



Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Altoona, Pennsylvania is an entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs. The City of Altoona has prepared its Five Year Consolidated Plan (CP) for the period of FY 2015, beginning July 1, 2015, through FY 2019, ending June 30, 2020. The Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan to implement Federal programs for housing and community development activities within the City of Altoona and how the proposed activities will principally benefit low- and moderate-income individuals. The Consolidated Plan is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program that must be completed by the entitlement community every five (5) years in conjunction with an update to the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI).

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

Maps:

Included in this Plan in the Exhibits Section are 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 Quarter Mile Grid
- Total Housing Units by Block Points
- 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 by Block Group
- Low/Moderate Income With Minority Percentage by Block Group
- Commercial Hotspots in Altoona, Pennsylvania

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

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

HOUSING PRIORITY (High Priority)

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

Goals/Strategies:

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

HOMELESS PRIORITY (Low Priority)

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

Goals/Strategies:

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

OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS PRIORITY (Low Priority)

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

Goals/Strategies:

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY (High Priority)

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

Goals/Strategies:

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY (Low Priority)

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

Goals/Strategies:

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

ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING, AND MANAGEMENT PRIORITY (High Priority)

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

Goals/Strategies:

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

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The FY 2013 CAPER, which was the fourth CAPER for the FY 2010-2014 Five Year Consolidated Plan, was approved by HUD. In the FY 2013 CAPER, the City of Altoona expended 80.41% of its CDBG funds to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The City expended 11.07% of its funds during the FY 2013

CAPER period on public service, which is below the statutory maximum of 15%. The City expended 19.25% of its funds during this CAPER period on Planning and Administration, which is below the statutory maximum of 20%. The City is in compliance with the required 1.5 maximum drawdown ratio.

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

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

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

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

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

City Clerk's Office and City Planning and Community Development Department

1301 12th Street

Altoona, PA

Altoona Housing Authority

2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard

Altoona, PA

Altoona Area Public Library

1600 Fifth Avenue

Altoona, PA

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

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

5. Summary of public comments

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

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

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

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

7. Summary

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

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

The Process

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	ALTOONA	
CDBG Administrator		Planning & Community Development
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator		Planning & 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 Evaluation Reports (CAPER), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, and oversight of the programs on a day to day basis. In addition the City of Altoona has a private planning consulting firm available to assist the City on an as needed basis.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

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

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

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I)).

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

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

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

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness

The Altoona/Central Pennsylvania CoC (PA-507) is comprised of 21 counties including Blair County and the City of Altoona. The City of Altoona is not a stand-alone CoC but rather is part of a 21 county CoC. City of Altoona Planning Department staff are active participants in the Blair County LHOT (Local Housing Options Team) committee. The LHOT is comprised of persons from many agencies and organizations throughout the county that deal with housing issues. These organizations include providers of health,

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

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

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

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

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	CENTRAL BLAIR RECREATION COMMISSION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Regional organization Planning organization Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis 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 Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission was consulted to ascertain the social service and infrastructure needs of the community.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - 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
	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	Sovereign Grace Church of Central PA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Civic Leaders

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

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

9	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing
	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
	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.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair County Community Action
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Regional 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 - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth 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?	Blair County Community Action was consulted to ascertain the fair housing, housing, and homeless needs of the City of Altoona.

11	Agency/Group/Organization	Central PA Landlord's Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	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.
12	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
	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.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	Home Nursing Agency
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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 Home Nursing Agency was consulted to ascertain the housing needs of the City of Altoona.

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

16	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair Health Choices
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing 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?	Blair Health Choices was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
17	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
	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.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Area School District
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Education
	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.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Kids First/Lily Pond
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Child Welfare Agency

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children 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?	Kids First/Lily Pond was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair County Assistance Office
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Child Welfare Agency Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis 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 Assistance Office was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Altoona Area Public Library
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Education
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Altoona Area Public Library was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Blair County NAACP
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Service-Fair Housing Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis 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 NAACP was consulted to ascertain the social service needs of the City of Altoona.
23	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.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	AMTRAN
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Transportation
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	AMTRAN was consulted to ascertain the transportation needs of the City of Altoona.
25	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
	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 Center for Independent Living was consulted to ascertain the housing and social service needs of the City of Altoona.

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

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

32	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?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	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.

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

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

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

The City of Altoona, Department of Planning and Community Development is the administrating agency for the CDBG and HOME programs. Close coordination is maintained with 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

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

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

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

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies	None	None	None	Not Applicable.

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 Agencies	A Public Meeting was held on Thursday, June 19 to discuss the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. There were a total of 5 attendees.	Meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.
3	Internet Outreach	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Agenices	There were a total of 79 residents that completed the online survey.	A summary of the survey responses can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/cityofaltoona

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Organizations	Agencies	There were a total of 31 organizations that completed surveys. In addition, the City met with local agencies and organizations.	A summary of the survey responses and meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.
5	Public Hearing	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies	A Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 to discuss the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. There were a total of 6 attendees.	Meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.

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 Hearing	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies	A Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 to discuss the Five Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. There were a total of 4 attendees.	Meeting minutes can be found in the appendix section of this Consolidated Plan.	All comments were accepted.	Not Applicable.

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

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

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

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

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

Summary of Housing Needs

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

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

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

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

Number of Households Table

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

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	10	60	45	0	115	65	10	20	0	95
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	25	0	0	4	29	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,240	250	30	0	1,520	390	315	200	25	930
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	385	680	330	100	1,495	155	435	475	240	1,305

	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
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	90	0	0	0	90	25	0	0	0	25

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

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

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

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	495	425	140	1,060	210	205	285	700
Large Related	155	10	0	165	15	105	30	150
Elderly	454	320	130	904	265	275	220	760

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Other	560	200	90	850	120	165	140	425
Total need by income	1,664	955	360	2,979	610	750	675	2,035

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

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

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	4	0	0	4	8	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	25	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	29	0	0	4	33	0	0	0	0	0

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

	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:

Data is not available.

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

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

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

Disabled Population – Based on the 2000 CHAS Data and the 2007-2011 ACS Data, it is estimated that 46% of all disabled renters have a housing problem that includes cost overburdened by 30% or another type of housing problem, and 33% of disabled homeowners have a housing problem that includes cost overburdened by 30% or another type of housing problem. From these estimates it can be deduced that approximately 754 disabled renters have a housing problem and approximately 1,406 disabled homeowners have a housing problem. A breakdown of the types of disability compared to the population as a whole is as follows: hearing difficulty = 4.01%; vision difficulty = 2.77%; cognitive difficulty = 7.43%; ambulatory difficulty = 7.85%; self-care difficulty = 2.66%; and independent living difficulty = 6.03%.

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

What are the most common housing problems?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

According to the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care (the former Altoona/Central 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 a local 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 entry should be completed weekly with the exception of Emergency Shelter, which should enter daily data. All weekly records should 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, which 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

- 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 35% of their income for housing.

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

Discussion

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

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

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

Introduction

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

0%-30% of Area Median Income

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

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

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

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

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

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

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

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

80%-100% of Area Median Income

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

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

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

Discussion

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

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

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

Introduction

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

0%-30% of Area Median Income

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

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

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

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

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

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

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

80%-100% of Area Median Income

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

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

Discussion

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

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

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

Introduction:

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

Housing Cost Burden

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

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Discussion:

A total of 5,205 (91.2%) White households out of a total of 5,705 households were considered cost overburdened by 30% and greater. There were 200 Black/African American households (3.5%) of a total of 5,705 Black/African American households in the City were cost overburdened by 30% and greater. In addition, there were 144 Hispanic households (2.0%) that were cost overburdened by 30% and greater.

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

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

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

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

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

Not applicable.

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

The City of Altoona has a minority population of 6.2% 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 and objectives in their Action Plan:

PHA Goal: Expand the supply of assisted housing

Objectives:

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

PHA Goal: Improve the quality of assisted housing.

Objectives:

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

PHA Goal: Increase assisted housing choices.

Objectives:

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

PHA Goal: Provide an improved living environment

Objectives:

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

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

Objectives:

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

PHA Goal: Ensure equal opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing

Objectives:

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

Totals in Use

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

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

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

Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Race	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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Discussion

The Altoona Housing Authority is a partner with the City in addressing the housing needs for the residents of Altoona who are very low and extremely low income. The City of Altoona has identified the

need for affordable housing that is decent, safe, and sanitary for those whose income is at or below 30% AMI. The Housing Authority is a valuable resource in addressing that need. There is a significant number of households in the City that are at or below 50% of AMI that are affected by housing problems, severe housing problems and housing cost burdens.

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

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

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

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

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

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

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

The City of Altoona is a member of the Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) Continuum of Care – PA-507. The Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care contains twenty-one (21) member counties: Lycoming, Clinton, Union, Columbia, Northumberland, Centre, Snyder, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, Lebanon, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Franklin, Somerset, Bedford, Fulton, and Montour. The tables in this section include information regarding the entire CoC. Data for specific jurisdictions is not available.

Homeless Needs Assessment

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

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Data Source Comments:

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):

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

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

Data Source
Comments:

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

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

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

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

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

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

Sheltered Homelessness would refer to those in an emergency shelter, in transitional housing, or are exiting an institution where they temporarily resided lacking a fixed nighttime residence. People will be considered homeless if they are exiting an institution where they resided for up to 90 days (it was previously 30 days) People who are losing their primary nighttime residence which may be a motel,

hotel or a doubled up situation within 14 days and lack resources or support networks to remain housing.

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

Discussion:

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

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

Introduction:

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

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

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

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

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

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

- **Elderly Persons** – Accessible housing units plus supportive services, for example, transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.
- **Frail Elderly** – Accessible housing units plus supportive services, for example, transportation to health services and recreation opportunities.
- **Mentally, Physically Disabled** – 48 housing units plus supportive services
- **Alcohol & Drug Addicts** – 25 housing units plus supportive services
- **HIV/AIDS Persons** – 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 78 reported HIV/AIDS diagnosis in Blair County with 2 new cases in 2013. Those classified as Currently Living (with an HIV diagnosis) make up 2% of the Blair County population. There are no statistics available for the Metropolitan Statistical Area.

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

Discussion:

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

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

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

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

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

How were these needs determined?

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

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

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

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

How were these needs determined?

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

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

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

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

How were these needs determined?

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

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

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

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

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

Introduction

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

All residential properties by number of units

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

Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

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

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

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

Discussion

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

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

Introduction

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

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

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

Cost of Housing

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

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

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

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

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Housing Affordability

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

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

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Monthly Rent

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

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Discussion

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

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

Introduction

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

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

Definitions

The following definitions are used in the table below:

- "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	2,513	20%	3,137	48%
With two selected Conditions	42	0%	113	2%
With three selected Conditions	36	0%	12	0%

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	10,165	80%	3,257	50%
Total	12,756	100%	6,519	100%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Year Unit Built

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

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

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

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

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

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	1,576	394	1,970
Abandoned Vacant Units	646	162	808
REO Properties	19	2	21
Abandoned REO Properties	0	7	7

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Alternate Data Source Name:

Vacant Property

Data Source Comments:

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

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

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

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

Discussion

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

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

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

Introduction

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

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

Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Special Purpose Voucher		
				Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *			
# of units vouchers available	0	50	536	883	0	883	0	0	0
# of accessible units									
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

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 apartment, 3 home-ownership units, and 985 Section 8 vouchers. An examination of current occupancy levels and waiting list information shows a majority of families with incomes below 30% of median income. The Authority monitors income targeting on a quarterly basis for compliance.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Altoona Housing Authority	80

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

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

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

- **Fairview Hills** – 170 Units
- **Green Avenue Tower** – 206 Units
- **Eleventh Street Tower** – 160 Units
- **Pleasant Village** - 120 Units

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

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

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

- Employ effective maintenance and management policies to minimize the number of public housing units off line due to modernization
- Reduce turnover time for vacated public housing units.
- Participate in the City of Altoona Consolidated Plan development process to ensure coordination with the community's strategies.
- Monthly monitoring of the Section 8 HCV program to insure full program utilization within budget constraints.
- Modernize public housing units utilizing Capital Funds.

- Affirmatively market to local non-profit agencies that assist families with disabilities.
Continuation of working with Center for Independent Living.
- Affirmatively ensure fair housing compliance.

Discussion:

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

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

Introduction

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

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

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

Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source Comments:

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

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

Additionally the Altoona/Central Pennsylvania CoC has undertaken the following projects in Blair County:

- **American Rescue Workers, Inc.** – Direction Connection (SSO)
- **Blair County Community Action Program** – Supportive Services Only (SSO)
- **Blair County Community Action Program** – Transitional Housing program (TH)
- **Home Nursing Agency** – Housing Assistance and Rental Program (PH)
- **Home Nursing Agency** – Juniata House (PH)

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

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

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

Introduction

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

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

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

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

The City of Altoona will 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 supportive services needed for a smooth transition back into society.

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

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

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

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

For the FY 2015, the City will support the efforts of agencies that serve the special needs populations in Altoona. The City will provide additional community policing in low-income neighborhoods and in public housing developments in low-income neighborhoods with FY 2015 CDBG funds under public service activities.

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. (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

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

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

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

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

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

Introduction

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

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

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

Table 40 - Business Activity

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

Labor Force

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

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

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

Table 42 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Travel Time

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

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	898	113	975
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	7,103	724	3,391
Some college or Associate's degree	4,981	442	1,304

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,476	62	537

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

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

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

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

Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

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

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

- Agriculture, Mining, Oil and Gas Extraction – 94.95% of sector workforce is not utilized
- Manufacturing – 34.18% of sector workforce is not utilized
- Transportation and Warehousing – 47.65% of sector workforce is not utilized

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

- Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations – 11.04% of the available jobs are not filled
- Construction – 14.6% of the available jobs are not filled
- Education and Health Care Services – 43.71% of the available jobs are not filled

- Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate – 18.24% of the available jobs are not filled
- Information – 17.46% of the available jobs are not filled
- Professional, Scientific, Management Services – 34.03% of the available jobs are not filled
- Retail Trade – 2.79% of the available jobs are not filled
- Wholesale Trade – 14.07% of the available jobs are not filled

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

There are no major changes to the local economy expected.

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

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

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

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

Altoona Area School District Community Education Center

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

- GED Program
- EARN – Employment Advancement and Retention Network
- Family Literacy
- Pennsylvania Literacy Corps

- ELECT – Education Leading to Employment and Career Training
MOVE UP
- The Family Resource Center
- The Parent-Child Home Program

Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center

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

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

Penn State Altoona Continuing Education and Training

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

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

No

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.

To address issues of economic development, City of Altoona works with the Altoona-Blair County Economic Development Corporation, “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 2014, the City's unemployment rate was 4.3% while the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was 5.0% for the same period. The need for new business growth and job opportunities 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, (5.9%). The Census Tract with the largest minority percentage is Census Tract 1007 with 11.0% minority percentage.

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 an extensive 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.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	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.	This target area includes all low- and moderate-income areas throughout the City of Altoona.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	The City of Altoona is 44.82% low- and moderate-income.
	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 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan:

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

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

The HOME funds will be used for administration and for housing projects. These funds will be targeted to low-income persons.

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

Priority Needs

Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Housing Priority
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	Geographic Areas Affected	Citywide
	Associated Goals	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation HS-2 Housing Construction HS-3 Fair Housing HS-4 Housing Counseling
	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 home-owners, renters, and home buyers.
	Basis for Relative Priority	30% 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 Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth
	Geographic Areas Affected	Citywide
	Associated Goals	HO-1 Operation/Support HO-2 Prevention and Housing HO-3 Continuum of Care
	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 Priority
	Priority Level	Low

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	Citywide
	Associated Goals	SN-1 Housing SN-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 Priority
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	Citywide
	Associated Goals	CD-1 Community Facilities CD-2 Accessibility CD-3 Public Services CD-4 Public Safety CD-5 Code Enforcement CD-6 Slum and Blight

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

	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 only 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 \$1,418,161 from CDBG funds and \$194,238 from HOME funds for the FY 2015 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020. Based on a 5% cut in funds, the Municipality projects the following anticipated resources:

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

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

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,418,161	200,000	0	1,618,161	5,748,140	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	194,238	0	0	194,238	684,569	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.

