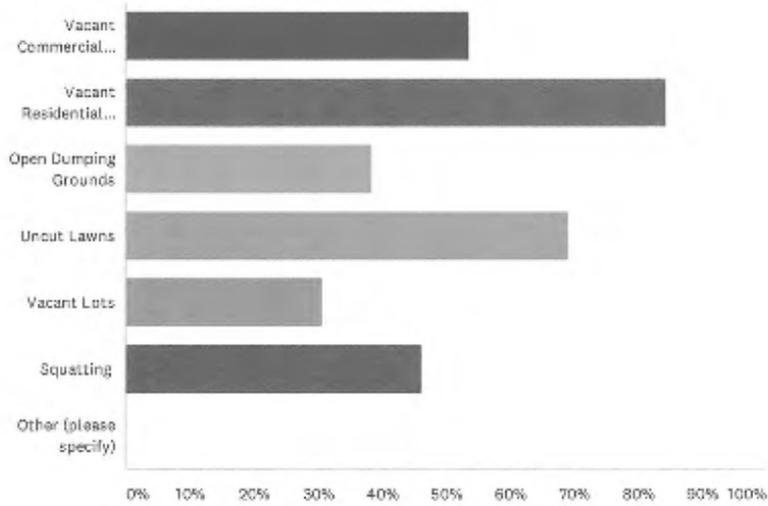
Answered: 14 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Theft	35.71%	5
Drugs	92.86%	13
Violent Crime	42.86%	6
Gangs	28.57%	4
Lack of Interaction Between Police and Residents	42.86%	6
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 14		
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

**Q24 Are there any blight (clearance/demolitions) issues in the City?
(Choose all that apply):**

Answered: 13 Skipped: 7

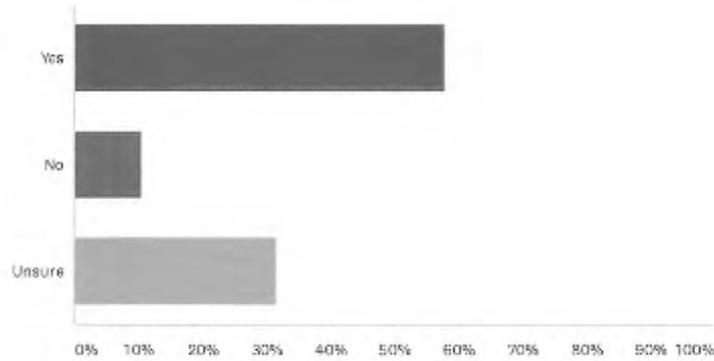


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Vacant Commercial Structures	53.85%	7
Vacant Residential Structures	84.62%	11
Open Dumping Grounds	38.46%	5
Uncut Lawns	69.23%	9
Vacant Lots	30.77%	4
Squatting	46.15%	6
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 13		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q25 In your opinion, are residents of the City of Altoona aware of how to report fair housing violations or concerns?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	57.89%	11
No	10.53%	2
Unsure	31.58%	6
Total Respondents: 19		

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

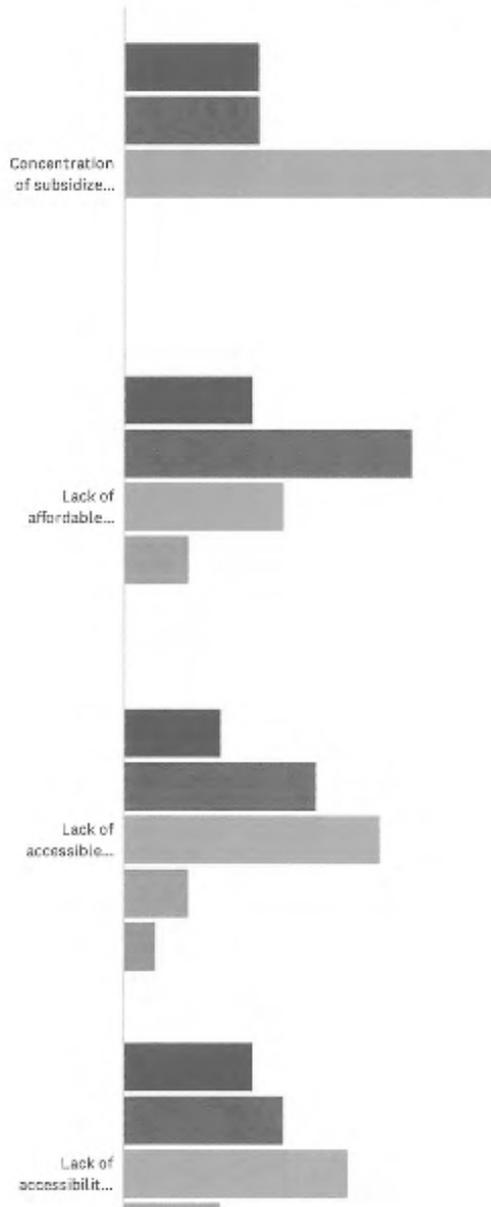
Q26 What do you think are the primary reasons why fair housing complaints are not reported?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 11

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I don't know	1/21/2020 9:23 AM
2	People are afraid to speak up	1/21/2020 9:13 AM
3	Lack of knowledge of how to report/lack of knowledge of discrimination	1/21/2020 9:15 AM
4	I don't know	1/21/2020 9:10 AM
5	Homeless	1/21/2020 9:08 AM
6	People do not know the steps to take	1/21/2020 9:07 AM
7	I think that many people don't want to start a conflict	1/21/2020 9:03 AM
8	I don't know	1/21/2020 8:58 AM
9	I think that most people probably do not realize that they can complain or know how to file a complaint.	8/1/2019 10:37 AM

Q27 Please evaluate whether the following situations result in further discrimination and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



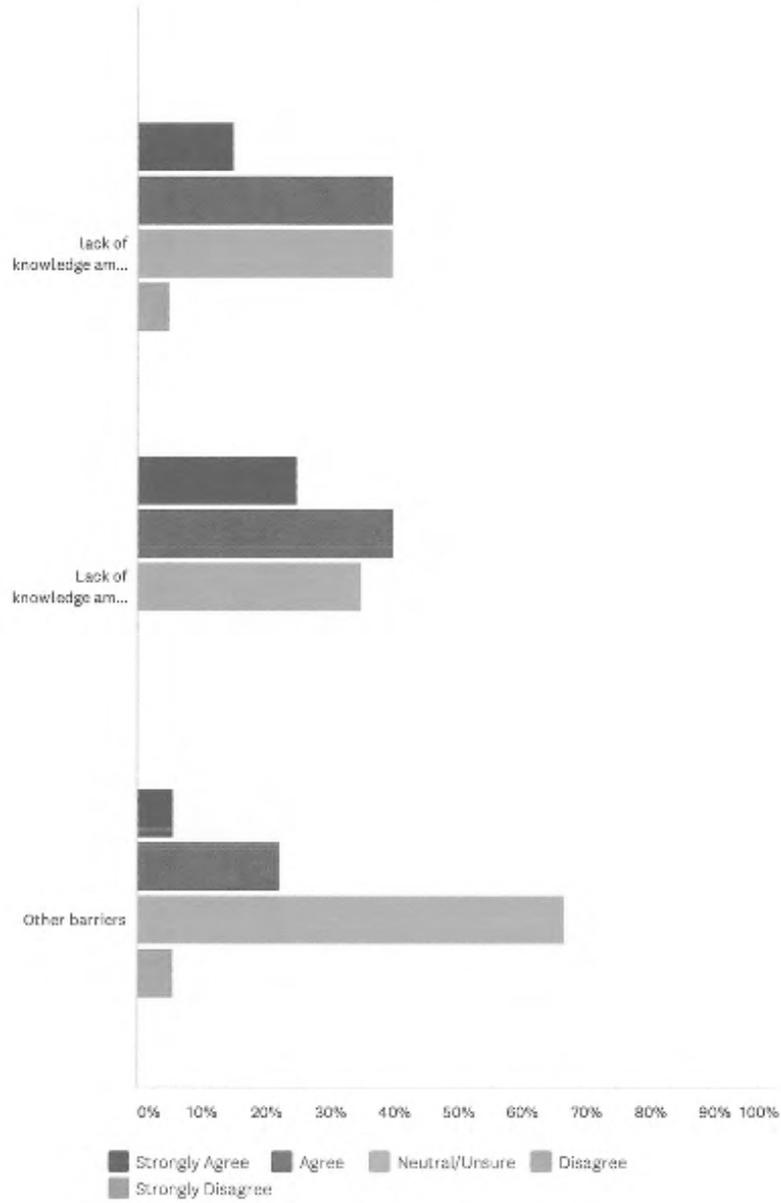
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City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey



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City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEUTRAL	JUNSURE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	21.05% 4	21.05% 4	57.89% 11	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	20.00% 4	45.00% 9	25.00% 5	10.00% 2	0.00%	0.00%	20
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	15.00% 3	30.00% 6	40.00% 8	10.00% 2	5.00% 1	0.00%	20
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	20.00% 4	25.00% 5	35.00% 7	15.00% 3	5.00% 1	0.00%	20
Lack of fair housing education	15.00% 3	25.00% 5	40.00% 8	10.00% 2	10.00% 2	0.00%	20
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	10.53% 2	31.58% 6	52.63% 10	0.00%	5.26% 1	0.00%	19
Status of local laws and policies that limit housing choice	15.00% 3	30.00% 6	40.00% 8	10.00% 2	5.00% 1	0.00%	20
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	15.00% 3	45.00% 9	30.00% 6	10.00% 2	0.00%	0.00%	20
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	15.00% 3	40.00% 8	40.00% 8	5.00% 1	0.00%	0.00%	20
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	25.00% 5	40.00% 8	35.00% 7	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20
Other barriers	5.26% 1	22.22% 4	66.67% 12	5.83% 1	0.00%	0.00%	18

City of Altoona, PA - Resident Survey

Q28 Are there any additional comments or concerns that you wish to share?

Answers: 1 Skipped: 19

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	They need more people out on the streets regarding poor houses and condemned property there are way too many.	1/21/2020 9:21 AM

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization:

Address:

Contact:

Title:

Phone:

Fax:

E-Mail:

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services:

Housing:

Planning:

Community Development:

Economic Development:

Business Loans:

Job Training:

Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: *BLAIR COUNTY NAACP*
Address: *2100 6TH AVE, ALTOONA, PA 16602*
Contact: *DONALD WITHERSPOON* Title: *PRESIDENT*
Phone: *814-944-5390* Fax: *814-946-5451* E-Mail: *dewab312@yahoo.com*
Brief description of programs your agency provides:

- ① *PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN DISCRIMINATION CASES, (HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT ETC.)*
- ② *ASSIST PEOPLE WITH JOB PLACEMENT.*
- ③ *PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO ARE GOING TO COLLEGE OR TRADE SCHOOL.*
- ④ *PRISON REFORM*

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: *YES*
Housing: *YES*
Planning:
Community Development:
Economic Development: *YES*
Business Loans: *NO*
Job Training: *NO*
Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

ALL PEOPLE

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

JOB

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

FAIR HOUSING

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

RECREATION

What, if any, are the Fair Housing Issues in the City?

- ① Section 8 Housing. - ~~There are~~ ~~is~~ ~~are~~ ~~not~~ ~~enough~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~enough~~
TOO MANY RULES and REGULATIONS.
- ② RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO ADDRESS ALL NEEDS AND CONCERNS OF RESIDENTS.

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: Center for Independent Living of South Central PA
Address: 3013 Beale Ave, Suite B, Altoona 16601
Contact: Marty Dombrowski **Title:** Assistant Direct.
Phone: 814 949 1905 **Fax:** 814 949 1909 **E-Mail:** mdombrowski@cilsopa.org
Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Provide Core Services which include:

- Advocacy
- Independent Living Skills
- Peer Counseling
- Information + Referral
- Transition

We develop programs that touch the entire person.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services:
Housing:
Planning:
Community Development:
Economic Development:
Business Loans:
Job Training:
Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

CILSCPA would love to partner with the City to address blighted properties in the city and the shortage of accessible housing.

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: Improved Dwellings for Altoona, Inc.
Address: P.O. Box 592, 1500 8th Ave., Altoona, PA 16603
Contact: Michelle Peterson **Title:** Executive Director
Phone: 814-946-9466 **Fax:** 814-941-5118 **E-Mail:** mpeterson@improved-dwellings.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

We provide safe, decent and affordable housing and services for households of low to moderate income who cannot secure housing through rental or purchase in the private market and to address the needs of our clients with dignity, respect and integrity.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: yes, in a limited capacity
Housing: - yes
Planning: - no
Community Development: - we have a CHDO
Economic Development: - no
Business Loans: - no
Job Training: - no
Other: - no

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

I'm not aware of any fair housing issues in the City.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: *UPMC Altoona*
Address: *620 Howard Ave*
Contact: *Michael Corso* Title: *UP - Opposition*
Phone: *814-889-2640* Fax: E-Mail: *corso@m@upmc.edu*

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Acute care hospital.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: *Healthcare*
Housing:
Planning:
Community Development: *NO*
Economic Development:
Business Loans:
Job Training:
Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

All

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

Meaningful employment. Access to care

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

Unknown

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

Mental Health

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

I am unaware.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: UPMC Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies
Address: 500 East Chestnut Street, Altoona, Pa 16601
Contact: Diana Paolucci **Title:** Director
Phone: 814-943-8414 **Fax:** 814-943-6498 **E-Mail:** paolucci.d@upmc.edu

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

UPMC BHA provides permanent and transitional supportive housing for individuals with mental illness. We provide on-site + on-call housing staff and coordinate with behavioral health services as well as mainstream resources. We also provide housing case management to assist in locating and maintaining housing for individuals.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: MH treatment + supportive services. Both individual + treatment.
Housing: permanent + transitional units and case management.
Planning: No
Community Development: No
Economic Development: No
Business Loans: No
Job Training: UPMC BHA operates a Licensed Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program which provides assistance in acquiring housing, training, support
Other: assistance in the employment

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

In the past few years we have not experienced an issue in regard to fair housing issues for the individuals that we serve.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

CITY OF ALTOONA- CDSG & HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY

Name of Agency/Organization: Family Services Incorporated
Address: 2022 Broad Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601
Contact: Lisa Hann Title: Executive Director
Phone: 814.944.3583 Fax: 814.944.8701 Email: lhann@familyservicesinc.net

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Family Services Incorporated has a long history of providing services for Blair County residents, dating back to the late 1800's. The present agency resulted from the merger of two human service agencies that had special interest and skill in dealing with children and their families. Currently, Family Services offers 5 main programs: Children's Advocacy Center, Counseling, Family Shelter, Intellectual Disabilities Program, Runaway and Homeless Youth Program and the Victim Services Program. In addition to core services, several components are offered within each program that provides service provision to over 4000 individuals and families each year.

Children's Advocacy Center, The Center for Child Justice, performs forensic interviews for child victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse and witness to violent crimes.

Counseling provides MSW therapy for victims of crime and operates the Batterers Intervention Program. Family Shelter provides 16 emergency shelter beds for men, women and children.

Intellectual Disabilities provides group homes, day programming, and home & community habilitation for adults with intellectual disabilities.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Program, The RK Agarwal MD & Family Teen Center and Shelter provides 9 emergency shelter beds and drop in services for youth ages 12-17.