Table 50 - Anticipated Resources

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

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

STATE PROGRAMS

The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) provides loans and grants under the Penn Homes Program for development of rental housing and administers the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) issued a Keystone Community Grant to assist the City in a streetscape enhancement project along Broad Avenue.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources funds have been and will 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 the Low Income Housing Tax Credits or an historic tax credit. 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. The City also utilizes HUD funds to operate the Altoona Police Bike Patrol, which plays a big role in curtailing the illegal drug trade. 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 of Altoona assists in providing land and infrastructure improvements to the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity to construct housing to serve low-to-moderate income families.

The City also 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 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 non profit 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 the Home Nursing Agency, Blair Senior Services, Family Services Inc., Skills of Central Pennsylvania, Reliance Bank, Investment Savings Bank, M & T Bank, the Blair County Community Action Agency, the Blair County Department of Human Services, the Central Blair Recreation Commission, the Easter Seals Society, AMTRAN, and Saint Vincent de Paul.

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 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 questionnaires. These include employment and housing for people with addictions reentering the labor force and society from either prison or drug and alcohol centers.

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

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

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

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 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	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$1,914,976 HOME: \$790,925	Rental units rehabilitated: 185 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 50 Household Housing Unit
2	HS-2 Housing Construction	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$0	Rental units constructed: 0 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 0 Household Housing Unit
3	HS-3 Fair Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$50,000	Other: 1 Other
4	HS-4 Housing Counseling	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$0	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
5	HO-1 Operation/Support	2015	2019	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$0	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 0 Persons Assisted Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added: 0 Beds Homelessness Prevention: 0 Persons Assisted
6	HO-2 Prevention and Housing	2015	2019	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$0	Homelessness Prevention: 0 Persons Assisted Housing for Homeless added: 0 Household Housing Unit
7	HO-3 Continuum of Care	2015	2019	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$0	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 0 Persons Assisted Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added: 0 Beds Homelessness Prevention: 0 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	SN-1 Housing	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Other Special Needs Priority	CDBG: \$0	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added: 0 Household Housing Unit HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 0 Household Housing Unit
9	SN-2 Social Services	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Other Special Needs Priority	CDBG: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 0 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
10	CD-1 Community Facilities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$1,222,122	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 69425 Persons Assisted
11	CD-2 Accessibility	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted
12	CD-3 Public Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted
13	CD-4 Public Safety	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$1,077,397	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 84656 Persons Assisted
14	CD-5 Code Enforcement	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$250,546	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 2000 Household Housing Unit
15	CD-6 Slum and Blight	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$1,428,000	Buildings Demolished: 68 Buildings
16	ED-1 Employment	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Jobs created/retained: 0 Jobs

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
17	ED-2 Business Development	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted
18	ED-3 Redevelopment Program	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$0	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 0 Business Brownfield acres remediated: 0 Acre Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted
19	AM-1 Overall Coordination	2015	2019	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$1,423,260 HOME: \$87,882	Other: 1 Other
20	AM-2 Special Studies/Management	2015	2019	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$0	Other: 0 Other

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

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

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

17	Goal Name	ED-2 Business Development
	Goal Description	Encourage business and commercial growth through expansion and new development in the City.
18	Goal Name	ED-3 Redevelopment Program
	Goal Description	Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of vacant commercial and industrial sites in the City.
19	Goal Name	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of federal, state, and local funded programs.
20	Goal Name	AM-2 Special Studies/Management
	Goal Description	Provide planning services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

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

It is estimated that the City of Altoona will provide the following affordable housing throughout the next five years:

- Homeowner housing rehabilitated: 50 Housing Units
- Renter housing rehabilitated: 185 Housing Units

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

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

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

The Altoona Housing Authority meets Section 504 compliance.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

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

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

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

No

Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation

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

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

Barriers to Affordable Housing

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

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

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

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

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

Impediment 1: Fair Housing Education and Outreach

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

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

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

Impediment 2: Continuing Need for Affordable Housing

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

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

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

Impediment 3: Continuing Need for Accessible Housing Units

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

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

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

Impediment 4: There is a Lack of Financial Resources

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

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

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

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

Impediment 5: Economic Issues Affecting Housing Choice

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

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

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

Impediment 6: Public Policy

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

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

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

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

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

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Planned economic development programs include:

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

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

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

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

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

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

The City staff prepares purchase orders prior to the payment of any invoice. Each invoice is reviewed by at least three people in the Department before it is paid, and if an inconsistency is detected, payment is withheld until it is rectified. All invoices submitted must be accompanied by backup documentation so the staff is able to ascertain whether the funds requested are for legitimate purposes. 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 intense supervision. These subrecipients are informed in writing before the visit takes place informing them of the areas that will be reviewed. During the review, the areas monitored are project eligibility, project progress, project documentation such as low/moderate income compliance of clients and job creation, regulatory compliance such as procurement procedures, and Davis Bacon Wage compliance, where appropriate. Also reviewed are financial management, audit submissions, Section 504 compliance, ADA compliance, and Fair Housing Regulations.

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

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

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

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

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Altoona is receiving \$1,418,161 from CDBG funds and \$194,238 from HOME funds for the FY 2015 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020. Based on a 5% cut in funds, the Municipality projects the following anticipated resources:

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

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

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,418,161	200,000	0	1,618,161	5,748,140	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	194,238	0	0	194,238	684,569	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.

Table 54 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

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

STATE PROGRAMS

The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) provides loans and grants under the Penn Homes Program for development of rental housing and administers the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) issued a Keystone Community Grant to assist the City in a streetscape enhancement project along Broad Avenue.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources funds have been and will 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 the Low Income Housing Tax Credits or an historic tax credit. 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. The City also utilizes HUD funds to operate the Altoona Police Bike Patrol, which plays a big role in curtailing the illegal drug trade. 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 of Altoona assists in providing land and infrastructure improvements to the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity to construct housing to serve low-to-moderate income families.

The City also 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 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	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$314,976 HOME: \$174,814	Rental units rehabilitated: 129 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit
3	CD-1 Community Facilities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$481,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 15425 Persons Assisted
4	CD-4 Public Safety	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$215,176	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 18656 Persons Assisted
5	CD-5 Code Enforcement	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$55,377	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 400 Household Housing Unit
6	CD-6 Slum and Blight	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$228,000	Buildings Demolished: 15 Buildings

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

Table 55 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

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

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

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

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

Projects

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

Table 56 – Project Information

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 would be finding more federal resources to accomplish those 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	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$323,632
	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 such as update of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Fair housing activities including eliminating housing discrimination through the promotion of fair housing using educational programs, monitoring, research and community involvement.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 44,900 people will benefit from this activity.
	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	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,376
	Description	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.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 10 units will be rehabilitated.
	Location Description	This activity will benefit low- and moderate-income families in the City of Altoona.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing, 570.208(a)(3)(i)(C). The HUD Matrix Code is 14A Rehab; Single-Unit Residential, 570.202.
3	Project Name	Safe Housing/Healthy Living
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-5 Code Enforcement
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,377
	Description	In order to prevent slum and blight, daily routine inspections of low/moderate income areas of the City to identify and address property maintenance, housing violations, health-related violations, etc.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 20,125 people will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	The activity will take place in the following census tracts: C.T. 1003, BG1; C.T. 1004 BG 1; C.T. 1005 BG 2; C.T. 1007 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1009 BG 3; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1019 BG 1,2 64% L/M
Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 15, Code Enforcement, 570.202(c).	
4	Project Name	Blighted Property Program
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-6 Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority

	Funding	CDBG: \$228,000
	Description	Prevention or elimination of spot blight through property acquisition, relocation, safeguarding, demolition and disposition activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 15 properties will be addressed.
	Location Description	This activity will take place citywide.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Slum/Blight 570.208(b)(2). The Matrix Code is 04, Clearance and Demolition, 570.201(d).
5	Project Name	Street Reconstruction
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	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. Project will be administered by the City's Department of Engineering. Actual locations will be advertised for public review prior to project initiation.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 4,960 people will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	The activity will take place in low/moderate income areas of the City. C.T. 1007 BG 3; C.T. 1009 BG 2,3. C.T. 1017 BG 3 and C.T. 1019 BG 1, 2 Serving a total of 4960 people - 3275 L/M or 64.62%
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K Street Improvements, 570.201(c).

6	Project Name	Street Light Enhancement
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	Upgrade 100 watt high pressure sodium to LED dusk to dawn fixtures in low/moderate income areas of the City. Project administered by the Department of Engineering.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 10,205 people will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	The activity will take place in low/moderate income areas of the City. C.T. 1003 BG: 1,2; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1015 BG 3; C.T 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1018 BG 3 - serving 10,205 –people – 6245 L/M or 61.20%.
Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K, Street Improvements, 570.201(c).	
7	Project Name	Broad Avenue Curb and Sidewalk Project Phase II
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,500
	Description	New concrete curb, sidewalk and roadway restoration, along with tree improvements, topsoil and seeding. Project administered by the Department of Engineering.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 260 people will benefit from this activity.

	Location Description	The activity will take place on Broad Avenue between 26th and 31st Streets.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective Low/Mod Area, 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
8	Project Name	Neighborhood Police Patrol
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-4 Public Safety
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$215,176
	Description	Community policing program in the low and moderate income neighborhoods of the City. Also providing service to the Evergreen Manors low/moderate income housing development.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 18,656 people will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity will take place in the following Census Tracts: C.T. 1003 BG 1,2; C.T. 1004 BG 1; C.T. 1005 BG 2; C.T. 1007 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1009 BG 2,3; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1015 BG 3; C.T. 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1018 BG 3; C.T. 1019 BG 1,2 Total persons 18,280 with 11,490 l/m or 63% L/M and Evergreen Manors 5919 Evergreen Court 376 l/m persons.
Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 05I, Crime Awareness, 570.201(e).	
9	Project Name	Altoona Housing Authority Pleasant Village Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$64,600
	Description	The Altoona Housing Authority will utilize CDBG funding to assist with window replacement in 120 units at Pleasant Village Housing Development.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 120 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity is located at 2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing, 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14C Public Housing Modernization 570.202(a)(2).
10	Project Name	HOME Program Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$19,424
	Description	Administration costs to provide for staffing to oversee HOME funded projects.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 44,900 individuals will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity will take place 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	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$49,814
	Description	This rehab program consists of a 50/50 financial match. Units will be made available to income eligible tenants and comply with HOME affordable period requirements. Structures located within the City's limits which contain substandard rental units are eligible.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 3 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity will take place citywide.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14B, Rehabilitation; Multi-Unit Residential, 570.202.
12	Project Name	CHDO Project - Improved Dwellings for Altoona
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$125,000
	Description	Lexington Park rehabilitation of 6 affordable housing units.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 6 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity will take place at the following addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1112 14th Avenue, Altoona • 1124 14th Avenue, Altoona
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 2007-2011 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 1980 and 2010, the population decreased by approximately 18.8%
- The City population was 46,662 in 2011.

Age:

Key points are:

- Median age in Altoona is 38.7 years old
- Youth under age 18 account for 23.6% of the population
- Seniors age 62 or over are 19.0% of the population

Race/Ethnicity:

Composition from 2007-2011 American Community Survey Data:

- 3.4% are Black or African American
- 94.1% are White
- 0.8% are Asian
- 0.3% Some Other Race
- 1.3% are Two or More Races
- 1.2% are Hispanic or Latino

Income Profile:

The Median Income for a family of four (4) in the Altoona, Pennsylvania HMFA is \$54,810 for 2015. The following is a summary of income statistics for the City of Altoona:

At the time of the 2007-2011 American Community Survey, median household income in the City of Altoona was \$35,052 which was significantly lower than Blair County (\$43,243) and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (\$52,548).

- 36.8% of households have earnings received from Social Security income.
- 5.7% of households have earnings received from public assistance.
- 20.3% of households have earnings, received retirement income.
- 40.9% of female headed households were living in poverty.
- 28.4% 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 44.82%.

Economic Profile:

The following illustrates the economic profile for the City of Altoona as of the 2007-2011 American Community Survey:

- 25.6% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as management, business, science, and arts.
- 30.0% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as sales and office.
- 20.7% were in the service sector.
- The education, health, and social service industry represented 26.8% of those employed.
- 12.5% of workers were considered in the government class.

According to the U.S. Labor Department, the preliminary unemployment rate for Altoona in December 2014 was 4.3% compared to a preliminary rate of 4.4% in Blair County, a preliminary rate of 5.0% for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in December, 2014, and a national unemployment rate of 5.6% in December 2014.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
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 2015 are the following:

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

Table 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	139
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	139

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

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

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

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

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

During FY 2015, the City of Altoona will cooperate with the Altoona Housing Authority in the Pleasant Village Rehabilitation. This project will utilize CDBG funding to assist with window replacement in 120 units at Pleasant Village Housing Development located at 2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA.

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

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

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

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

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

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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

Introduction

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

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. The grant provides \$105,966 to operate the program. Services are provided to both sheltered and unsheltered persons. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the program served 163 adults and 90 children. All persons served are assessed to determine their individual needs.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

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

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

The CoC annually funds two transitional housing programs that are operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Blair County Community Action Agency. One is named simply “The Transitional Housing Program” and serves the general public. The second program is named the “Journey Program” and is targeted to 18-25 year olds who have a mental or physical disability but are able to live independently. These two programs offer a variety of supportive services to clients to assist them in the transition to permanent

housing. These services include; life skills, employment services, clothing, furniture, general case management, housing search, budget counseling etc. The Transitional Housing Program (THP) grant annually provides \$361,937 to operate the program. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the THP program served 67 adults and 58 children. Of the persons who exited the program 78% exited into permanent housing. The Journey Program grant annually provides \$181,668 to operate the program. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the Journey program served 32 adults and 15 children. Of the persons who exited the program 59% exited into permanent housing.

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

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

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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

Introduction:

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

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

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

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

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

Impediment 6: Public Policies

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

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

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

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

Discussion:

Not Applicable.

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 and Habitat for Humanity. 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. Our annual affordable housing goals are identified in Table 3B.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City intends to reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards by 18 this year using CDBG and HOME funds.

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.

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 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 \$200,000 in program income from the repayment of Housing Rehabilitation Loans. These funds have been included in the FY 2015 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	200,000
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:	200,000

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.	82.00%

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 anticipate the receipt of any additional program income funds prior to July 1, 2015 that is has not yet programmed. 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, as established by HUD.
 - 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, as established by HUD.
 3. The housing must be acquired by a homebuyer whose family qualifies as a low-income family as determined by the HOME Investment Partnership Program and the housing must be the principal residence of the family throughout the period described in paragraph 4.
 4. *Periods of affordability.* The HOME-assisted housing must meet the affordability requirements for not less than the applicable period specified in the following table, beginning after project completion. The per unit amount of HOME funds and the affordability period that they trigger are described more fully in paragraph 5 (recapture) of this section.

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

- If the homeownership assistance amount per-unit is under \$15,000, the minimum period of affordability is 5 years
- If the homeownership assistance amount per-unit is between \$15,000 and \$40,000, the minimum period of affordability is 10 years
- If the homeownership assistance amount per-unit is over \$40,000, the minimum period of affordability is 15 years

5. *Recapture.* The participating jurisdiction (PJ) recoups all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyers, if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the family for the duration of the period of affordability. The period of affordability is based upon the total amount of HOME funds subject to recapture. If the homebuyer or the homeowner breaches the terms and conditions for any reason, e.g. no longer occupies the property as his/her/their/ principal residence, the full amount of the subsidy is immediately due and payable.

a. *Reduction during affordability period.* The PJ will reduce the HOME investment amount to be recaptured on a prorata basis for the time the homeowner has owned and occupied the housing

measured against the required affordability period at the following rate. Five (5) year period-1/60th 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 downpayment and any capital improvement investment made by the owner since purchase. The PJ may share the net proceeds. The net proceeds are the sales price minus loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and closing costs. The net proceeds will be divided proportionally as set forth in the following mathematical formulas:

$(\text{HOME Investment} / \text{HOME Investment} + \text{Homeowner Investment}) \times \text{Net Proceeds} = \text{HOME amount to be recaptured}$

$(\text{Homeowner Investment} / \text{HOME Investment} + \text{Homeowner Investment}) \times \text{Net Proceeds} = \text{Amount to homeowner}$

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:

(Continued from Question 2)

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.

d. In the event of the property changing title due to foreclosure, the City will not share any net proceeds from the sale. The City will retain any remaining net proceeds following payment of the first mortgage. The City shall have the right of first refusal to buy out the first mortgage from the primary lender in the event of foreclosure.

e. Upon any refinancing, sale or other disposition of the property following the affordability period, the loan provided by the City and the additional mortgage assistance loan, where applicable, shall become due and payable immediately. In the event that the lending institution mortgage is paid off in full, the full amount of these loans shall become due and payable within ninety (90) days thereafter.