Victim Services Program provides Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Advocacy Services; Medical Accompaniment; Supportive Counseling; Criminal and Civil Accompaniment; Transportation; Follow-up Contact, & Civil Protection Order Filings and 24 hour hot line to children/adults who have been victims of crime, especially domestic violence and sexual assault.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: Children's Advocacy Center, Counseling, Family Shelter, Intellectual Disabilities Program, Runaway and Homeless Youth Program and the Victim Services Program.

Housing: Apartments above teen center & soon 6 double occupancy affordable housing units

Planning:

Community Development:

Economic Development:

Business Loans:

Job Training:

Other:

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc...

Low income, intellectually disabled, victims of crime, homeless or near homeless, children, adults and seniors.

The homeless population of the Family Shelter includes the following:

* Veterans

- * Persons with mental illness
- * Persons suffering from addiction disorders
- * Recently unemployed/ displaced workers
- * Widows/ divorcees and/or those grieving the loss of a significant other
- * Former inmates who were incarcerated in local county facilities (non-felons)
- * Victims of domestic violence
- * Persons over the age of 60

Since August of 2015, the Family Shelter has provided services to over 713 adults. Within those demographics, 71 were Veterans, 303 suffered mental health diagnosis, 112 adults had drug and alcohol issues, 120 were victims of Domestic Violence and 13 adults served were over the age of 60.

The Intellectual Disabilities Program serves adults with intellectual disabilities.

Program	Total Served	Over 60
Residential	28	9
H&CH/Residential	1	1
Day Program	8	0
Lifesharing	1	0
H&CH 28	12	2

59 total

28 2

30 2

The Children's Advocacy Center provides forensic interviews to children who have been sexually abused, physically abused, or have been a witness to violence. Services are provided to non-offending care givers. Since opening in September of 2018, the center has provided 289 forensic interviews to Blair County victims.

The Victim Services Program serves children/adults who have been victims of crime, especially domestic violence and sexual assault. The Program operates the Civil Protection Order office, the Civil Legal Representation office, provides mobile advocacy and operates a 24 hour hotline. The Program serves approximately 328 victims with open case loads.

Adults
 DV Vics: 1044
 SA Vics: 362
 Total: 1406

Kids
 DV = 120
 SA ages 0-12 = 69
 SA Ages 13-17 = 65 SA total kids 134

Sig. Others
 DV = 158
 SA = 153
 Total: 311

Services provided include: Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Advocacy Services; Medical Accompaniment; Supportive Counseling; Criminal and Civil Accompaniment; Transportation; Follow-up Contact, & Civil Protection Order Filings.

The Teen Center & Shelter provides youth ages 12-17 with residential and drop in services. The center sees approximately 130 teens per week, has provided residential services to 107 youth since opening in January 2017, and 2,838 non duplicated drop in services.

What are the unmet community & economic development needs in the City?

Lack of affordable, decent housing.

Lack of emergency shelter beds- The Family Shelter turned away 788 individuals last year due to lack of capacity.

Lack of taxi services.

Lack of additional transportation that isn't available by the bus company, or after hours of bus transport.

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

Lack of affordable housing, especially 1-2 bedroom rentals.

Not enough section 8 vouchers.

What are the unmet social service needs in the City? *Life Skills Classes*
transition program

What, if any, are the Fair Housing Issues in the City?

Landlords denying people because they "know the family name".

Comments/suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: *THE NEHEMIAH PROJECT INC*
Address: *1809 11th ST ALTOONA PA 16601*
Contact: *CRYSTAL BARRIOS* Title: *ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER*
Phone: *8142012096* Fax: E-Mail: *CRYSTAL@TNPPA.ORG*
Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Inter city redevelopment project

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: *YES*
Housing: *NO*
Planning: *NO*
Community Development: *YES*
Economic Development: ~~YES~~ *NO*
Business Loans: *NO*
Job Training: *NO*
Other: *Children & Youth programs*

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: Catholic Charities, Inc.

Address: 1300 Twelfth Avenue; P.O. Box 1349; Altoona, PA 16603-1349

Contact: Jean Johnstone

Title: Executive Director

Phone: (814) 944-9388

Fax: (814) 941-2677

E-Mail: jjohnstone@diocescaj.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Catholic Charities Altoona Office provides emergency financial assistance to individuals and families living in Blair, Bedford & Huntingdon Counties. Assistance is given for basic human needs: water/sewage, electricity, gas, fuel assistance for winter heating, emergency medications, emergency shelter, emergency transportation, emergency food, etc. We also provide individual, couples and family counseling. Anyone is able to walk-in and ask for assistance, there are no eligibility guidelines except to prove financial need and an emergency.

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services: YES

Housing: NO

Planning: NO

Community Development: NO

Economic Development: NO

Business Loans: NO

Job Training: NO

Other: NO

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

Catholic Charities mainly serves individuals and families with household gross incomes of below 150% of the FPL. All ages and abilities are eligible. We will serve people over 200% of the FPL if there is a special need or circumstance.

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

There continues to be a high poverty level within the city limits. Focus needs to be put on creating life-sustaining wage jobs. Like all cities, the low income people use public transportation (or walk) and have trouble doing things like grocery shopping. They use local Dollar General and convenience (like Sheetz and Felt's) stores to purchase food. This leads to unhealthy living and they pay higher prices for food items.

There should be a continued focus on the improving/growing the downtown area and revitalizing the low-income areas of town.

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

A major shortage of affordable, safe, and decent housing for low-income individuals and families. Persons unable to get into public housing, face a difficult challenge on the open housing market. They often pay in excess of 30% and even 50% of their net income for housing which places them at a high risk for homelessness.

There is also a shortage of housing for people with violent criminal and sexual crimes backgrounds. There is virtually no place for them to live, forcing them into the street.

Finally, there are a lot of "slum lords" and absentee landlords in the city. The reports of the living conditions in these apartments and/or houses is alarming.

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

The city continues have issues with homelessness and lack of resources to respond to their unique needs. What is to be a "coordinated entry system" for homeless and at-risk of homelessness at Blair County Community Action Agency is not working. There are delays in seeing clients and there is not enough money or affordable housing to meet their needs. With a homeless shelter average length of stay of 77 days, it means those truly in need have to resort to living in their cars, doubling up with others and potentially violating lease agreements, or simply living on the street.

What, if any, are the Fair Housing issues in the City?

We regularly refer any potential fair housing issues to Mid-Penn Legal Services and/or give them the number for the western PA fair housing law center. Most of the cases we see are potential illegal eviction processes.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA – CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS
AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS NEEDS SURVEY**

Name of Agency/Organization: Blair Senior Services, Inc.

Address: 1320 12th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601

Contact: Dennis Wisor

Title: Transportation Program Manager

Phone: 814-695-3500 **Fax:** 814-696-6314 **E-Mail:** Dwisor@blairsenior.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Blair Senior Services, Inc. coordinates and provides support and assistance through home and community based programs and services to older individuals, their families and others in need. In addition to coordinating in-home services, our Agency provides congregate meals, activities, and fitness classes at our Senior Centers, home delivered meals, transportation, protective services, pre-admission assessment, placement services, Ombudsman services, Choices Program, APPRISE health insurance counseling, and various volunteer opportunities

Does your organization provide any services or programs for the following?

Social/Human Services:	Yes
Housing:	No
Planning:	No
Community Development:	No
Economic Development:	No
Business Loans:	No
Job Training:	No
Other:	No

Please respond to the following questions if they apply to your agency or organization.

What clientele does your program(s) serve? i.e. low income, elderly, disabled, etc.

Older adults, low income, and disabled depending on program rules and regulations

What are the unmet community and economic development needs in the City?