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

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

Discussion:

(Resale, Recapture Continued)

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

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

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

3. The percentage of change as calculated by the Housing Price Index (HPI) Calculator of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The HPI Calculator is currently located at www.fhfa.gov 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.

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.

7. *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.

8. *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.

9. Homeownership is defined as ownership in fee simple title or a 99-year leasehold interest in a one-to-four unit dwelling. The ownership interest may be subject only to the restrictions on mortgages, deeds of trust, or other liens or instruments securing debt on the property as approved by the PJ.

10. Underwriting and Market Analysis shall be conducted by the Subrecipient/Developer or homebuyer's financial lending institution and submitted to the City for review and approval.

Attachments

Citizen Participation Comments



FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Altoona has established the following schedule for community participation in the development of the City's 2015 CDBG/HOME Annual Plan and the adoption of the 5-Year HUD Consolidated Plan. The Annual Plan is the 1-year Housing and Community Development Program containing projects that will be funded by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The 5-Year Plan is a community planning document containing housing and community development needs that have been identified in Altoona, a 5-year strategy for addressing those needs and the Annual Plan. The 2015 Annual Plan will address funding for the period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. The 5-Year Plan will be established for the period of Program Years 2015 through 2019.

City of Altoona
Schedule for Preparing the 2015 Annual Plan and
The 5-year HUD Consolidated Plan

Wednesday, February 4, 2015 5:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 1301 12th Street, 4th Floor	1st Community Public Hearing - To provide information on the Consolidated Plan, the Annual Plan and eligible activities and to accept comments on identified community needs, programs and projects.
Friday, March 6, 2015	Deadline for submission of applications for the 2015 projects
Wednesday, March 18, 2015	Anticipated date of City publication of proposed 2015 Annual Plan and the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. Note: Date of publication begins mandatory 30-day public comment period before action can be taken.
Wednesday, April 14, 2015 5:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 1301 12th Street, 4th Floor	2nd Community Public Hearing - To present and accept comment on the proposed 2015 Annual Plan and the Consolidated Plan.
Wednesday, April 22, 2015 7:00 p.m. Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers 1320 Washington Avenue	Anticipated date for City Council to present the finalized 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, accept final comments, and adopt Consolidated Plan.
Wednesday, May 13, 2015	Submit 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan to HUD.

The City encourages participation on housing and community development needs prior to preparation/update of the 5-Year HUD Consolidated Plan and Annual Plan by all citizens, organizations and other interested parties. Participation and involvement is especially recommended for lower income residents and residents of community development and urban renewal areas. The City will provide, upon request, technical assistance to citizens and citizen organizations that represent persons of low and moderate income. Assistance may include special informational meetings, meetings with technical advisors, requested information, assistance with preparing a project request and completing the application form or any such assistance necessary to aid in understanding and participation. Citizens who wish to review information obtained by the City for the development of the 5-Year HUD Consolidated Plan or Annual Plan may do so by contacting the City. Meetings held to develop or discuss the documents are open to the public pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act and citizens may attend or request a copy of the summary of a meeting. If you are unable to attend the community public hearings and wish to comment, or if you wish to obtain a project application form, please contact the City, at the address or phone numbers shown below, for assistance. Comments can be made at any time, in person, by phone, FAX or mail. Project requests must be submitted in writing using the City's application form and must be submitted by Friday, March 6, 2015.

All meetings are held in locations that are accessible to persons with disabilities. Upon request, the City of Altoona will accommodate the needs of participants with hearing or visual impairments and non-English speaking participants who identify those needs in advance. Information will be made available upon request in large print, on audio tape or in Braille. Please contact the City at the address or phone numbers shown below. A Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is prepared by the City after the close of each program year. The 2014 CAPER will be available for review no later than August 29, 2015, for a 30-day comment period and a public hearing before filing with HUD. The CAPERs are available for review upon request. Citizens who would like to file a complaint about the Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan or CAPER Report should submit their complaint in writing to the City at the address shown below. The City will respond to all written complaints within 15 days, when practicable. Citizens may also file complaints with HUD at U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Moorehead Federal Building, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2515, to the attention of Mr. John Tolbert, CPD Director. The City uses a Public Participation Mailing List to disseminate information to special needs groups, minority organizations, as well as other individuals and groups interested in the Consolidated Plan. If you do not currently receive information and wish to be placed on the mailing list, please contact the City at the address or phone numbers shown below.

City of Altoona
Department of Planning &
Community Development
1301 12th Street, Suite 400
Altoona, PA 16601

voice: (814) 949-2470
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AGENDA

**1st Community Public Hearing
City Hall Conference Room
a1301 12th Street, 4th Floor
Wednesday, February 4, 2015
5:00 p.m.**

I. **Welcome & Introduction**

II. **Purpose of Hearing**

III. **Define Consolidated Plan and Annual Plan**

2015 Estimated Annual Plan Allocations

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$1,456,159
HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)	242,275

Total	\$1,698,434
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IV. **Time Schedule for Submission of 2015 Annual Plan
and adoption of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan**

V. **Questions and/or comments from the Public**

VI. **Closing Remarks**

VII. **Adjournment**

Community Development Block Grant
HOME Investment Partnership Grant
1st Community Public Hearing
City Hall Conference Room
Fourth Floor
1301 12th Street
Wednesday, February 4, 2015
5:00 P.M.

NAME	AGENCY	TESTIMONY
TOM STOUT	G.B. KELLEY	✓
John Gray	Nehemiah	
Bill Kibik	MIRROR	
MARY Johnson	Staff	
Lee Slusser	Staff	
Carl Fischer	Staff	

Meeting Minutes
City of Altoona
1st Community Public Hearing
2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments
Community Development Block Grant
HOME Investment Partnership Grant
City Hall Conference Room
1301 12th Street, 4th Floor
Wednesday, February 4, 2015
5:00 P.M.

Mr. Lee Slusser, Director of the Planning and Community Development Department, opened the meeting and introduced Mary Johnson, CDBG Program Manager and Carl Fischer, Deputy Director/Housing Manager. The purpose of the public hearing is for the preparation of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, 2015 Annual Plan and preparation of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. This hearing allows the citizens of the City of Altoona the opportunity to express their concerns and/or needs and also gives them an opportunity to apply for funding from the various programs. This process is necessary to comply with the City's Citizen Participation Plan 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. Mr. Slusser also explained that the purpose of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice was to find what factors limited fair housing choice to key demographic groups and prepare strategies to overcome these factors as much as possible. As an example of an Impediment, he mentioned the lack of accessibility in much of the City's older housing stock. He then turned the meeting over to Mary Johnson.

Mrs. Johnson discussed the handouts available for tonight's meeting which included the schedule of events, eligible/ineligible activities and national objectives, a list of available HUD documents, proposed goals and strategies for HUD programs and the Analysis of Impediments (AI), minutes from all agency meetings, list of City Council members and applications for funding requests. Mrs. Johnson discussed the events that took place over the Summer of 2014 in preparation of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan (ConPlan) and Analysis of Impediments (AI). Starting with the hiring of Urban Design Ventures, Consultants, to assist the City in preparing the Consolidated Plan, the AI and the 2015 Annual Plan. She stated that several meetings were held with local agencies, housing providers, and City Directors. These meetings were held at City Hall, which is accessible for persons with disabilities. The City also held a public hearing on June 19, 2014 for citizen participation which was advertised in the local newspaper 10 days prior to the meeting, also listed on the City's Web Page, aired on the local radio stations and was publicized on the Public Access Channel. A computer generated survey form was also available on the City's Web Page. At this time Mrs. Johnson went over the goals

and strategies proposed for the 5-year ConPlan. She then went over the time schedule for the submission of the ConPlan and the Annual Plan and the proposed funding amounts to be received for the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnership Program.

The meeting was then opened for public questions and comments.

Mr. Thomas Stout
2322 15th Avenue
Altoona, PA

Mr. Stout asked why the installation of bathrooms and a sewer line at the Geesey Park Ballfield could not be considered as a slum and blight activity because no bathrooms or sewer lines currently exist at the ballfield. Staff explained the project must eliminate existing conditions of blight, installing new public facilities and infrastructure is not considered eliminating. Mr. Stout also communicated his unhappiness that Geesey Park is not eligible for an activity based on low/moderate income area benefit.

Mr. Michael Gray
The Nehemiah Project

Mr. Gray asked about low/moderate areas and any housing programs that were available to homeowners and renters. Mr. Carl Fischer briefly explained the City's Housing Programs and provided Mr. Gray with several housing program information packets. Mr. Gray mentioned the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funding and Mr. Fischer responded that the City is no longer considered an entitlement community for ESG Funds but the City did receive state ESG funding last year and because it was a two year program all funds have already been committed. The City cannot apply for more funding until the two years are completed.

Mr. Bill Kibler
Altoona Mirror

Mr. Kibler asked about the Housing Programs provided by the City. Mr. Fischer provided him with brief descriptions of each of the City's Programs.

As there was no further public comment, the hearing was adjourned.



SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE OF DISPLAY OF PLANS AND PUBLIC HEARING
FOR FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN &
FY 2015 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, 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 2015-2019, an Annual Action Plan for FY 2015, 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 Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at the following locations:

Altoona Area Public Library
1600 9th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602

Altoona City Hall
1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601

Altoona Housing Authority
2700 Pleasant Valley, Altoona, PA 16602

These plans will be available for public inspection during normal business hours of operation. Written or oral comments will be accepted until April 22, 2015. Comments may be directed to Mr. Lee C. Slusser, AICP, Director of Planning and Community Development, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601.

A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 5:00PM in the City Hall Conference Room of Altoona City Hall. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the FY 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan for the City's housing and community development needs, the FY 2015 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$1,418,181 plus an estimated \$200,000 of program income and for the use of HOME funds in the amount of \$194,238, and the 2015 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice as the City's commitment to affirmatively further fair housing. The Altoona City Hall and the City Hall Conference Room are accessible to persons with physical disabilities. 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) 949-0364, to make those arrangements. The City intends to submit these documents to HUD on or before May 15, 2015.

The Proposed Five Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2015 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 2015 Annual Action Plan:

1. Public Services	
Neighborhood Bike Patrol	\$ 215,176.00
2. Public Facilities Improvements/Infrastructure Improvements	
Street Reconstruction in low/mod areas	\$ 200,500.00
Broad Avenue Curb & Sidewalk Improvements	\$ 250,500.00
Street Light Enhancement in low/mod areas	\$ 90,000.00
3. Housing Rehabilitation	
Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation	\$ 250,376.00
Pleasant Village Rehabilitation	\$ 54,800.00
4. Clearance/Demolition	
Blighted Property Demolition	\$ 228,000.00
5. Code Enforcement	
Code Enforcement in low/mod areas	\$ 55,976.80
6. General Administration	
Housing & Community Development Administration	\$ 323,632.20
Total FY 2015 CDBG Funds for Project Activities	= \$1,618,161.00

The following HOME activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2015 Annual Action Plan:

1. Rental Rehabilitation Program	\$ 49,814.20
2. CHDO- Improved Dwellings for Altoona	\$ 125,000.00
3. HOME Administration	\$ 19,423.80
Total FY 2015 HOME Funds for Project Activities	= \$ 194,238.00

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 attend this public hearing and will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the proposed plans and use of Federal funds under the FY 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2015 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. Persons with hearing and/or speech impediments may contact the City via 711.

AGENDA

**2nd Community Public Hearing
City Hall Conference Room
1301 12th Street, 4th Floor
Wednesday, April 15, 2015
5:00 p.m.**

- I. Welcome & Introduction
- II. Purpose of Hearing – To present and accept comment on the proposed Plans
- III. Define Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

2015 Annual Plan Allocations	
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$1,418,161
HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)	\$ 194,238
2015 Estimated Program Income	\$ 200,000
Total	\$1,812,399
- IV. Time Schedule for Adoption and Submission of the of 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, 2015 Annual Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
- V. Questions and/or comments from the Public
- VI. Closing Remarks
- VII. Adjournment

Community Development Block Grant
HOME Investment Partnership Grant
2nd Community Public Hearing
City Hall Conference Room
Fourth Floor
1301 12th Street
Wednesday, April 15, 2015
5:00 P.M.

NAME	AGENCY	TESTIMONY
Bill Kibler		Art Mason
Lee Susa	City of Altoona	No.
Walt Haglund	Urban Design Ventures	yes
Jonathan Russell	Urban Design Ventures	yes
Paul Fischer	City of Altoona	no
Mary Johnson	City of Altoona	no

Meeting Minutes
City of Altoona
2nd Community Public Hearing
2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments
Community Development Block Grant
HOME Investment Partnership Grant
City Hall Conference Room
1301 12th Street, 4th Floor
Wednesday, April 15, 2015
5:00 P.M.

Mr. Lee Slusser, Director of the Planning and Community Development Department, Carl Fischer, Deputy Director/Housing Manager, Mary Johnson, CDBG Program Manager, Bette Fischer, Clerical Associate, Walt Haglund and Jonathan Russell, Consultants from Urban Design Ventures were present for the public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing was to present and accept public comment on the proposed 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the 2015 Annual Plan and the 2015-2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. This process is necessary to comply with the City's Citizen Participation Plan by which citizens and citizen organizations of the community can comment on the Plans before City Council presents them for adoption.

Mr. William Kibler, from the city's local newspaper (Altoona Mirror) was present for the hearing but no one from the general public was in attendance. Therefore, the hearing was opened for questions from the reporter.

Mr. Slusser mentioned the City's citizen participation process that started last summer leading up to the strategies that were developed for both Plans. Mr. Slusser and Mr. Fischer responded to Mr. Kibler's question regarding housing rehabilitation projects. They described the Single Family Rehabilitation Program and Rental Rehabilitation Program in detail to Mr. Kibler and also how the City of Altoona compares with other communities.

Mr. Kibler wanted to know the amount of grants received by the City over the last ten years. Mrs. Johnson provided him with a spreadsheet listing every grant amount and program income received since 1993.

Mr. Kibler asked the Consultant, Walt Haglund, how he felt the City of Altoona was managing the grant programs. Mr. Haglund responded that the City is doing an excellent job handling all aspects of the programs.

As there was no further questions, the hearing was adjourned.



STAKEHOLDER/RESIDENT SURVEYS

**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: Your Choice Federal Credit Union

Address: 109 Keystone Street, Altoona, PA 16602

Contact: Delores Lepore

Title: Manager

Phone: 814-946-1293

Fax: 814-946-4084

E-Mail:

dlepore@yourchoicefcu.com

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Financial Institution we do Personal, Vehicle and Home Equity Loans, we offer savings, checking and club accounts, plus have Certificate of Deposits. We have online & mobile banking available to members, plus Visa and Gifts Cards.

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

Social/Human Services: No,

Housing: Home Equity

Planning: No

Community Development: No

Economic Development: No

Business Loans: No

Job Training: No

Other: Financial Institution

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.

Businesses within our field of membership plus low income region.

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

Area's that are being done for the children is well needed

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

I know we have a lot of low income housing but there seems to be a greater need for that in the city.

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

Help for people that don't make a lot of money but too much to qualify for assistance, ways to help them financially.

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: Sovereign Grace Church of Central PA

Address: 109 Bellview Street

Contact: Tom Kurtz

Title: Pastor

Phone: 814.949.5940

Fax:

E-Mail: tomkurtz@sovgracepa.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

we are a church and so provide religious training. we also seek to meet physical needs within our membership as well as in the community. with regard to the community we will help with short term housing, food, clothing, fuel assistance through use of gift cards to local merchants, and consultation to contact area assistance providers. we have also assisted with moves and with household work.

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.

we receive calls for housing assistance often from single mothers or those whose disability has been depleted for the month

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

job retraining is provided on many fronts, but actual job opportunity seems to be lacking. apprentice or internship opportunities would seem to be helpful. it seems especially hard for those looking for employment to find opportunity outside of food service or retail customer service.

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):

given the number of underfunded cemeteries in the city which suffer from irregular and inadequate maintenance, here is an opportunity for job retraining and community cooperation. perhaps with the assist of different trades from career and tech center, the manpower of unemployed there could be a public, private cooperative effort to maintain these large tracts. This may sound exotic, but a goat cooperative could be deployed into some these cemeteries and other overgrown tracts. The herd would require management but could also bring benefit from milk and meat. The communities then could be encouraged to work on other maintenance issues.

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

Name of Agency/Organization: Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission

Address: 2101 5th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602

Contact: K. Michael Hofer

Title: Executive Director

Phone: 814-949-2231

Fax: 814-949-2265

E-Mail:

hofer@cbreparcs.org

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

The Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission seeks to provide a broad spectrum of quality leisure opportunities for the citizens of Central Blair County. At the same time, we reduce our dependence on the tax dollar by generating new sources of revenue and increasing numbers of volunteers. Citizens' awareness, participation, and involvement are vital to the development of the Community

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

Social/Human Services: Yes

Housing: No

Planning: No

Community Development: Yes

Economic Development: No

Business Loans: No

Job Training: No

Other: Yes

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.

Our organization serves all income levels, age groups, and disbaled citizens of Central Blair County. Any individual looking for recreation and lesiure time activities we will serve.

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

The City has done a wonderful job of initializing and revitalizing our community parks over the past couple years. However it is just a start and by no means is the process near completion. The funds that have been dedicated to recreation and parks over the past few years have been extremely helpful and visible within our community. Without these funds our community parks and the citizens of Altoona would not have the opportunity to enjoy their community and its parks.

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):

The continued development of our community parks is an essential part of the revitalization puzzle we are currently constructing here in our community. Without the continued support of CDBG funding many of the proposed recreation and parks projects will cease. Our organization does not have a dedicated capital fund for the ongoing maintenance and development of our community parks. Providing quality parks and recreation facilities provides the youth in our community with positive outlets to develop their social and physical skills through sports and leisure time activities.

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

Name of Agency/Organization: Family Services Inc.

Address: 2022 Broad Avenue. Altoona PA 16601

Contact: Lisa Hann

Title: Executive Director

Phone: 814-944-3583

Fax: 814-944-8701

E-Mail:

lhannfamilyservicesinc.net

Brief description of programs your agency provides:

Domestic Violence Program and Shelter, PFA Office at Courthouse, Support groups, hotlines,
Family Shelter, case management, referrals,
Teen Center and Shelter, counseling, hotline, shelter and support group.
Crime Victim Services, accompaniment, counseling, hotline, support group
Counseling, Support group
Intellectual Disabilities, group home, respite, Alternative Day Program

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

Social/Human Services: yes

Housing:

Planning:

Community Development:

Economic Development:

Business Loans:

Job Training:

Other: Shelter

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.

Homeless, low income, Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities, Individuals with Mental Health Dx, Individuals with Drug & Alcohol Addiction, Crime Victims, Children, Adults and Seniors.

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

Affordable housing. Full-time jobs with a livable wage. Transitional Housing, More homeless shelter bed and sustainable funding for it.

What are the unmet housing needs in the City?

See above, also more section 8 vouchers.
Housing which will allow those with a criminal history

What are the unmet social service needs in the City?

childcare for those who are unemployed seeking work. existing programs are not available until someone actually has a job.
Parenting support.

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

I think the Fair housing issues are adequately addressed.

Comments/Suggestions (if any):

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Meeting with Public Works

Thursday, June 19, 2014 @ 11:00 AM

In attendance: David Diedrich, P.E., City of Altoona Department of Public Works; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Department of Public Works:

- The Department of Public Works:
 - Manages the passive parks;
 - City owns all of the parks; and
 - Manages the public infrastructure.
- A lot of effort has been put into many different recreational fields and recreational centers.
- The City just built a "spray park" with a combination of City funds, DCNR funds, and EDI funds.
- Public Works also completed a playground built at the Booker T. Washington Park.
- The department's budget is roughly \$3.5 to 4 million annually.
- City buildings are in good condition.
- Many of the City's ball fields are sponsored by the leagues that use them.
- The City has purchased a lot of homes through FEMA and PEMA that are located in flood zones.
 - A total of 24 homes were acquired and demolished.
- Residents in the City take care of their own sidewalks.
- The Water Authority is very well run.
 - There is a plan to lease it for 50 years for \$150-\$200 million upfront.
 - The Water Authority brings in \$3 million to the City each year.
 - The center of the City of Altoona is a combined sewage system.
- Public works has a purchasing cooperative with the State (Costars) for their road salt. They can also use this system to purchase vehicles.

Identified Needs:

- The City's streets are in poor condition.
 - Public Works got a \$1 million bond issue to help cover the cost.
 - The City should be paving using 15,000 tons of asphalt, but are only using 13,000 tons.
 - Their goal is to implement a 15 year schedule to reconstruct all roads.
 - Within the City there are:

- 25 road miles of state roads
 - 181 road miles of City roads
- The City would like to convert all street lights to L.E.D.'s
 - This costs roughly \$300 per light fixture.
- On Broad Avenue, PennDOT butchered a bunch of trees lining the road. They then paid to have 75 trees removed and planted new trees to take their place.
- The City does not have a curb and sidewalk program.
- There are only 3 miles of bike paths throughout the City; this needs to be expanded.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Meeting with Social Service Agencies

Thursday, June 19, 2014 @ 9:00 AM

In attendance: Emily Freidhof, Kids First/Lilly Pond; Casey Shoup, Kids First/Lilly Pond; Christine Lysinger, Blair County Assistance Office; Amy Horell, Altoona Library; Virginia Day, Blair County NAACP; Christina Dambeck, Altoona Center for Nursing Care; Paulette Comet, City of Altoona; Mary Johnson, City of Altoona; Jackie Bevan, Family Services Incorporated; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Altoona Assisted Living Center:

- Have 120 skilled care beds and are 85% full
- Have 40 personal care beds and are over 95% full
- The organization has difficulties without a discharge plan for those that are not elderly or just over the income limit.
- The Point-in-Time surveys in Altoona reveal that there are low numbers of homeless individuals. These homeless tend to be single individuals and not families.
 - This low number can be explained by families taking in other family members who are homeless. They often will move from family member to family member.
- Family Services offers a family homeless shelter that is always full.
- The County has 3 shelters that serve the area, but none of them are handicap accessible. This might mean they will lose their ESG funding if they cannot make their buildings accessible.
- The organization also operates the only domestic violence center in Blair County. The shelter has 15 beds and there is usually only 1 or 2 empty.

NAACP:

- The number of Fair Housing complaints remains fairly constant at around 30 per year.
 - Some of these complaints are in regard to sexual harassment or sexual orientation discrimination
 - Most of the cases involve landlords who do not fulfill their obligations. i.e. maintenance, bed bugs, etc.
- Some individuals are hesitant to file a claim because they are concerned that there might be retaliation against them for doing so.
- If a lower income individual desires subsidized housing, they often have to be working while attending school full time to qualify. There are some lower income families who will have one spouse or adult quit their job so they can qualify for housing subsidies.

- There is a Kids First Program that offers an early intervention childcare option for low income individuals

Lilly Pond:

- The organization provides childcare to children with disabilities.
- Sometimes children go to stay with another family member or relative if their parent can no longer take care of them. This places a financial burden on their new family as childcare costs and healthcare costs increase.
- Families who are just above the income limits do not qualify for subsidies but do not have enough money to pay for childcare.
- Lilly Pond only operates until 6:00pm which means that evenings are not an option for those seeking childcare after normal working hours.
- Some churches in the Altoona area offer after school programs.
- They offer care at 8 different elementary schools; serving approximately 300-400 students.

Overall needs in the City:

- For an individual to qualify for childcare, they often have to be going to school full time and working. This means that the childcare does not cover all of that time and there is a gap in service.
- Elderly homeowners cannot afford to fix up their properties.
- Weatherization is a good program and should be expanded.
- The City has a deferred rehabilitation loan program that works to bring a house up to HQS standards.
- "Kinship Care" is an issue. Sometimes those who are technically "homeless" go from family member to family member.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Meeting with Economic Development Agencies

Wednesday, June 18, 2014 @ 3:00 PM

In attendance: Tom Seasultz, Altoona Blair County Development Corp; Pat Miller, Altoona Blair County Development Corp; Dave Clary, First National Bank; Joe Hurd, Chamber of Commerce; Dave Worthing, M&T Bank; Carl Fischer, City of Altoona; Mary Johnson, City of Altoona; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Altoona Blair County Development Corp.:

- ABCD Corp has a long relationship with the CDBG Program.
 - They used to offer an Economic Development Loan Fund
 - Low interest rate loan funds to businesses
 - Generated interest in the City as a place to relocate a business
 - This program was self-sufficient and did not actually require more loan funds
 - 80-85% solid loan program
 - The low- and moderate-income population requirements were not difficult to meet through job creation.
- They secured a salary for a Downtown Manager position to promote business growth and employment.
 - This position was eliminated when there were extremely high requirements for the number of jobs to be created by this program.
- They have a revolving loan fund of around \$9 million.
- ABCD put in a SPCC application for 7th street.
 - Raised \$187,000 to match the State funds.
 - Street-scape improvement project.

Chamber of Commerce:

- Blair County is entering into a property tax reassessment.
 - The last one was done in 1958.
- There is a need in the City to be even more aggressive with slum and blight issues even though there has been a lot of progress.
- The curbs and sidewalks program has been very successful and had a good impact.
- Police protection is also quite important.
- In Altoona, people are buying buildings downtown to rent apartments upstairs, but they are not doing anything about the first floor commercial spaces.
- There have been talks of building an extended stay hospital in Altoona.
 - This is part of the Sustainable Communities Program.

- There is another hotel looking to move downtown.

M&T Bank:

- People are buying apartment buildings in the downtown area due to the demand for affordable housing.
- There has also been a lot of business development downtown.
- Fourth Economy did a plan that identified a market for 500 market rate housing units downtown, immediately.
- \$850-\$1,000 is the average rental price for a 1 bedroom apartment.
- Need to get young professionals to move into downtown Altoona.

Act 47:

- Even though the City is in Act 47, it is not dying, but instead moving forward.
- There has been more business development downtown in the last 5 years than in the last 30.
- The County reassessment will help to bring in more revenues.
- The City's reputation throughout the Commonwealth is positive.
- There is an abundance of water and inexpensive real estate for sale. A winning combination for businesses.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Meeting with Police and Fire Chiefs

Thursday, June 19, 2014 @ 1:00 PM

In attendance: Janice Freehling, Altoona Police; Mike Tofano, City of Altoona Fire Department; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Fire Department:

- There are 62 Fire personnel who are fulltime and career firefighters.
 - 13 Individuals are on duty at all times not including the Chief, Deputy Chief and the Fire Inspector.
 - Firefighters must live in the City.
- The Fire Department has:
 - 4 staffed stations
 - 4 engines and a ladder truck
 - 2 spare pumpers and a spare ladder truck
 - 1 rescue truck
- The Fire Department runs the county's Hazmat services.
- The Fire Inspector makes sure plans are in accordance with the fire code and does the investigation if there is a suspicious fire.
- The largest cause of fires in the City is cooking.
- Arson is in the top 3 causes of fires in the City.
 - In 2013 there were over 20 arson fires in the City.
- Fires are oftentimes caused by the misuse of electrical cords.
- There are 7,000 children in their fire-prevention program.
- All but 10-12 of the firefighters are EMT certified.
 - Every firefighter hired after 2000 has to be EMT certified.
- The Fire Department responds to medical calls alongside the EMS.
 - This is their number one call category.
- Their fire extinguisher training reached 200-300 people Citywide.
- When the Fire Department received grant money in the past, they used it to purchase smoke detectors and would install them for free in people's homes.
- There are 80-120 structure fires annually and 200-300 home fires.

Police Department:

- The Police Department has 66 police officers.
- There is a Bike Patrol Unit that works to form a positive image in the community.
- 1 officer is paid by the Housing Authority to cover the public housing units.

- There are 3 divisions within the Police Department:
 - Patrol
 - 4 units of patrol officers, 1 of those units is directed by the Police Chief
 - Investigation
 - Narcotics
- Chief Freshling has been the Police Chief since 2001.
- There are 12 marked patrol units and 15 unmarked patrol cars.
- Drug related crimes is the largest category of crimes the Police Department deals with.
- Violent Crime was up in the City last year. This corresponds with the fact that the Police Department operated with only 50 officers during that time period.

Issues in the City:

- Act 47 scared some people.
 - 9 firemen left
 - 15 police officers left
- The Act 47 plan did not include the Police Chief or the Fire Chief in the contract negotiations.
- There is a 4 year wage freeze.
- Homelessness is not an issue in the City.
 - There is more of a transient homeless population.
- There was 1 known "meth" lab in the City and it got shut down.
- The Bike Patrol units go to the schools and talk with children.
- The Police Department gives out gun locks for free.
- The Police Department operates a prescription drug drop off box.
- The Fire Department would like funding to reinitiate their smoke detector program.
- The Fire Department identified the following needs:
 - Used CDBG funding to purchase 2 fire trucks in the past.
 - They do not have the resources to purchase more.
 - 2 of their fire trucks are bumping up against their lifespan and will need to be completely overhauled or replaced.
- One of the biggest problems in the City is slum and blight, but the City is doing a good job of addressing it.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

**Meeting with Department of Planning and
Community Development Staff**

Wednesday, June 18, 2014 @ 11:00 AM

In attendance: Mary Johnson, CDBG Manager; Carl Fischer, Deputy Director/Housing Program Manager; Paulette Cornet, Fair Housing Administrator; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

- There is only 1 CHDO in the City of Altoona. Nobody else has the capacity nor seems to be interested in becoming a CHDO.
 - Improved Dwellings for Altoona: Shelly Peterson - Director
- HOME dollars are used for:
 - Rehabilitation program
 - The balance is the CHDO set-aside.
- They need simple projects that move quickly and use the funds in a timely manner.
- Public service funds are only used to fund the City Police's "Bike Patrol Program."

Paulette Cornet:

- 2 of the 5 homeless shelters are not accessible to the handicapped.
- Domestic violence shelter is too expensive to make ADA compliant.
- The hospital owns the property and leases it to the shelter.
- The family shelter is also not ADA compliant.

Lee Slusser:

- Need to set up a technical assistance meeting with sub-recipients on ADA compliance.
- New regulations say that all ESG funded shelters must be ADA compliant.

Carl Fischer:

- Through the home rehabilitation program, 10% of the entire housing stock of the City of Altoona has been rehabilitated since the program's inception.
- 1,600-1,700 units have been rehabilitated.
- New home construction is probably not a good use of CDBG funds since it must be built by a non-profit. Housing rehabilitation seems to be a more cost effective use of CDBG funds than new construction.

Mary Johnson:

- The need for curb and sidewalk throughout the low/moderate income areas of the City.

- Continued funding for the City's demolition program.