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

Housing - affordable, available
Medication Management
Mental Health
Pest Eradication
Better coordinated homeless assistance

C. Appendix C – Citizen Participation

Attached is the following supporting documentation:

- First Public Hearing Notice
- First Public Hearing Sign-In Sheets
- First Public Hearing Agenda
- First Public Hearing Minutes
- Second Public Hearing Notice
- Second Public Hearing Sign-In Sheets
- Second Public Hearing Agenda
- Second Public Hearing Minutes



FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

Heat hampers travel in Europe

The Associated Press

LONDON — The temperature's dropping but Europe's troubles aren't over: A record-busting heat wave gave way Friday to thunderstorms and hailstorms, bringing the Tour de France to a dramatic halt and causing trouble at British airports and beyond on one of the most hectic travel days of the year.

In addition, travelers at London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports faced delays because air traffic controllers grounded flights over a technical problem.

It marked the second day of travel disruptions in European capitals after one of the hottest days in memory, when many places in Western Europe saw temperatures soar above 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Compounding that, the weekend is a big travel moment across Europe as families head off for their summer holidays now that schools have broken up for the academic year.

After several hours of flight restrictions over U.K. airspace Friday, the national air traffic controller



The Associated Press

A woman cools off in a public fountain in front of the Sforza Castle in Milan, Italy, on Friday.

NATS said it had fixed the technical issue and would be able to safely increase traffic flow.

"Weather is continuing to cause significant unrelated disruption across the country and more widely across Europe, which has further complicated today's operation," NATS said in a statement.

In France, suffocating heat turned into slippery storms Friday — including a hailstorm on the Tour de France route in the Alps that was so

sudden and violent that organizers ordered a stop to the world's premier cycling event.

As riders careened down hairpin turns after mounting a 9,000-foot peak, a storm lashed the valley below. A snowplow worked desperately to clear the route of slush, but organizers deemed it too dangerous to continue.

Weather almost never stops the three-week race, and the decision came on a day of high-drama in which race leader Julian Alaphilippe lost

his top spot and accompanying yellow jersey just ahead of Sunday's finale.

British rail commuters were also facing delays after the heat wave prompted Network Rail to impose speed restrictions in case the tracks buckled. Engineers from the company have been working to get the network back to normal after the track temperatures soared to up to 68 degrees F more than the air temperature.

"With the railway being made of metal and moving parts, the sustained high temperatures took their toll in places," said Phil James of Network Rail. "Everything was done to keep trains moving where possible, and last night hundreds of staff were out fixing the damage and repairing the railway ready for today."

Passengers using Eurostar services to and from Paris were also facing "severe disruption" due to overhead power line problems in the French capital, which on Thursday recorded its hottest day ever with the temperature rising to 108.7 F.

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IRAN: Won't accept program limits

(Continued from Page A8)

Iran has openly exceeded the uranium enrichment levels set in the accord to try to pressure Europe into offsetting the economic pain of U.S. sanctions.

Trump insists that Iran must agree to limits on its ballistic missile program, but Iran thus far has refused.

Nations still party to the nuclear deal plan to meet in Vienna on Sunday to see to what extent the agreement can be saved.

The European Union said the meeting of officials from China, Russia, Britain, France and Germany will be chaired by the EU.

Behnam Ben Taleblu, an expert on Iranian defense at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, said the

"As Iran continues to escalate in response to the maximum-pressure campaign, Washington should expect more missile launches."

Behnam Ben Taleblu,
Foundation for Defense of Democracies

Shahab-3 is a liquid-fueled, medium-range ballistic missile capable of carrying a nuclear weapon.

"The Shahab-3 is the backbone of Iran's class of medium-range ballistic missiles," he said, adding that Iranian news outlets have previously called it one of the country's "Israel-hitting" missiles.

It is derived from a North Korean missile called the Nodong-A and can fly up to

1,242 miles, depending on the variant.

"Iran's continued flight-testing has both political and military applications, functioning as a show of resolve against foreign adversaries and to improve the overall reliability of its missile force, which is the largest in the Middle East," he said. "As Iran continues to escalate in response to the maximum-pressure campaign, Washington should expect more missile launches."

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Altoona, Blair County, PA will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 5:00 PM, prevailing time, in the City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers, 1320 Washington Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601. The City of Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers are accessible to persons with physical disabilities. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate citizens in order for them to participate in the public hearing, please call Mr. Lee C. Slusser, Director, Department of Planning & Community Development, City of Altoona, at (814) 949-2470 to make those arrangements, or for the hearing impaired call the TTY relay system at 7-1-1.

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather information for the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-2024, the Annual Action Plan for FY 2020, and the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (A.I.), which the City must prepare and submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership Programs. Additionally, the hearing will be used to solicit the views and comments of individuals and organizations concerning any impediments to fair housing choice in the City and what steps should be undertaken to affirmatively further fair housing.

The City of Altoona anticipates based on last fiscal year's allocation that it may receive an estimated CDBG entitlement grant in the amount of approximately \$1,590,000 for FY 2020; and \$275,000 in HOME funds for FY 2020. These funding levels are contingent upon the final approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2020. In order to receive those funds, the City of Altoona must prepare a Five Year Consolidated Plan and a One Year Annual Action Plan for the use of the CDBG and HOME funds. At least 70% of the CDBG funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons living in the City of Altoona. In preparing its CDBG and HOME application the City intends to afford citizens, local agencies, and interested parties the opportunity to become involved in the planning process.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program:

Acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities, including the removal of architectural barriers; demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; home ownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental reviews; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing

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**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA FY 2020
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS**

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The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program: Acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities, including the removal of architectural barriers; demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; home ownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental reviews; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG funds.

The Analysis of Impediments will focus on the status and interaction of six (6) fundamental conditions within the community:

- The sale or rental of dwellings (public or private);
- The provision of housing brokerage services;
- The provision of financial assistance for dwellings;
- Public policies and actions affecting the approval of sites and other building requirements used in the approval process for the construction of publicly assisted housing;
- The administrative policies concerning community development and housing activities, which affect opportunities of minority households to select housing inside or outside areas of minority concentration; and
- Where there is a determination of unlawful segregation or other housing discrimination by a court or a finding of noncompliance by HUD regarding assisted housing in a recipient's jurisdiction, an analysis of the actions which could be taken by the recipient to remedy the discriminatory condition, including actions involving the expenditure of funds made available under 24 CFR Part 570.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the needs of the City of Altoona and the use of CDBG and HOME funds to address those needs over the next five (5) years. Written comments may be addressed to Mr. Lee C. Slusser, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, City of Altoona, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601.

Matt Pacifico, Mayor
City of Altoona



ELIGIBLE CDBG ACTIVITIES

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS	
Eligible Public Facility and Improvement Projects	CDBG Conditions
Sewer and Water Facilities	<p>These projects may be undertaken on an interim basis in areas exhibiting objectively determinable signs of physical deterioration where it was determined that immediate action is necessary to arrest the deterioration and that permanent improvements will be carried out as practicable to repair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Streets; ➤ Sidewalks; ➤ Park; ➤ Playgrounds, ➤ Publicly owned utilities; and ➤ The execution of special garbage, trash, and debris removal, including neighborhood cleanup campaigns, but not the regular curbside collection of garbage or trash in an area.
Streets and Sidewalks	
Curb and Gutters	
Parks and Playgrounds	
Senior Citizens' Center	
Parking Lots or Garages	
Utility Lines	
Recreation Center	
Police or Fire Station in which services to the public are actually provided (as opposed to administrative offices).	<p>Fire protection equipment including fire trucks, fire fighters' protective clothing, "jaws of life," and other life-saving equipment are eligible for CDBG funding under Public Facilities and Improvements as this equipment is integral to the fire protection facility.</p>
Aesthetic amenities on public land such as landscaping (trees, sculptures, pools of water and fountains and other works of art).	<p>These include all improvements and facilities that are either publicly owned or that are traditionally provided by government, or owned by a non-profit, and operated so as to be open to the general public.</p>
Jails or Prisons	<p>Jails are considered to benefit the entire community served by the facility and thus would qualify under the low-moderate income (LMI) benefit national objective only if the percentage of LMI persons in the entire jurisdiction is sufficiently high to meet the "area benefit" test.</p>
Library	<p>Public facilities that serve the entire jurisdiction of the grantee, a main library for example, may qualify under the LMI benefit national objective only if the percentage of LMI persons in the entire jurisdiction is sufficiently high to meet the "area benefit" test.</p>
Special Assessments	<p>Special Assessments are used to recover the capital costs of a public improvement through a fee levied or a lien filed against a parcel of real estate either as, 1) a direct result of a benefit derived from the installation of a public improvement or 2) a one-time charge made as a condition of access to an improvement. Sewer tap-in fees are an example of a special assessment.</p>
Privately Owned Utilities-570.201 (I)	<p>CDBG funds may be used to acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, or install the distribution lines and facilities for privately owned utilities.</p> <p>A privately-owned utility refers to service that is publicly regulated and is provided through the use of physical distribution lines to private properties.</p> <p>Examples of eligible utilities are electricity, telephone, water, sewer, natural gas and cable television.</p>
Other	<p>The City is willing to consider other public facility projects not listed above. It is highly recommended that applicants contact the City to discuss new projects ideas prior to submitting a grant application.</p>