Identified Needs:

- The largest need is for rehabilitation of affordable and accessible rental and homeowner housing.
- There is a huge need for rental and owner occupied housing.
- There is also a need for down payment assistance.
- Even though a lot of work has been done, there are still slum and blighting issues in the City.
- There is a need for infrastructure improvements in low- and moderate-income areas of the City.
- A potential change to the Citizen Participation Plan may be needed to identify a substantial amendment from 25% to 50%.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
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Phone Interview with the Blair County Community Action Agency (BCCAA)

Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 2:47 pm

Interview with William Hunter, Deputy Executive Director

- The BCCAA assembles and directs federal and local resources to address the multidimensional influences which impact the low-income and socially disadvantaged people of Blair County.
- The BCCAA works with the low-income population to weatherize their homes.
- They run a low-income housing energy assistance program (LIHEAP), which runs from November through March.
- The BCCAA offers a utility assistance program.
- The BCCAA receives five grants to help to eradicate homelessness in Blair County. Three of the grants cater to the general public. One is geared specifically to veterans and the other is intended for 18-25 year old males.
- They offer a HUD-certified housing counseling program that assists first time home buyers and those facing foreclosure.
- The BCCAA offers an employment training program.
- The BCCAA has a Social Security representative payee program. The goal of this program is to assist clients with managing their monthly Social Security benefit amount to secure stable housing and to avoid crises with food and shelter.
- There is a need in the City of Altoona for more public transportation, with longer hours and a more widespread area of coverage. Job seekers need access to the City where most of the jobs are available.
- There is a need for more low income housing units. Currently, the rent is too high. Twenty-nine percent of the households in Blair County are living on \$26,000 or less.
- There were 197 foreclosures in the past year.
- There is a need for the City to develop a housing strategy for the elderly population.
- Twenty-seven percent of the City is 65 or older. There is a need for the City to develop a plan to modify existing households to accommodate the elderly population. New construction is not a good option for the elderly population because it is too expensive.
- There is a need in the City for more shelter beds for the homeless. The homeless are often turned away from the one existing shelter in the City.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA
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Phone Interview with the City Manager

Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 3:45 pm

Interview with Peter S. Marshall, City Manager

- The department of the City Manager runs the day to day operations of the City while being advised by City Council.
- The department directs, supervises, and manages the City directors and departments.
- The department prepares the agenda for all Council Meetings, supplies facts pertinent thereto and attends all Council meetings.
- The department makes recommendations to Council concerning municipal policy and other matters.
- The department prepares and presents to Council the annual operating budget and long range fiscal plans for the City.
- The department negotiates labor contracts and other contracts with respect to the City.
- The City is experiencing some economic development by way of the downtown housing plan and hotel development.
- The City needs more high-income housing in the downtown area. Most of the current housing in center city is Section 8 housing.
- The City of Altoona needs to maintain blighted and abandoned properties within the City until they are purchased or demolished.
- Altoona should continue to provide assistance to the housing agencies as it has in the past.
- Low income housing is still needed in the City.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA
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Phone Interview with the Center for Independent Living of South Central PA (CILSCPA)

Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 11:00 am

Interview with George Palmer

- The Mission of the Center for Independent Living of South Central PA is to empower people with disabilities to lead independent lives in their communities.
- CILSCPA strives, through advocacy and collective action, to remove physical and attitudinal barriers that prevent persons with disabilities from exercising their rights, achieving personal independence, and participating fully in the life of the community.
- Programs, services & trainings provided by CILSCPA teach consumers to take responsibility for their own abilities to live independently.
- In Blair County, there are more than 24,000 people with disabilities.
- There is a need for more jobs and housing for those with disabilities in Altoona.
- The City of Altoona should enact a plan to move all social service organizations to one building or one area and create a "One Stop Super Shop". This would reduce overhead. Also, the people using these services would benefit from the convenience and time and money savings of having everything in one location.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA
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Phone Interview with the Altoona Evergreen Manors, Inc.

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 10:30 am

Interview with Michelle Peterson

- Evergreen Manor includes 159 apartments in the Eldorado section of Altoona. All rents include utilities. 128 of the apartments have rent subsidies.
- There is a need in the City of Altoona for more subsidized housing.
- There is a need for programs that assist low income individuals with repairs to their homes. Evergreen Manor receives a lot of calls requesting assistance and they are unaware of any programs offered by the city.
- There is a lack of understanding among low income youths on how to clean and maintain a home, as well as how to manage money and budget expenses. The City should offer some type of life skills training to educate low income youths.
- Some landlords in the private sector are less aware of Fair Housing guidelines.
- Some landlords do not abide by the guidelines because they do not receive government funding and, therefore, do not acknowledge that these guidelines apply to them.

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Phone Interview with the Allegheny Highland Association of Realtors

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 11:00 am

Interview with LuAnn Hoffman

- There is a need in the City of Altoona for more Section 8 housing. There are many people receiving disability benefits and waiting for housing to become available.
- The City has a lot of vacant properties in the downtown and surrounding areas.
- There is a need for Altoona to provide more support for small businesses to keep them from closing their doors.
- There is a need for the City to encourage new business development.
- There is a need for the City to entice new and existing businesses to take over vacant property so that it doesn't sit empty for so long.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA
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Phone Interview with the Habitat for Humanity – Blair County

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 11:30 am

Interview with Kathy Spade

- Habitat for Humanity of Blair County builds affordable homes for working, low income individuals and families.
- Selected families purchase the homes from Habitat for Humanity at 0% interest.
- Habitat for Humanity serves all individuals who fall into the 30th-70th percentile of the national poverty level.
- The homebuyers must have reasonable credit to qualify and must contribute some equity to the home.
- The City of Altoona has a great deal of substandard housing. There is a need for the City to offer more decent and affordable housing.
- There is a need to provide more low income housing for the elderly. Currently, there is a waiting list for these individuals.

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Phone Interview with the Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 2:30 pm

Interview with Gloria Pattie

- The Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (BCAB) is a nonprofit organization committed to enhancing the quality of life for visually-impaired individuals throughout the community.
- The BCAB provides advocacy, free educational programs, low cost eyewear, as well as many other specialized and supportive services.
- The BCAB provides escorted transportation to and from medical appointments, etc.
- The BCAB provides a bill paying service at no charge.
- BCAB offers practical education and training that is needed for some in order to perform everyday living activities. Instruction topics may include nutrition, food preparation, consumer education, financial management, healthcare and family problem resolution.
- They offer supportive services that enable customers to remain in their own homes.
- The Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind offers free vision screenings for children and adults.
- BCAB offers Eye Education and Safety Programs to adults and children.
- Eligible applicants must have either 20/70 vision in the best eye with correction, a field of vision loss of at least 20 degrees, or a degenerative eye disease and low income status.
- The City is in need of additional recreational facilities and activities to keep children off of the streets.
- There is a need in the City for more homeless shelter space.
- The City should consider distributing food directly to the homeless population on the streets instead of only in food banks and in the homeless shelter. An example of a City that has successfully done this is San Antonio, TX.

- There is a need to provide additional low income housing that would, in turn, eliminate the current waiting list.

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Phone Interview with the Blair County Drug and Alcohol Services

Tuesday, November 18th @ 10:45 am

Interview with Judy Rosser

- The Blair County Drug and Alcohol program provides prevention, education, intervention and referral to treatment services to individuals and families in the county.
- The Blair County Drug and Alcohol program offers drug and alcohol assessments.
- They offer case management, prevention programming, and DUI programming.
- The Blair County Drug and Alcohol program serves all members of the community when conducting initial evaluations and offering prevention programming.
- Only those without insurance can receive treatment from the Blair County Drug and Alcohol program.
- Many individuals who are receiving treatment and who also have a criminal history have a difficult time finding jobs. As a result, many of these same people are without housing. The City needs to find a way to allow these individuals more opportunities to better their lives.
- There is a need for more alternative activities for the City's youth population.
- There is a need for more meals to be delivered to children in unattended homes.
- There is a need for more public transportation that provides adequate coverage.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA
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Phone Interview with Sheetz, Inc.

Thursday, November 20th @ 3:00 pm

Interview with Steve Augustine, Assistant Vice President – Real Estate

- Sheetz Inc. is a family owned and operated convenience store chain.
- Since 1952, Sheetz has grown from a small dairy/deli in Altoona, PA, to one of the fastest growing family-owned convenience stores in the world, with more than 437 locations across six states — Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio and North Carolina — and more than 14,500 employees.
- Sheetz operates 16 stores in Blair County, 4 of which are in the City of Altoona.
- The population in the City of Altoona is declining, partly due to aging residents and a changing economy.
- There is a need for Altoona to address and control the growing drug problem.
- There is a need for Altoona to develop new businesses and areas throughout the City.
- Sheetz is opening a new store near the hospital. New developments in this area made opening a store here appealing. If the City continues to develop areas of the City, more businesses like Sheetz would be willing to invest.

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Phone Interview with Improved Dwellings for Altoona

Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 11:30am

Interview with Michelle Peterson, Executive Director

- Improved Dwellings for Altoona (IDA) has managed low-income housing in the City of Altoona for the past 47 years.
- IDA has approximately 600 housing units throughout the City of Altoona. These units are located on 11 different properties.
- IDA is the City's only CHDO.
- The organization has no current plans for expansion in the City and are instead focusing their efforts on preserving their current housing stock.
- Because the organization has been around for a long time, much of its housing stock is older and in need of modernization. Their reserve fund for maintenance is running low.
- Many of the residents in IDA's housing units are elderly tenants.
- The organization has a supportive services coordinator that focuses on the following:
 - Employment
 - Family household financial management
 - Family household basic housekeeping and property management
- IDA provides accessible housing for seniors, however, there is not a lot of one story housing units that are accessible.
- Ms. Peterson said, "In general, people are aware of fair housing laws and how to report a fair housing complaint."
- IDA has had a great working relationship with the City and wishes to continue that relationship in the future.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Meeting with the Superintendent of the Altoona Area School District

Wednesday, June 18, 2014 @ 1:00 PM

In attendance: Thomas Otto, Ph.D., Superintendent of Altoona Area School District; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Superintendent of Altoona Area School District:

- In the Altoona Area School District, there are:
 - 7,800 students
 - 8 elementary schools
 - 1 Jr. high school
 - 1 Sr. high school
- The school district has a 92% graduation rate and an 85% attendance rate.
- 20% of the students are in special education programs.
 - 99% of the special education program is conducted by the school district itself.
 - These special education students are mainstreamed.
- Most of the graduates either go to higher education, find employment or enter the armed forces.
- There is a Career Technology Center near the school which provides students with vocational skills.
- The school district owns the public library and it is located on the high school's campus.
- The school district offers a GED program that graduates between 150-200 individuals per year.
- They also provide an adult literacy program.
- The school district would like to repurpose Wright Elementary School.
 - They currently own this building but do not use it.
 - The amount of money they could sell it for is not worth getting rid of it.
 - They are considering making the building into a magnet school with very modern technology.
 - They would like to purchase vacant buildings surrounding the building to provide off-street parking.
 - Is this a possible use of CDBG funds? (Yes)
- There is a family (the Little Family) that fills backpacks with nutritious food for students to take home with them on the weekends.
- The district has hired an English language facilitator, but there has not been much need for the services.
- The school district (students, faculty, and staff) perform a lot of community service work.

Needs Identified:

- The school district needs funds to increase personnel.
 - They would like to hire more guidance counselors and elementary teachers.
- There are many needs for impoverished families in the area.
- They conducted a poverty simulation for social service agencies to identify what issues poverty causes in families.
- 62% of students in the district qualify for free or reduced lunches.
- Many teachers offer after-school programs
 - Athletics
 - Special-interest clubs
- Community groups use the school district's facilities for free.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Phone Meeting with Mayor Matt Pacifico

Thursday, June 12, 2014 @ 4:00PM

In attendance: Matt Pacifico, Mayor, City of Altoona; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process

Mayor Pacifico:

- The general problems facing the City are: a lack of funding; a need to improve the City's infrastructure (streets and sidewalks); and more staff in the code enforcement office.
- There are a lot of economic development needs. There has been limited growth in the business district. New businesses are hesitant to move in. After 5:00pm the downtown is virtually empty.
- There are high unemployment issues facing the City.
- The ABCD Corporation and the Blair County Chamber of Commerce are excellent resources and have been working to improve the business climate and diversity in the area. There are potential opportunities for growth in the City. However, there is a lack of motivation and incentives to open up new businesses in the downtown area of the City.
- Penn State extension has expanded its presence downtown which will hopefully encourage other types of investment.
- The City of Altoona has been an Act 47 municipality for the last year and a half. The City's Recovery Plan is not yet completed.
- The police and fire departments were very cooperative in the most recent round of salary and benefit negotiations. They know the City is facing financial hardships.
- After entering Act 47, they have cut staff and vital City services to help reduce spending. The Act 47 coordinator has been extremely pleased with the City's progress.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
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Meeting with AMTRAN Eric Wolf

Wednesday, June 18, 2014 @ 2:00 PM

In attendance: Eric Wolf, Amtran General Manager; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Eric Wolf:

- The City does not offer enough; there is one bus per hour, including during rush hour.
- "Choice Riders" would be ideal, but Altoona does not have the critical mass.
- There is minimal rural service.
- Previously received CDBG funds for a low/mod income bus route.
- People with disabilities in the community are a significant part of their ridership.
- Blair Senior Services is subcontracted for all of their ridership, Monday – Friday.
- Long-term plans, hold their own. Younger, millennial generation want more options on transportation.
- There is an under-employment problem, need more job training, more vocational tech training.
- There are no transportation requests from industries outside the area.
- Unemployment is low, therefore there are no requests from industrial park occupants.
- There is good service to the mall.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
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Meeting with Lee Slusser

Thursday, June 19, 2014 @ 2:20 PM

In attendance: Lee Slusser, Department of Planning and Community Development; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The purpose of this meeting was to examine the City's Zoning Ordinances to check for Fair Housing appropriate language.

- The Zoning Ordinance was written and revised in 2003.
 - Chapter 535. Part 3. 535-27 through 535-89.
 - Fair Housing was not mentioned in the Ordinance
 - Observations:
 - The definitions used throughout the Ordinance were very good
 - 4 disabled individuals living together is considered a "family," not a group home.
 - Consider adding a definition for "Fair Housing Act," "Accessibility," and "Visitability."

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Meeting with Director of Finance and Human Resources

Thursday, June 19, 2014 @ 4:00 PM

In attendance: Omar P. Strohm, Finance Director and Human Resources Director; Carl Fischer, City of Altoona; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Department of Finance and Human Resources:

- The City met 4 of the 11 criteria to be eligible for Act 47 designation.
 - There were no huge holes in the governmental financial structure.
 - There was simply a cash flow problem.
 - The level of service the City can provide has decreased with funding
 - City employee morale and turnover has been adversely affected by Act 47.
- Altoona is a flat organization and very thin. There is a huge issue with succession. If a senior member of the organization leaves, there has been nobody groomed to take their place.
- They have also tried to decentralize the government by making employees responsible for many facets of government operations.
- The needs of the City have been driven by a lack of funds. The City addresses only the issues it can afford to address.
- Real-estate taxes comprise roughly 1/3 of the City's revenue.
 - Of all of the property in the City, 1/3 is tax exempt.
- When the County Reassessment occurs, the millage rate will likely be cut in half so the City does not bump up against its cap.
- There has been little issue with residents paying their taxes.
- The City does not have a concentration of blight or concentrated area that is depressed.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Meeting with Housing Agencies

Thursday, June 19, 2014 @ 3:00 PM

In attendance: Alicia Madden, Blair Senior Services; Carl Fischer, City of Altoona; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Blair Senior Services:

- One of the largest issues facing the City of Altoona is the availability of affordable housing, especially for those on a fixed income.
 - Sometimes individuals on fixed incomes have varying expenses.
- Blair Senior Services works to help individuals to follow a reasonable budget.
- Rent is increasing throughout the City. Rent oftentimes does not include utilities, which is also becoming more expensive.
- An average month's rent is around \$800 for a family.
- Families sometimes live in "stacked living" situations meaning there are too many people in one house. These individuals are oftentimes on the verge of homelessness.
- Transportation is also an issue for the elderly.
 - If you live outside of the City, you're out of luck in finding public transportation.
 - It is also difficult for the elderly to find transportation to locate other housing.
- Blair Senior Services provides a variety of services to the elderly including:
 - A transportation program;
 - Eviction prevention programs;
 - Homelessness program;
 - A senior companion program;
 - Waiver assistance; and
 - A senior center.
- Blair Senior Services determines the income eligibility of persons for all programs.
- Each month the organization helps roughly 50 individuals.
- The organization's main source of funds are HAP funds from the State and various Federal Funds.
- There are 3 senior centers throughout the County. It is a large organization.
- The shared ride program works to transport seniors around the County and City of Altoona.
 - They have over 30 vans/buses.
 - All of them are handicapped accessible.
- There is also a representative payee program for seniors that helps them manage their expenditures.

Needs Identified:

- There are huge transportation needs for the elderly in Altoona and Blair County.
- There are not enough emergency shelter beds.
- There is a need for education (GED) and vocational training.
- Poverty and the problems within families are cyclical and it is difficult to break the pattern.
- Blair Senior Services is currently working on a database for nonprofits to track the services individuals receive and where they have obtained those services.
- The HMIS system is not really used because it is difficult to obtain all of the information needed.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND
ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE**

Meeting with Fair Housing Organizations

Friday, June 20, 2014 @ 11:00 AM

In attendance: Beth Dodson, Catholic Charities; Michelle Johnston, Catholic Charities; Billie Egan, Blair County Community Action; Bill Kitt, Landlords Association; Paulette Cornet, City of Altoona; Carl Fischer, City of Altoona; Walter Haglund, Urban Design Ventures; Jonathan Russell, Urban Design Ventures.

The consultants introduced themselves and explained the CDBG planning process.

Catholic Charities:

- They have an emergency finance program, offer poverty counseling, work with emergency housing situations, and provide housing counseling for persons facing eviction.
- Personal budgeting issues are the result of a lack of money coming in and too much discretionary spending.
- Some people will change their addresses, phone numbers, and the family members on their forms. This is to evade creditors.
- There is a gap in services for sex offenders.
- Organizations cannot provide housing to sex offenders.
- People from outside the City of Altoona are coming into the City but there is not enough housing to meet the demand for it.
- Sometimes people refuse services and advice from Catholic Charities. Clients do not want to be told how to spend their money and there is nothing Catholic Charities can do to force them to change their budgeting practices.

Landlords Association:

- The 90 members of the Landlords Association have a total of 3,500 rental properties in the region.
- Bill Kitt (president of the Landlords Association) sits on a committee on student housing and rentals.
- The organization is trying to improve the image of landlords as people, and will work with their tenants.
- Working to create a website where landlords can post vacant properties. Many currently use "Craigslist" to advertise.
- There are definitely some bad landlords in the City.
- There should be a way to get the landlords to work with the City on a variety of issues.
- Each member of the organization must adhere to a Code of Ethics on managing their properties and rentals.

- PA Landlord-Tenant Act
 - Not great for landlords
 - Can take 12-15 months to get a bad tenant evicted
 - As a result, landlords have been setting their credit score requirements higher and higher. As long as they do this equally for all of their tenants, it does not become a Fair Housing issue.
 - It is not such a bad thing that the Landlord Tenant Act is slanted toward the tenant.
 - Many times the tenant does not read the lease nor do they know their rights and is easily taken advantage of.
- There is a College Ordinance in the City that regulates:
 - How many students can live together
 - Off street parking availability
 - Mandatory inspections

Blair County Community Action:

- Blair County Community Action offers:
 - Mortgage foreclosure assistance
 - Supportive services for veterans
 - Transitional housing program
 - Representative Payee services – charge nominal fee
 - PA Workwear – Clothing for interviews
 - Budget counseling
 - HUD certified housing counseling
- They work with the county's Emergency Homeowners Solution Program.
- The biggest need facing Altoona is rental assistance.
- The organization works with veterans and the Pittsburgh Veterans Association to help veterans find housing.

**CITY OF ALTOONA, PA – CONFIDENTIAL CITIZEN QUESTIONNAIRE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS NEEDS**

The City of Altoona, Pennsylvania is preparing its CDBG and HOME Programs Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. As part of the planning process, the City is conducting a survey to identify citizens' needs in the community, ideas on how the residents would like to see funds under the CDBG and HOME Programs spent, and fair housing concerns, such as acts of discrimination or barriers that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals. Please take a few minutes and complete this confidential questionnaire to the best of your ability. If you are unsure of an answer, or the question does not apply to you, please feel free to skip that question. Thank you for your assistance in helping us to identify citizens' needs and fair housing issues in the City. When completed, please return completed survey to the City of Altoona Department of Planning and Community Development, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601. OR COMPLETE ONLINE at www.altoonapa.gov. The City would appreciate your response by Thursday, July 31, 2014.

1. **What is your street name and ZIP Code where you live in the City of Altoona?**
Street Name _____ ZIP Code: _____
2. **Gender:** Male Female
3. **Race/Ethnicity (choose all that apply):**
 White Black or African-American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander Hispanic or Latino Some Other Race Two or More Races
4. **Age:** 17 or younger 18-20 21-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 or older
5. **Number of persons living in your household?** One Two Three Four Five Six +
6. **What is the approx. total family income per year based on the number of persons in your household?**

1 person household	<input type="checkbox"/> above \$31,850	4 person household	<input type="checkbox"/> above \$45,500
	<input type="checkbox"/> below \$31,850		<input type="checkbox"/> below \$45,500
2 person household	<input type="checkbox"/> above \$36,400	5 person household	<input type="checkbox"/> above \$49,150
	<input type="checkbox"/> below \$36,400		<input type="checkbox"/> below \$49,150
3 person household	<input type="checkbox"/> above \$40,950	6 person household	<input type="checkbox"/> above \$52,800
	<input type="checkbox"/> below \$40,950		<input type="checkbox"/> below \$52,800
7. **Are you a homeowner?** Yes No
8. **Are you a renter?** Yes No
9. **What improvements to the recreational facilities would you like to see? Please list:**

10. **Are there any problems in your neighborhood with the following (choose all that apply):**
 Public Safety Streets Curbs/Sidewalks Handicap access Parking
 Traffic Storm sewers Sanitary sewers Litter Property Maintenance
Other: _____

11. **What, if any, medical care is missing or lacking in the City of Altoona and the surrounding area? Please list:**

12. **Do you use any of the social service programs available in the City?** Yes No

(Turn Over to Complete)

If yes, what programs do you use?

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

14. Are there any employment issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:

15. Are there any housing issues in the City of Altoona? Please list:

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.

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

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

18. 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"/>				

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

(Turn Over to Complete)

The City of Altoona's FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and FY 2015 Annual Action Plan was made available for public comment on the City's website (<http://www.altoonapa.gov/>), and copies were on display at:

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

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 Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan by Monday, April 20, 2015.

As a part of the consolidated planning process, the City of Altoona distributed a Citizen Questionnaire. Questionnaires were made available through the Department of Planning and Community Development and mailed to community stakeholders. Additionally, a link was posted on the City's website to an electronic version of the survey. There were a total of 77 questionnaires completed.

Some of the notable characteristics of respondents included (as a percentage of those that answered each question):

- The majority of respondents are male at 58.33% and 97.18% of respondents are White.
- 47.95% are over the age of 50.
- Of those that answered the question, 23.38% are low- to moderate-income for their family size.
- More than half, at 55.56%, come from one or two-person households.
- 81.25% are homeowners.

Some of the notable needs identified by respondents included problems with the following (as a percentage of those that answered each question):

- Curbs/Sidewalks – 55.56%
- Streets – 48.15%
- Property Maintenance – 33.33%
- Parking – 25.93%

- Storm Sewers – 22.22%
- Litter – 20.37%
- Traffic – 18.52%
- Public Safety – 11.11%
- Handicap Access – 9.26%
- Sanitary Sewers – 1.85%

Additional Comments or Concerns:

- No sidewalks to walk on because cars are parked on them.
- The cited problem with Oak Ridge is not limited to Oak Ridge. This is an opportunity for public/private/school cooperation. It requires coordination, creativity and manpower to turn these into job entry, entrepreneurial community pride.
- Blighted Housing still exists.
- There are dogs running at large.

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:

- 20.51% mentioned that they would like to see cleaner, more accessible, and better-lit park facilities, with updated and additional play equipment for youth.
- The following issues each received 5.13% of the responses:
 - The City should add bike lanes as part of Greenway Corridors.
 - There is a need for more indoor facilities and activities.
 - The City parks should be manicured more often.

Medical:

- 12.5% mentioned that UPMC has a monopoly on the area, and would like to see competing hospitals.
- 12.5% would like the medical services to be located in one area for ease of use, instead of having to travel around town for multiple appointments.

Social Services:

- Only 13.3% of respondents indicated that they used social services.

- Of those who used social services, 37.5% utilized services through Blair Senior Services.

Programs that are Missing or Under-funded:

- The Police Department is underfunded
- Drug rehabilitation.
- Acclimating recently released prisoners into the community.

Employment:

- 16.67% directly identified the lack of jobs that pay a living wage over low pay, part-time jobs.
- An additional 13.3% state that the area would greatly benefit from the inclusion of a manufacturing facility.

Housing:

- 41.18% mention a lack of accessible, safe, quality, and affordable rental housing.
- 26.47% responded there are too many absentee landlords and blighted properties as a result of absenteeism.
- 8.82% mentioned that there are many abandoned houses in the area that should be torn down.

Fair Housing:

- Responses to whether or not fair housing impediments included any act(s) of discrimination or barrier that might limit the housing choices of families and individuals:
 - 21.31% Yes
 - 37.70% No
 - 40.98% Unsure

Reasons Fair Housing Complaints Are Not Reported:

- 41.67% reported a lack of knowledge of fair housing issues and rights.
- 36.11% said that people may have a fear of reprisal and intimidation by landlords.

The following situations result in further discriminations and/or barriers to fair housing in the City of Altoona:

TABLE IV-20 SUMMARY OF CITIZEN COMMENTS

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Concentration of subsidized housing in certain neighborhoods	15.79%	24.56%	45.61%	8.77%	5.26%
Lack of affordable housing in certain areas	14.29%	42.86%	12.50%	21.43%	8.93%
Lack of accessible housing for persons with disabilities	8.93%	28.57%	44.64%	10.71%	7.14%
Lack of accessibility in neighborhoods (i.e. curb cuts)	7.02%	31.58%	40.35%	10.53%	10.53%
Lack of fair housing education	8.93%	28.57%	42.86%	10.71%	8.93%
Lack of fair housing organizations in the City	3.57%	17.86%	48.21%	17.86%	12.50%
State or Local laws and policies that limit housing choice	5.36%	14.29%	53.57%	17.86%	8.93%
Lack of knowledge among residents regarding fair housing	17.86%	32.14%	33.93%	8.93%	7.14%
Lack of knowledge among landlords and property managers regarding fair housing	15.79%	33.33%	26.32%	17.54%	7.02%
Lack of knowledge among real estate agents regarding fair housing	10.53%	22.81%	40.35%	19.30%	7.02%
Lack of knowledge among bankers/lenders regarding fair housing	7.14%	25.00%	39.29%	21.43%	7.14%
Other barriers	6.06%	6.06%	72.73%	3.03%	12.12%

Citizen Comments

The City received the following comments during the public hearings and in response to the "draft" Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan:

- **Recreational Facilities:**
 - "I would like to see the city spend more resources on economic development, and incentives to bring businesses, especially industry, to the City. Recreation can come in later after there is a more stable local economy."

- "Add bathrooms and improve bleachers and lighting."
- "Newer Equipment."
- "Parking should be enhanced at Fifth Ward."
- "There is a need for bicycle lands and pedestrian paths as well as greenway corridors."
- "There is a need for more facilities."
- "There is a need for dog parks and playgrounds in nice neighborhoods."
- "More indoor/outdoor activities for children and youth."
- "There is a need to get rid of the weeds along the downtown roadways."
- "There is a need for improvements for local basketball courts."
- "There is a need for cleaner and safer facilities."
- "There is a need for more kid friendly areas."
- "Neighborhood parks need to be maintained and brought up to day. Old play equipment had been removed in 2013 and never replaced. Kids go to the park and sit in the pavilion since there is nothing for them to play with."
- "There is a need for walking trails."
- "There is a need for community events geared for families (not only for children) and also for adults."
- **Medical Care:**
 - "There is a need for a second hospital."
 - "A Healthy Lifestyle needs to be encouraged."
 - "There are problems between UPMC and Highmark."
 - "The EMS response is timely."
 - "There is a need for psychiatric care."
 - "The couple really good endos are booked up. Not sure what others specialists are well represented. Community multiphasic labs, wherein you just come in pay a modest fee like \$30 get many labs on Saturdays too and all in about 10 minutes."
 - "There is a need for a home health care facilities where people with dual diagnosis can receive all their treatment in one facility and not have to travel all over town for a variety of treatments."
- **Missing or Underfunded Services:**
 - "The police department is woefully understaffed. And how does the police department not have a canine unit? Maybe we/you could reallocate wasted funds, such as those spent on the "shade tree commission" to much needed

- public services. There's no need to "beautify" a city that is rapidly losing population overall, and tax paying population specifically."
- "There is a need for maintenance of the pedestrian crossover and weed maintenance in the downtown area. The police need to address parking issues and the misuse of curb and sidewalks in all areas and a lack of enforcement."
 - "There is a need to address road, curb and sidewalk repair issues."
 - "There is a need for bike lanes and greenways."
 - "There is a need for drug rehabilitation programs."
 - "There is a need for foreclosure prevention and eviction rental assistance."
 - "There is a need for sidewalks to be handicap accessible."
 - "There is a need for programs for homeless individuals and families."
 - "There is a need for increase code enforcement."
 - "There is a need for transitional housing for people coming out of jail and rehab programs with accountability in place for success of those individuals."
- **Employment:**
 - "There are too many part-time, minimum wage jobs. There is a need for higher paying, better jobs."
 - "There are no good jobs outside the railroad or UPMC."
 - "There are too many young people on disability who should be working. There needs to be a volunteer program in the downtown area for the unemployed to serve in."
 - "There is a need for highway services."
 - "There is a need for light industry."
 - "There are only minimum wage jobs available in this area without full time hours. No one can survive off of minimum wage even if they are working full time."
 - "There is a need for engineering jobs."
 - "There is minimal minority employment within the City, even though the minority population within the City has increased."
 - **Housing:**
 - "Too many of the houses are run-down."
 - "There are too many properties owned by out of state property companies which put nothing into the upkeep or maintenance of their properties."
 - "Many vacant properties are in poor condition. The city should take these and rehab and sell or concentrate in one area and tear down. There are

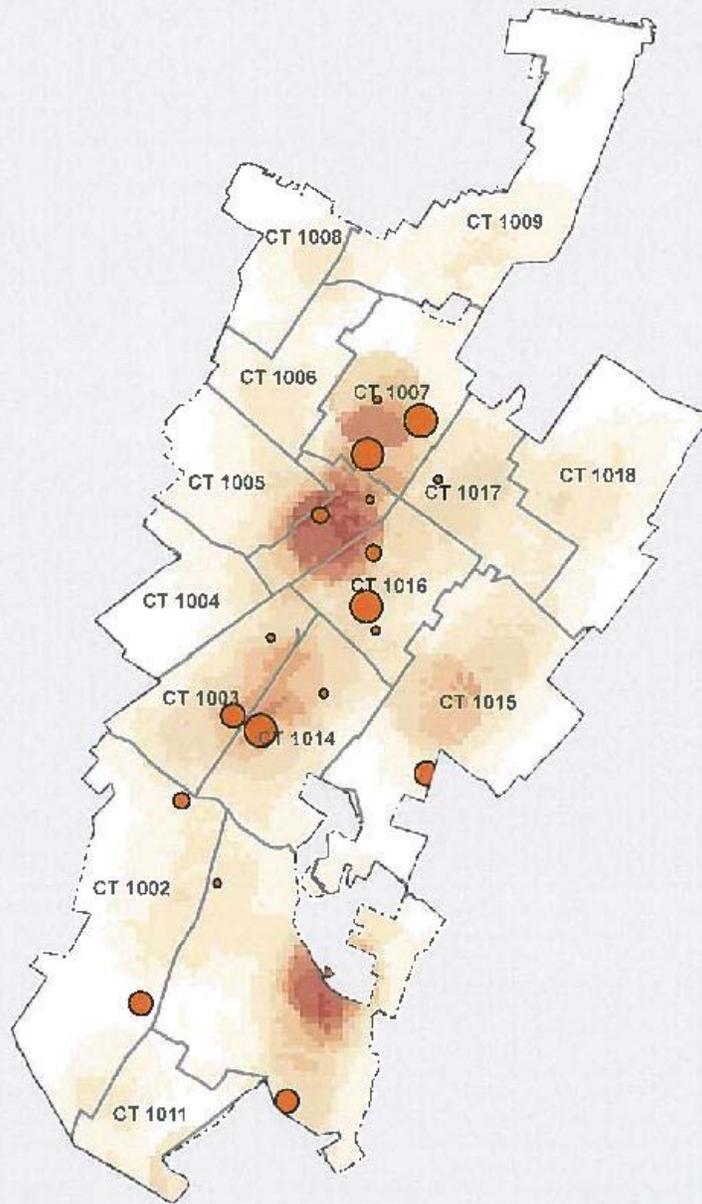
- slum lords that should somehow be banned from purchasing more properties.”
- “There are too many absentee landlords and Section 8 Housing. Almost all of the problems in our neighborhood is from Section 8 people or absentee landlords.”
- “Most people around the sixth avenue area do no maintenance to their houses, and have no incentive to do so.
- “There is a need to address blighted properties.”
- “High quality, affordable rental housing is difficult to obtain.”
- “I’ve been on section 8 for 3 years. I need to find housing in the next couple of months. No housing is available for me. I might be homeless. I’m on SSD and am sixty years old and cannot find affordable housing.”
- “There is a need for housing for disabled persons.”
- “Racial mixed couples and families have experienced difficulty when attempting to find housing.”
- “There is a need for better code enforcement to force property owners to make repairs to their properties. The City needs to address unregistered rental properties in the City.”
- **Fair Housing:**
 - “Most people do not understand fair housing law or know about it.”
 - “People are poor and need a place to live and they will settle for anything.”
 - “People do not know where or to whom to report complaints.”
 - “People do not report fair housing complaints because they are afraid of retaliation for doing so.”
- **Miscellaneous Comments:**
 - “The City should work to promote business growth by offering incentives and by eliminating petty fines and code citations.”
 - “The City needs to downsize to meet the needs of its residents. The City should create green space and urban agriculture.”
 - “There is a need for increased and equal code enforcement.”
 - “There is a need for more sidewalks.”