REAL PROPERTY AND HOUSING PROJECTS	
Eligible Real Property & Housing Projects	CDBG Conditions
Acquisitions of land or buildings -570.201 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used for acquisition of real property, either in whole or in part, by purchase, long-term lease, donation, or otherwise for any public purpose. • Examples include land, air rights, easement, water rights, rights-of-way and buildings. • Examples of ineligible activities include costs of moveable equipment and acquisition of newly-constructed housing or an interest in construction of new housing.
Disposition – 570.201 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used to dispose of property acquired with CDBG funds through sale, lease, donation or other means. • Property must have a reuse plan that meets a National Objective. • The property may be disposed at less than fair market value. • Costs may include preparation of legal documents, surveys, marketing, financial services, transfer of taxes or ownership.
Clearance Activities- 570.201 (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demolish buildings and improvements. • Remove rubble and debris after demolition. • Remove environmental contaminants or treat them to make them harmless. • Move structures to other sites.
Code Enforcement – 570.202 (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code enforcement activities are eligible provided that the enforcement takes place in a deteriorated or deteriorating area and the enforcement effort is accompanied by public or private improvements or service and can be expected to arrest the decline of the area. • Eligible costs include costs incurred for inspections for code violations (including salaries and overhead) and the enforcement of code requirements (including legal proceedings). • Both residential and commercial structures may be included in code enforcement activities.
Historic preservation - 570.202 (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used for the rehabilitation, preservation or restoration of historic properties, whether publicly or privately owned. • Historic properties are those sites or structures that are either listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, listed in the Pennsylvania or local inventory of historic places or designated as a Pennsylvania or local landmark or historic district by appropriate law or ordinance. • Examples of eligible activities include historic preservation plans, rehabilitation of the property, relocating residents while preservation work is performed. • Historic preservation is not authorized for buildings used for the general conduct of government.
Renovation of closed buildings – 570.202 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used to renovate closed buildings, such as closed school buildings, for use as an eligible public facility or to rehabilitate or convert closed buildings for residential and commercial uses. • Examples of ineligible activities include creation of secondary housing units attached to a primary unit and costs of equipment, furnishings or other personal property that are not integral structural fixtures, such as window air conditioners or clothes washers.
Lead – based paint (LBP) hazard, evaluation and reduction, and clearance – 570.202 (f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost associated with the evaluation and reduction of LBP. • Examples of eligible activities include inspecting buildings for LBP hazards, testing surfaces abatement of lead hazards and payment of temporary relocation costs for residents on which their home is receiving abatement services.
Handicap Accessibility - 570.201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of materials and architectural barriers that restrict the accessibility or mobility of elderly or handicapped persons. • Activities must take place on existing structures.

Energy Efficiency – 570.201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of eligible activities include weatherization of home or apartment building, installation of solar or wind equipment, finance energy – efficient rehab, provision of free insulation or home energy audits, and preparation of comprehensive community energy use strategies.
Rehabilitation of buildings and improvements eligible for rehabilitation assistance – 570.202 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG may be used to finance the rehabilitation of privately –owned homes, publicly –owned residential housing, nonresidential buildings owned by nonprofits, and manufactured housing when it is part of the permanent housing supply.

PUBLIC SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND “OTHER” ACTIVITIES	
Activities	CDBG Conditions
Relocation – 570.201 (i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation of payments and other assistance for permanently and temporarily relocated individuals, families, businesses, non-profit organizations and farm operations.
Loss of Rental Income- 570.201 (j)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensation to property owners for the loss in rental income incurred while temporarily holding housing units to be used for the relocation of individuals and families displaced by CDBG-assisted activities.
Public Services – 570.201 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG funds may be used for a wide range of public service activities including, but not limited to, job training, crime prevention, public safety, child care, health services, substance abuse services, fair housing counseling, education programs, energy conservation, senior citizen services, homeless person services, subsistence payment service and recreational services • In order for a first-time public service application to be considered the applicant must prove that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the service is a new initiative for the agency (new service); OR 2) the service existed but was not provided by or on behalf of a government agency with funding from that government agency; OR 3) there was a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service within the 2013 calendar year.
Micro – Enterprise Assistance – 570.201 (o)	<p>The provisions of assistance to facilitate economic development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing credit, including, but not limited to, grants, loans, loan guarantees, and other forms of financial support, for the establishment, stabilization, and expansion of micro-enterprises; • Providing technical assistance, advice, and business support services to owners of micro-enterprises and persons developing micro-enterprises; and • Providing general support to owners of microenterprises and persons developing microenterprises including child care, transportation, counseling and peer support groups. • A microenterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise that has five or fewer employees, one or more of whom owns the microenterprise business.

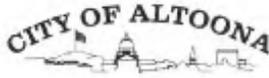
The table below provides eligible Planning & Administration expenses.

Eligible Planning & Administration Projects 570.205 & 570.206
➤ Preparation of general plans such as the Consolidated Plan
➤ Functional plans such as housing plans
➤ Neighborhood plans and general historic preservation plans
➤ Policy planning, management, and capacity building activities
➤ Monitoring



INELIGIBLE CDBG FUNDED ACTIVITIES

§570.207 Ineligible Activities:	
(a)	General Rule – Any activity that is not authorized as an “eligible activity.”
(b)	Government Buildings – Funds cannot be used for improvements to a public building used for the general conduct of government.
(c)	General Government Expenses – Funds cannot be used for expenses that are considered the regular responsibilities of the local government.
(d)	Political Activities – Funds cannot be used to finance the use of facilities or equipment for political purposes or to engage in other partisan political activities.
(e)	Purchase of Equipment – The purchase of equipment is generally ineligible, which includes construction equipment, motor vehicles, furnishings, or personal property. The only exception is fire equipment assigned to a low- and moderate-income area.
(f)	Operating and Maintenance Expenses – The general rule is that any expense associated with repairing, operating, or maintaining public facilities, improvements, and services is ineligible.
(g)	New Housing Construction – Funds cannot be used for the construction of new permanent residential structures or for any program to subsidize or consist such new construction except by a CBDO. However, the cost of site assemblage, clearance, and site improvements are eligible activities.
(h)	Income Payments – Funds cannot be used for subsistence – type grant payments for food, clothing, housing, or utilities.