Grantee Unique Appendices



MAPS

Commercial Hot Spots: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend
Business Density Surface
 Low
 Business Density
 High

Large Businesses by # of Employees
 ● 100 - 199
 ● 200 - 299
 ● 300 - 499
 ● 500 - 2,495

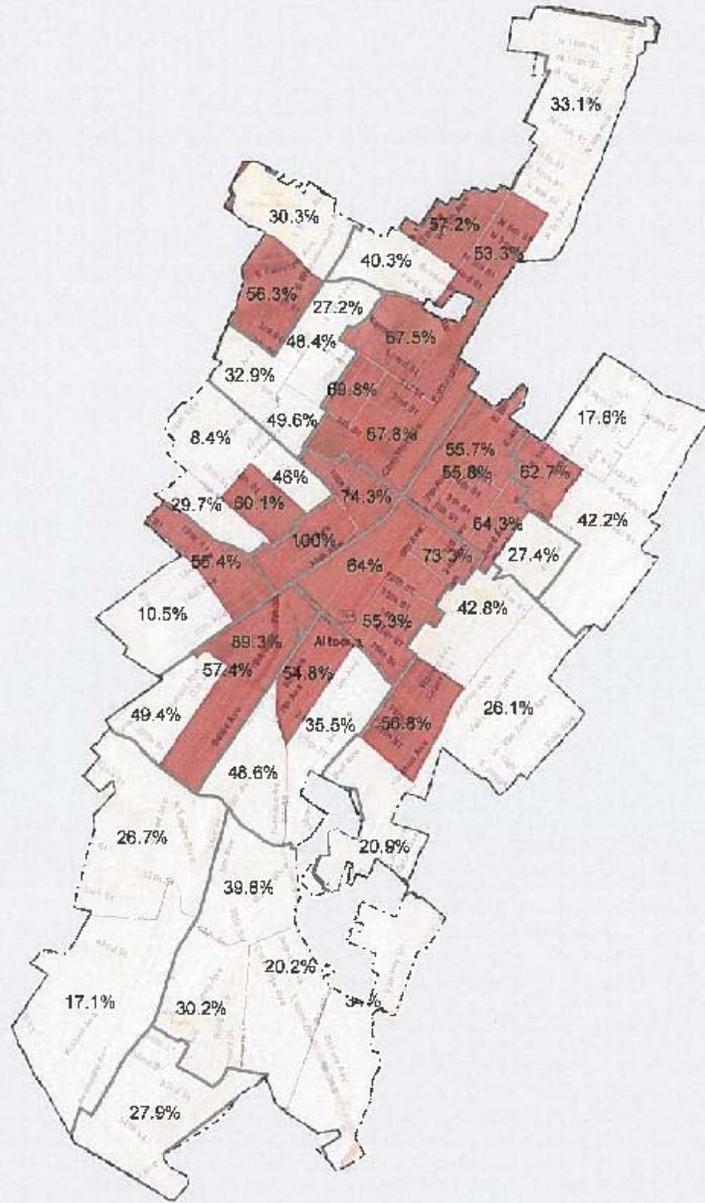
City Boundary
 Tracts Boundary
 CT 9719 = tract number

Miles
 0 0.25 0.5
 1 in = 0.75 miles
 NORTH



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014, ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 3/2015

Low/Moderate Income Percentage by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

Low/Moderate Income

- Less than 51%
- 51% or More

* Based on Census 2010

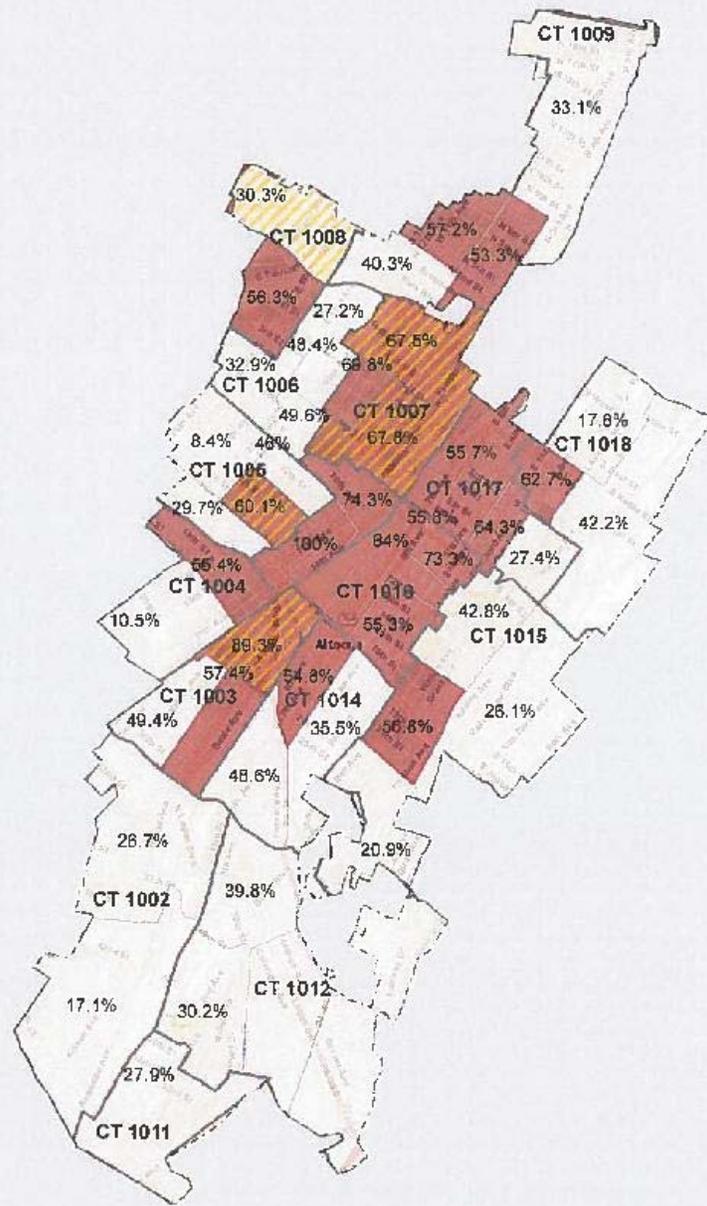
- City Boundary
- Tracts Boundary
- CT 9719 = tract number**

Block group labels show the low/moderate income percentage.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014. ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 3/2015

Low/Moderate Income with Minority Percentage by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

Low/Moderate Income

Less than 51%

51% or More

* Based on Census 2010

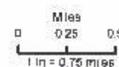
Minority >= 15%

City Boundary

Tracts

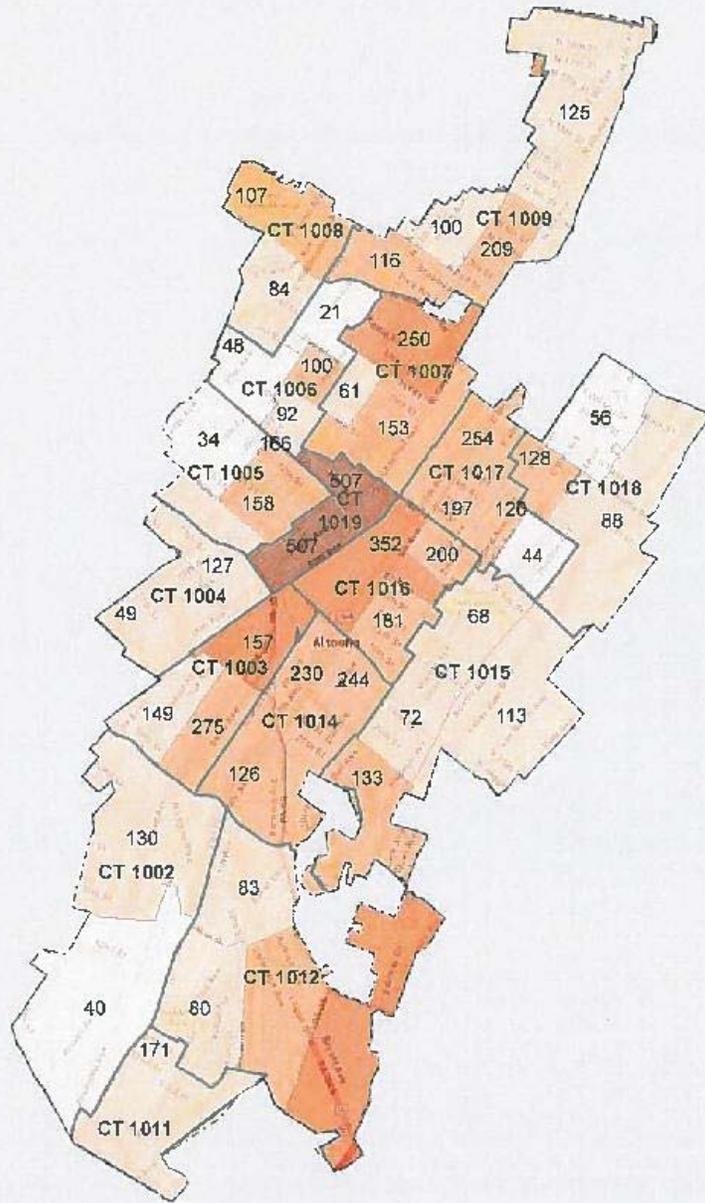
CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show the low/moderate income percentage.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014, ArcGIS Online, Census 2010. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 3/2015

Percent Renter Occupied Housing Units by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



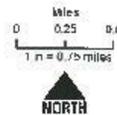
Legend

Percent Renter Occupied Housing Units

- 0% - 15%
- 15.1% - 30%
- 30.1% - 50%
- 50.1% - 70%
- 70.1% - 100%

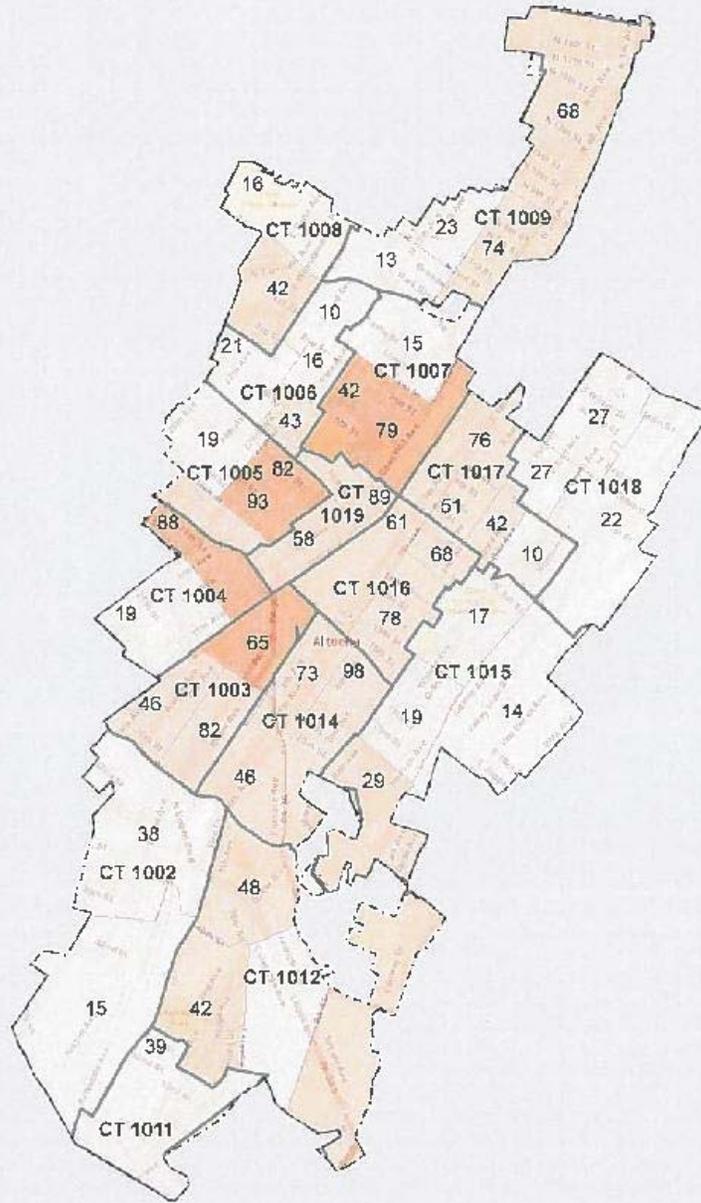
- City Boundary
- Tracts Boundary
- CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show renter occupied housing units.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014, ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 5/2015

Percent Vacant Housing Units by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

- 0% - 8%
- 8.1% - 16%
- 16.1% - 30%

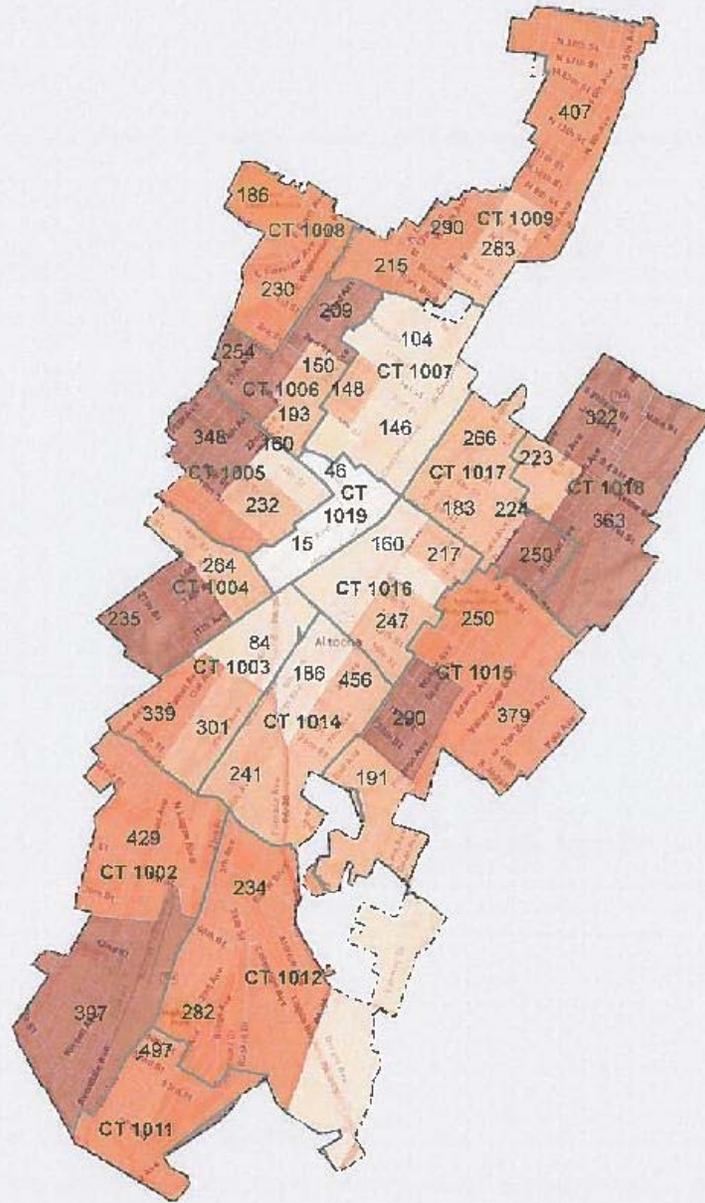
- City Boundary
- Tracts Boundary
- CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show vacant housing units.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014 ArcGIS Online Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 3/2015