MEETING A NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

National Objective Subcategory	Conditions for Eligibility	Example
Low-Moderate Income (LMI) Area Benefit	<p>A facility or improvement will be used for a purpose that benefits all residents in a defined area primarily residential in which at least 51% are LMI households.</p> <p>Paying all or part of a special assessment on behalf of LMI Households qualifies under this objective.</p>	<p>The Installation of paved streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters in a predominantly LMI household neighborhood.</p> <p>CDBG funds pay the assessment made to Low-Mod Income household homeowners when a new water/sewer system is installed in their neighborhood.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Limited Clientele	<p>The majority of public service activities qualify under this national objective.</p> <p>Services provided to a specific group of people who are comprised of at least 51% LMI households.</p>	<p>Home ownership counseling provided to a group of LMI individuals.</p> <p>Renovation or expansion of a food pantry.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Housing	<p>The facility or improvement exclusively benefits housing to be occupied by LMI households.</p>	<p>A parking lot and landscaping are improved on the site of a rental property with 51% LMI households paying affordable rents.</p>
Low-Moderate Income Jobs	<p>Public improvement is for an economic development project that creates or retains permanent jobs.</p> <p>In order for a CDBG funded economic development activity to qualify as an activity that benefits low and moderate income persons, at least 51% of the jobs created or retained (full time equivalent basis) will be held by or made available to low and moderate income persons.</p>	<p>A new water tower will enable factory expansion and owners to commit to hiring at least 51% of new permanent jobs to LMI persons.</p>
Area Blight	<p>Public improvements and facilities are in a designated blighted area and activity addresses conditions that contributed to blight.</p>	<p>An outdated fire hall is rehabilitated and equipment is updated to prevent further loss of life and property due to fires.</p>
Spot Blight	<p>Public improvements or facility is outside designated blighted area and activity is limited to eliminate specific conditions of blight or decay.</p>	<p>Historic library building located outside a designated area is rehabilitated.</p>
Urgent Need	<p>Acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of a public facility or improvement that is designated to alleviate recent serious and imminent threat to public health and safety and no other funds are available.</p>	<p>A storm sewer system is reconstructed after a severe flood damaged it. All other funding sources are unavailable or exhausted.</p>



HOME Investment Partnership Program

☐ Eligible HOME Activities and Costs

- **Hard Costs**
 - New construction of affordable housing
 - Rehabilitation of affordable housing
 - Reconstruction of affordable housing
 - Conversion to affordable housing
 - Site Improvements related to the development of affordable housing
- **Refinancing of existing debt secured by a housing project that is being rehabilitated w/ HOME Funds**
 - Refinancing of debt on a single-family (one to four family) owner occupied housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds and the refinancing will reduce the overall monthly housing cost to make it affordable
- **Acquisition Costs**
 - Improved or unimproved
 - Purchase of property by home buyers
- **Soft Costs necessary for the financing, development, rehabilitation or acquisition of housing using HOME Funds**
 - Architectural, engineering, and related professional services
 - Costs to process and settle the financing for a project such as lender origination fees, appraisal fees, etc.
 - Project audit costs and certification of costs by a CPA
 - Costs to provide information services such as affirmative marketing and fair housing information
 - Costs of funding an initial operation deficit reserve during the period of initial project rent-up but not to exceed 18 months
 - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out the project such as work specifications, loan processing inspections, housing consultation, etc.
 - Cost for the payment of impact fees that the local jurisdiction charges for all housing projects
 - Cost of environmental review and release of funds

- **CHDO Costs**
 - o Cost of project-specific technical assistance and site control loans
 - o Project feasibility costs, consulting fees, legal fees, architectural and engineering fees, property options, site control, and title clearance
 - o Project specific seed money loans for preconstruction costs that are customary and reasonable such as costs of obtaining firm financing, construction loan commitments, architectural plans and specifications, zoning approvals, legal fees, etc.
- **Relocation costs for displaced households**
 - o Relocation payments and other relocation assistance for persons displaced by the housing project
 - o Replacement housing payments, moving expenses and payment for reasonable out-of-pocket costs incurred in the temporary relocation of persons
 - o Other relocation assistance such as staff and overhead costs directly related to providing advisory and other relocation services to displaced persons
- **Administrative and planning costs**
 - o General management, oversight and coordination
 - o Staff and overhead costs
 - o Public information costs in the planning and implementation of projects
- **Other Costs**
 - o Fair housing activities to affirmatively further fair housing
 - o Indirect costs as part of a cost allocation plan
 - o Preparation of the consolidated plan
 - o Compliance and reporting in reference to Federal requirements
 - o Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA)
 - o Rental assistance and security deposit payments
 - o Utility deposit assistance only if rental or security deposit payments are made
 - o Cost of inspecting the housing and determining income eligibility of the household
 - o Troubled HOME-assisted rental housing projects
 - Applies to only an existing HOME assisted rental project
 - Project is no longer financially viable during the HOME 20 year affordability period for rental projects

- Operating costs significantly exceed the operating revenue
- HUD must approve this cost to preserve an affordable rental project
- Additional HOME Funds and original HOME Funds may not exceed the maximum amount of per-unit subsidy [Section 221 (d)(3)(ii)]

□ Ineligible HOME Activities

- **HOME funds may not be used to:**
 - o Provide project reserve accounts, except for new construction or rehabilitation of an initial operating deficit reserve during the period of project read-up (not to exceed 18 months)
 - o Provide tenant-based rental assistance for the special purpose of the existing Section 8 Program
 - o Provide non-Federal matching contribution required under another Federal Programs
 - o Provide assistance for uses authorized by Public Housing Capital and Operating Funds
 - o Prepayment of Low Income Housing Mortgages
 - o Provide assistance to a homebuyer to acquire housing previously assisted with HOME funds during the period of affordability
 - o Provide funds for the acquisition of property owned by the participating jurisdiction (P.J.) except for property acquired by the P.J. with HOME funds, or property acquired in anticipation of carrying out a HOME project
 - o Pay for delinquent taxes, fees or charges on properties to be assisted with HOME funds
 - o Pay for any cost that is not listed as eligible under the HOME Regulations



**PUBLIC HEARING ON NEEDS REGARDING CDBG FUNDS FOR
FY 2020-2024 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
FY 2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN,
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

Wednesday August 7th 2019 at 5:00pm
City Hall Conference Room 1301
12th Street, Fourth Floor, City Hall
Altoona, PA 16601

Opening Remarks – Mr. Lee C. Slusser
Department of Planning and Community Development

Overview – UDV Staff

- What is a Five-Year Consolidated Plan, an Annual Action Plan, and an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice?

Eligible CDBG Activities – UDV Staff

CDBG funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- acquisition of real property;
- relocation and demolition;
- rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures;
- construction of public facilities and improvements, such as water and sewer facilities, streets, neighborhood centers, and the conversion of school buildings for eligible purposes;
- public services, within certain limits;
- activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources; and
- provision of assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities.

Ineligible CDBG Activities – UDV Staff

Generally, the following types of activities are ineligible:

- acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of buildings for the general conduct of government;
- political activities;

- certain income payments; and
- construction of new housing by units of general local government.

Eligible HOME Activities – UDV Staff

HOME funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- new construction of affordable housing, rehabilitation of affordable housing, reconstruction of affordable housing, conversion to affordable housing;
- site improvements related to the development of affordable housing;
- refinancing of debt on a single-family (one to four family) owner occupied housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds and the refinancing will reduce the overall monthly housing cost to make it affordable;
- acquisition costs (improved or unimproved); purchase of property by home buyers;
- soft costs such as architectural, engineering, and related professional services;
- costs to provide information services such as affirmative marketing and fair housing information;
- CHDO costs such as cost of project-specific technical assistance and site control loans;
- relocation costs for displaced households;
- administrative and planning costs.

Estimated FY 2020 Allocations – UDV Staff

The City of Altoona anticipates that it will receive an allocation of CDBG funds in the approximate amount of \$1,590,000 and allocation of HOME funds in the approximate amount of \$275,000. This amount is preliminary and subject to change based on the approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2020.

Entitlement Funds	Estimated Amount
FY 2020 CDBG Funds	\$1,590,000*
FY 2020 HOME Funds	\$275,000*
Total:	\$1,865,000

*Note: *Amount subject to change based on HUD's allocation of funds.*

Review of Past Performance – City Staff

Public Comments – UDV Staff

Adjournment – Mr. Lee C. Slusser

Department of Planning and Community Development



**CDBG & HOME NEEDS PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
FY 2020 – 2024 CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN,
& ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

August 7, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

**City of Altoona
Training Facilities and Council Chambers
1320 Washington Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601.**

In attendance:

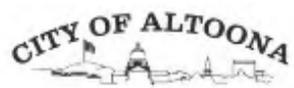
<i>Bill Kibler</i>	<i>Altoona Mirror</i>
<i>Lee Slusser</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Carl Fischer</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Mary Johnson</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Walter Haglund</i>	<i>Urban Design Ventures</i>
<i>David Jordan</i>	<i>Urban Design Ventures</i>

Summary of Hearing:

Mr. Haglund, Urban Design Ventures, opened the Public Hearing at 5:05 PM.

Public Comments:

There were no attendees at the Public Hearing other than the local newspaper and City staff. Mr. Haglund briefly explained the CDBG & HOME Programs and the purpose of the hearing. Mr. Haglund reviewed the City's past performance and asked for needs in the City, hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.



SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE OF DISPLAY OF PLANS AND PUBLIC HEARING
FOR FY 2020-2024 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
FY 2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, AND ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS
TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE FOR THE CITY OF ALTOONA, PA**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Altoona, Blair County, PA has prepared a Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-2024, an Annual Action Plan for FY 2020, and an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. In accordance with the regulations and requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), these plans will be on public display for a period of 30 days, beginning Monday, April 13, 2020 on <http://www.altoonapa.gov>.

Written or oral comments will be accepted until May 12, 2020. Comments may be directed to Mr. Lee C. Slusser, AICP, Director of Planning and Community Development, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601. Phone# (814) 949-2470, or 711 for the hearing impaired.

Since a Declaration of an Emergency has been ordered by the President of the United States and the Governor of Pennsylvania, the City of Altoona will follow the following process concerning public hearings and public display of these draft plans.

- The City is unable to hold open public hearings in person, so the City instead will be holding a virtual public hearing through a conference call, which the public will be able to provide oral comments during the virtual public hearing.
- The City is not able to publicly place the plans on public display at the locations referenced in the Citizen Participation Plan, so the City is placing the draft plans on the City's website at (<http://www.altoonapa.gov>). Upon request, the City can email an electronic copy of the draft plans to any person who will request such a copy of the plans via email or by calling (814) 949-2470, or 711 for the hearing impaired.

The City will hold a virtual public hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 4:00PM on these draft Plans. The purpose of the virtual public hearing is to present the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan for the City's housing and community development needs, the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$1,643,245, \$124,000 in CDBG program income, and for the use of HOME funds in the amount of \$353,129, and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice as the City's commitment to affirmatively further fair housing. The virtual public hearing will take place via a conference call held at **4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2020**. The virtual public hearing call number is **(814) 949-2468**. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate residents in order for them to participate in the public hearing, please call Mr. Lee C. Slusser, AICP, Director of Planning and Community Development, at (814) 949-2470 or planning@altoonapa.gov, to make those arrangements. The City intends to submit these documents to HUD on May 15, 2020.

The Proposed Five Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan were prepared after conducting a public hearing on housing and community development needs, meetings with stakeholders, meetings with housing provider agencies, meetings with the City's staff and officials, and the result of a community wide survey questionnaire.

The following CDBG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan:

1. Community Development Administration	\$327,270
2. Fair Housing	\$ 25,000
3. Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation	\$487,540
4. Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program	\$ 10,000
5. Altoona Housing Authority's Fairview Hills Playgrounds Revitalization	\$ 65,500
6. 6th Avenue Playground Installation Phase II	\$101,543
7. 2020 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project	\$200,500
8. Washington Avenue Storm Drainage Installation	\$385,581
9. Blighted Property Program	<u>\$164,311</u>

Total FY 2020 CDBG Funds for Project Activities = \$1,767,245

The following HOME activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan:

1. HOME Program Administration	\$ 35,312.90
2. HOME Rental Rehabilitation	\$156,816.10
3. IDA-CDC Union Avenue Apartments	<u>\$161,000.00</u>

Total FY 2020 HOME Funds for Project Activities = \$353,129

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG Funds.

All interested persons, groups, and organizations are encouraged to participate in this virtual public hearing and will be given the opportunity to present comments concerning the proposed plans and use of Federal funds under the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Written comments or oral comments may be addressed to Mr. Lee C. Slusser, AICP, Director of Planning and Community Development, Finance Department, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601. Phone #: (814) 949-2470 or Email: lslusser@altoonapa.gov. Persons with hearing and/or speech impediments may contact the City via 711.

Matt Pacifico, Mayor of the City of Altoona



**CDBG AND HOME
VIRTUAL SECOND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
FY 2020 – 2024 CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN,
& ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

May 6, 2020 at 4:00 P.M.
City of Altoona
Virtual Public Hearing
Via Teleconference Call

In attendance:

<i>Lee Slusser</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Linda Rickens</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>Mary Johnson</i>	<i>City of Altoona</i>
<i>David Jordan</i>	<i>Urban Design Ventures</i>

Summary of Hearing:

Mr. Slusser, Director/Planning Administrator, Department of Community Development, opened the teleconference at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Slusser reviewed the schedule the City followed in preparing the FY 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Mr. Slusser stated the City developed the Five-Year Consolidated Plan strategies for the following: Housing; the Homeless; Other Special Needs; Community Development; Economic Development; and Administration, Planning, and Management.

He went on to state the City will receive the following funds during the FY 2020 program year:

Entitlement Funds	Amount
FY 2020 CDBG Funds	\$ 1,767,245.00
CDBG Program Income	\$ 0.00
FY 2020 HOME Funds	\$ 353,129.00
Totals:	\$ 2,120,374.00

The City proposes to fund the following CDBG projects through the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan:

#	Project	Proposed Budget
1.	Administration	\$ 327,270.00
2.	Fair Housing	\$ 25,000.00
3.	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation	\$ 487,540.00
4.	Catholic Charities Emergency Financial Assistance Program	\$ 10,000.00
5.	Altoona Housing Authority's Fairview Hills Playgrounds Revitalization	\$ 65,500.00
6.	6th Avenue Playground Installation Phase II	\$ 101,543.00
7.	2020 CDBG Street Reconstruction Project	\$ 200,500.00
8.	Washington Avenue Storm Drainage Installation	\$ 385,581.00
9.	Blighted Property Program	\$ 164,311.00
Total FY 2020 CDBG Funds:		\$ 1,767,245.00

The City proposes to fund the following HOME projects through the HOME Consortium:

#	Project	Proposed Budget
1.	HOME Administration	\$ 35,312.90
2.	HOME Rental Rehabilitation	\$ 156,816.10
3.	IDA-CDC Union Avenue Apartments	\$ 161,000.00
Total FY 2020 HOME Funds:		\$ 353,129.00

Mr. Slusser also reviewed Impediments to Fair Housing Choice as identified during the preparation of the FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Mr. Slusser asked for comments. Upon receiving none, the public hearing would be adjourned and stated for the record no comments in writing or via email, fax, or by telephone were received. The teleconference was adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Grantee SF-424's and Certification(s)



SF 424 FORM

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application		
* 2. Type of Application: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision		
* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>		
* 3. Date Received: <input type="text"/>		4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text" value="23-6001899"/>		5b. Federal Award Identifier: <input type="text" value="B-20-MC-42-0100"/>
State Use Only:		
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>		7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		
* a. Legal Name: <input type="text" value="City of Altoona, PA"/>		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): <input type="text" value="23-6001899"/>		* c. Organizational DUNS: <input type="text" value="95-9036203"/>
d. Address:		
* Street1: <input type="text" value="1301 12th Street"/>		
Street2: <input type="text" value="Suite 400"/>		
* City: <input type="text" value="Altoona"/>		
County/Parish: <input type="text"/>		
* State: <input type="text" value="PA, Pennsylvania"/>		
Province: <input type="text"/>		
* Country: <input type="text" value="USA: UNITED STATES"/>		
* Zip / Postal Code: <input type="text" value="16601"/>		
e. Organizational Unit:		
Department Name: <input type="text" value="Planning and Community Development Department"/>		Division Name: <input type="text"/>
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:		
Prefix: <input type="text" value="Mr."/>		* First Name: <input type="text" value="Lee"/>
Middle Name: <input type="text" value="C."/>		
* Last Name: <input type="text" value="Suzer"/>		
Suffix: <input type="text"/>		
Title: <input type="text" value="Director"/>		
Organizational Affiliation: <input type="text"/>		
* Telephone Number: <input type="text" value="(814) 949-0354"/>		Fax Number: <input type="text" value="(814) 949-0372"/>
* Email: <input type="text" value="planning@altoonapsa.gov"/>		

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text" value="C: City or Township Government"/>	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text"/>	
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text"/>	
* Other (specify): <input type="text"/>	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency: <input type="text" value="U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development"/>	
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: <input type="text" value="14.218"/> CFDA Title: <input type="text" value="Community Development Block Grant/Entitlement Grants"/>	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number: <input type="text" value="N/A"/> * Title: <input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
13. Competition Identification Number: <input type="text" value="N/A"/> Title: <input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: <input type="text" value="The FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program."/>	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions. <input type="button" value="Add Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
16. Congressional Districts Of:	
* a. Applicant	9th
* b. Program/Project	9th
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.	
<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
17. Proposed Project:	
* a. Start Date	07/01/2020
* b. End Date	06/30/2021
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	1,643,245
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	124,000
* g. TOTAL	1,767,245
* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?	
<input type="checkbox"/> a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on <input type="text"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.	
* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If "Yes", provide explanation and attach	
<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ** I AGREE	
** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.	
Authorized Representative:	
Prefix:	Mr.
* First Name:	Matthew
Middle Name:	
* Last Name:	Pacific
Suffix:	
* Title:	Mayor, City of Altoona
* Telephone Number	(814) 948-2475
Fax Number:	(814) 948-2411
* Email:	mpacific@altoaonpa.gov
* Signature of Authorized Representative:	
* Date Signed:	05/13/2020

ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4726-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1688), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§801 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

Previous Edition Usable

Authorized for Local Reproduction

Standard Form 424D (Rev. 7-87)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

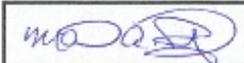
11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE Mayor
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION City of Altoona, PA	DATE SUBMITTED 05/13/2020

SF-424D (Rev. 7-87) Back

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application		
* 2. Type of Application: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision		
* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/>		
* Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>		
* 3. Date Received:		4. Applicant Identifier:
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
5a. Federal Entity Identifier:		5b. Federal Award Identifier:
<input type="text" value="23-6001899"/>		<input type="text" value="M-20-MC-42-0507"/>
State Use Only:		
8. Date Received by State:		7. State Application Identifier:
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
B. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		
* a. Legal Name: <input type="text" value="City of Altoona, PA"/>		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):		* c. Organizational DUNS:
<input type="text" value="23-6001899"/>		<input type="text" value="96-9035203"/>
d. Address:		
* Street1:	<input type="text" value="1301 12th Street"/>	
Street2:	<input type="text" value="Suite 400"/>	
* City:	<input type="text" value="Altoona"/>	
County/Parish:	<input type="text"/>	
* State:	<input type="text" value="PA: Pennsylvania"/>	
Province:	<input type="text"/>	
* Country:	<input type="text" value="USA: UNITED STATES"/>	
* Zip / Postal Code:	<input type="text" value="16801"/>	
e. Organizational Unit:		
Department Name:		Division Name:
<input type="text" value="Planning and Community Development Department"/>		<input type="text"/>
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:		
Prefix:	<input type="text" value="Mr."/>	* First Name: <input type="text" value="Lee"/>
Middle Name:	<input type="text" value="G."/>	
* Last Name:	<input type="text" value="Slusser"/>	
Suffix:	<input type="text"/>	
Title:	<input type="text" value="Director"/>	
Organizational Affiliation: <input type="text"/>		
* Telephone Number:	<input type="text" value="(814) 949-0364"/>	Fax Number: <input type="text" value="(814) 949-0372"/>
* Email:	<input type="text" value="planning@altoonapa.gov"/>	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:	
<input type="text" value="C: City or Township Government"/>	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:	
<input type="text"/>	
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:	
<input type="text"/>	
* Other (specify):	
<input type="text"/>	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:	
<input type="text" value="U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development"/>	
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	
<input type="text" value="14,238"/>	
CFDA Title:	
<input type="text" value="HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)"/>	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:	
<input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
* Title:	
<input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
13. Competition Identification Number:	
<input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
Title:	
<input type="text" value="N/A"/>	
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:	
<input type="text" value="The FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan for the HOME Investment Partnership Grant (HOME) Program."/>	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.	
<input type="button" value="Add Attachments"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
16. Congressional Districts Of:	
* a. Applicant: <input type="text" value="9th"/>	* b. Program/Project: <input type="text" value="9th"/>
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
17. Proposed Project:	
* a. Start Date: <input type="text" value="07/01/2020"/>	* b. End Date: <input type="text" value="06/30/2021"/>
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="353,128"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text"/>
* c. State	<input type="text"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="353,129"/>
* 18. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?	
<input type="checkbox"/> a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on <input type="text"/> .	
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.	
* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If "Yes", provide explanation and attach	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ** I AGREE	
** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.	
Authorized Representative:	
Prefix: <input type="text" value="Mr."/>	* First Name: <input type="text" value="Matthew"/>
Middle Name: <input type="text"/>	
* Last Name: <input type="text" value="Pacifco"/>	
Suffix: <input type="text"/>	
* Title: <input type="text" value="Mayor, City of Altoona"/>	
* Telephone Number: <input type="text" value="(814) 949-2475"/>	Fax Number: <input type="text" value="(814) 949-2411"/>
* Email: <input type="text" value="mpacifco@altoonapa.gov"/>	
* Signature of Authorized Representative: 	* Date Signed: <input type="text" value="05/13/2020"/>

ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009
 Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4726-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

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Standard Form 424D (Rev. 7-87)
 Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7326) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
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17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
	Mayor
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
City of Altoona, PA	05/13/2020

SF-424D (Rev. 7-97) Back



CERTIFICATIONS

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-L.L.L., "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.


Signature of Authorized Official

05/13/2020
Date

Mayor, City of Altoona
Title

Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) 2018, 2019, and 2020 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.


Signature of Authorized Official

05/13/2020
Date

Mayor, City of Altoona
Title

OPTIONAL Community Development Block Grant Certification

Submit the following certification only when one or more of the activities in the action plan are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency as specified in 24 CFR 570.208(c):

The grantee hereby certifies that the Annual Plan includes one or more specifically identified CDBG-assisted activities which are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.



Signature of Authorized Official

05/13/2020
Date

Mayor, City of Altoona
Title

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If it plans to provide tenant-based rental assistance, the tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of its consolidated plan.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR §§92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy layering -- Before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;



Signature of Authorized Official

05/13/2020
Date

Mayor, City of Altoona
Title

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

1	Data Source Name Vacant Property
	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set. The City of Altoona.
	Provide a brief summary of the data set. This data set was created using the American Community Survey data, foreclosure data, and Census data to analyze the vacant properties in the City of Altoona.
	What was the purpose for developing this data set? To analyze the vacant properties in Altoona.
	How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population? This data set is comprehensive and is not geographically or demographically limited.
	What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set? 2007-2011 American Community Survey.
	What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)? The data set is complete.