Percent Owner Occupied Housing Units by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

Percent Owner Occupied Housing Units

- 0% - 20%
- 20.1% - 40%
- 40.1% - 60%
- 60.1% - 75%
- 75.1% - 100%

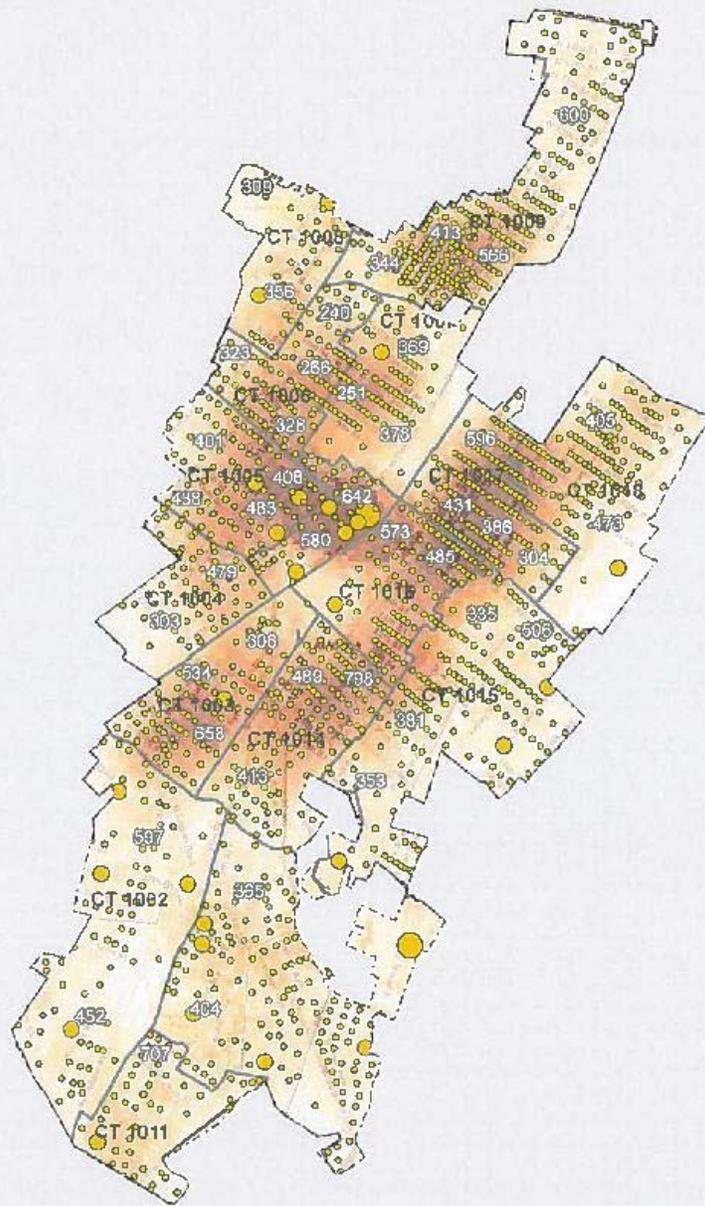
- City Boundary
- Tracts Boundary
- CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show owner occupied housing units.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014, ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks 3/2015

Total Housing Units by Block Points: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

Block Point Housing Units
 201 - 400
 0 - 50

City Boundary
 Tracts Boundary
 CT 9719 = tract number

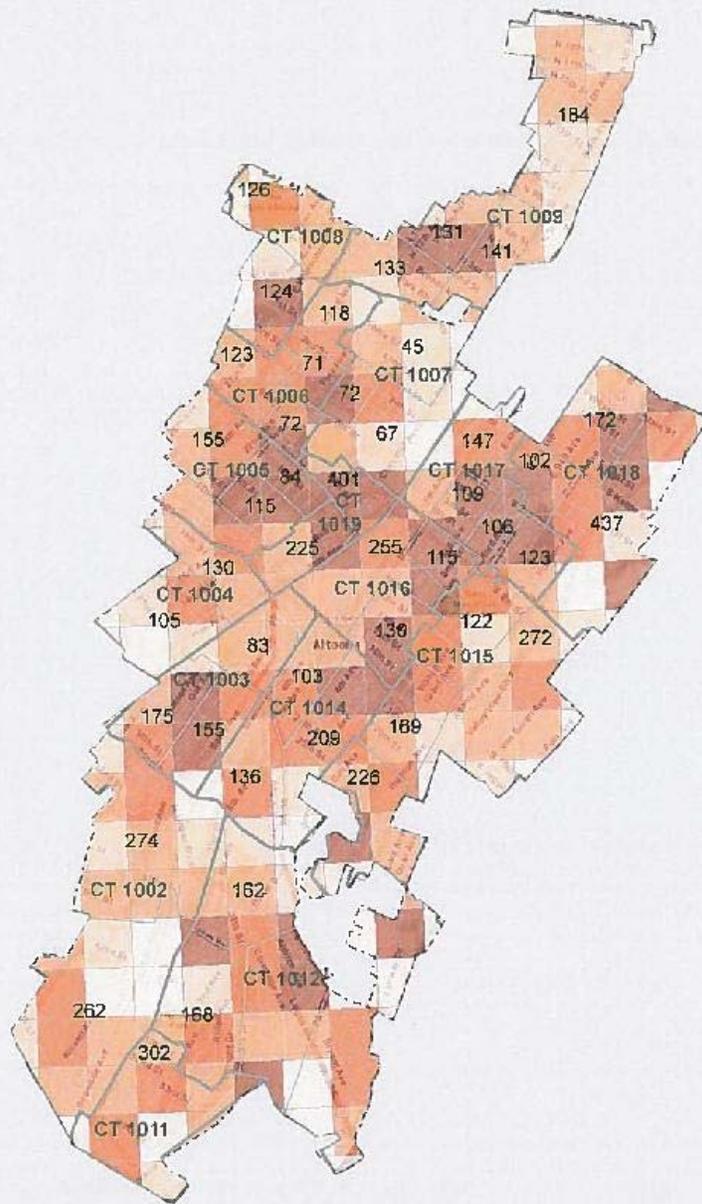
Block group labels show 2014 total housing units.

Miles
 0 0.25 0.5
 1 in = 0.75 miles



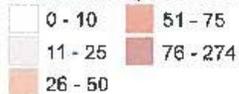
ESRI Data & Maps, 2014. ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 3/2015

Population Age 65 and Over by Quarter Mile Grid: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

Population Age 65 and Over



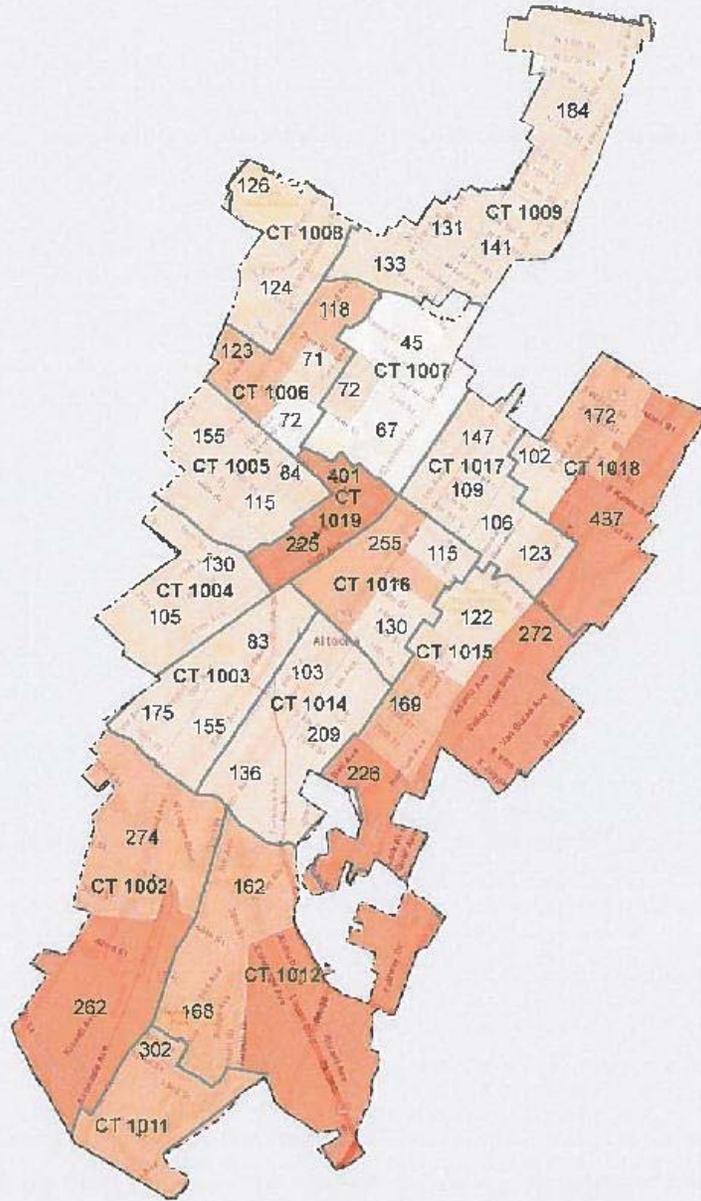
- City Boundary
- Tracts Boundary
- CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show 2014 population Age 65 and over.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014. ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4GeoWorks, 3/2016

Percent Population Age 65 and Over by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

Percent Population Age 65 and Over

- 0% - 10%
- 10.1% - 18%
- 18.1% - 25%
- 25.1% - 50%

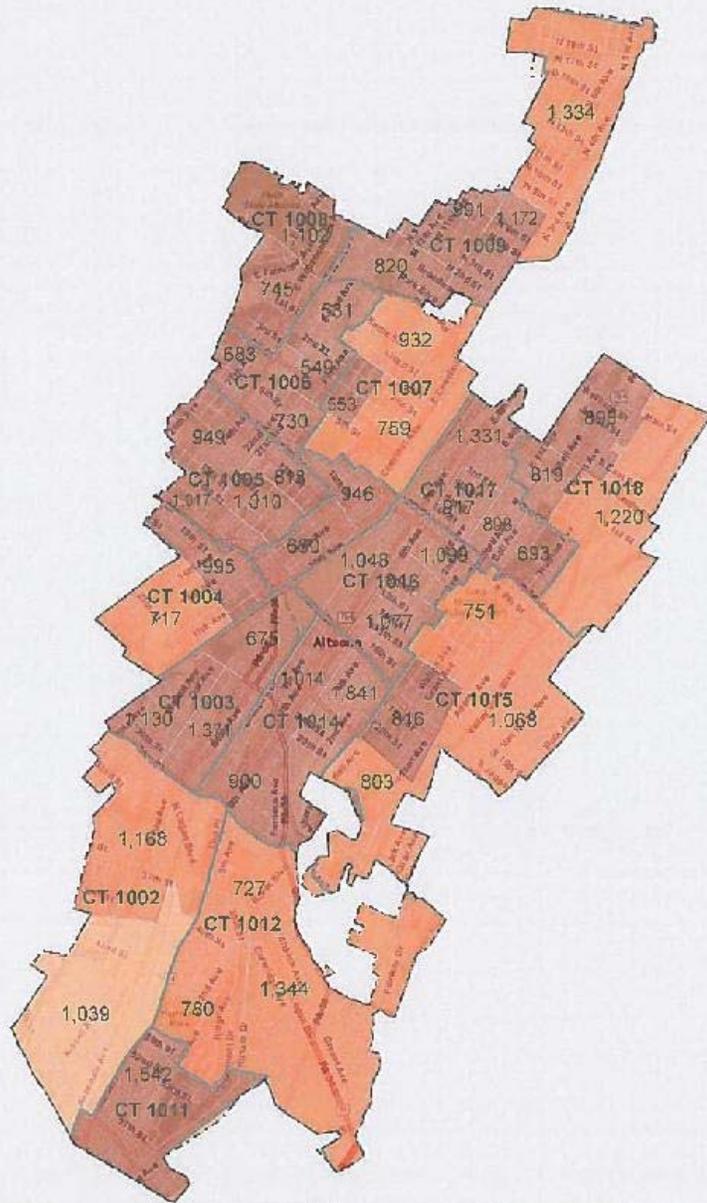
- City Boundary
- Tracts Boundary
- CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show 2014 population Age 65 and over.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014. ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by iCGeoWorks, 3/2015

Population Density by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

2014 Population Density (Per Sq Mi)

- 0 - 500
- 501 - 1,000
- 1,001 - 2,000
- 2,001 - 4,000
- 4,001 - 15,000

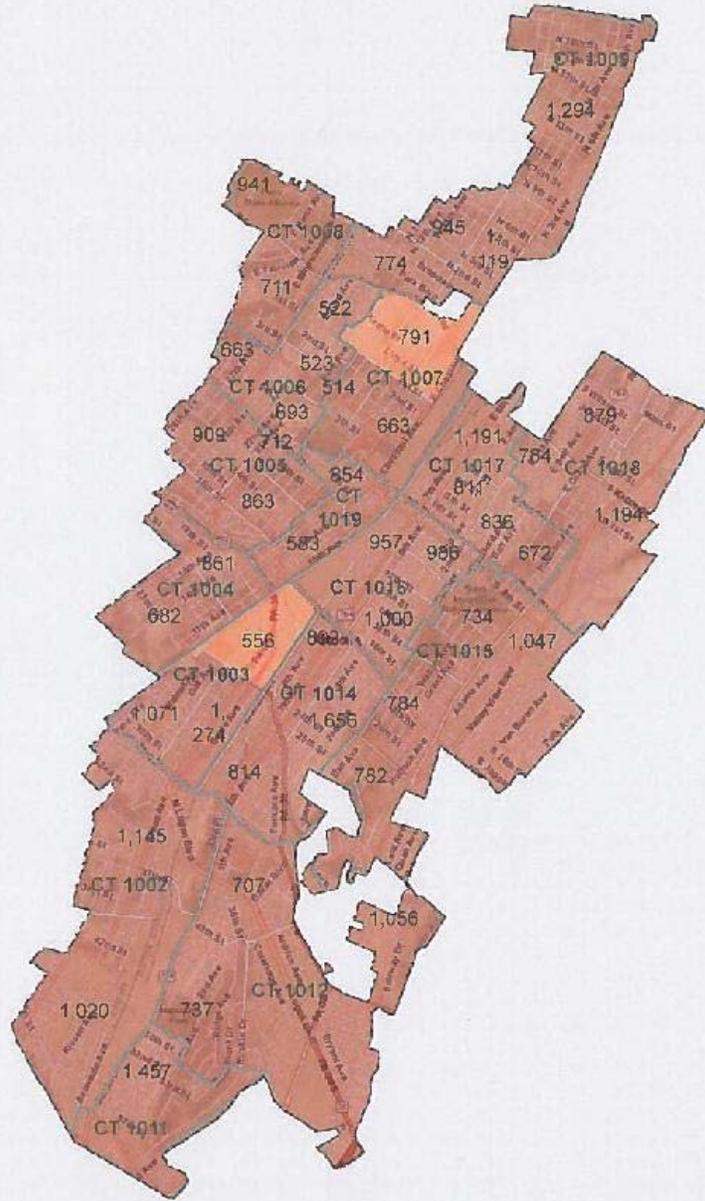
- City Boundary
- Tracts Boundary
- CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show population 2014.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014. ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 3/2015

Percent White Population by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

Percent White Population

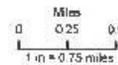
Light Orange: 76% - 85%
 Dark Orange: 86% - 100%

City Boundary

Tracts Boundary

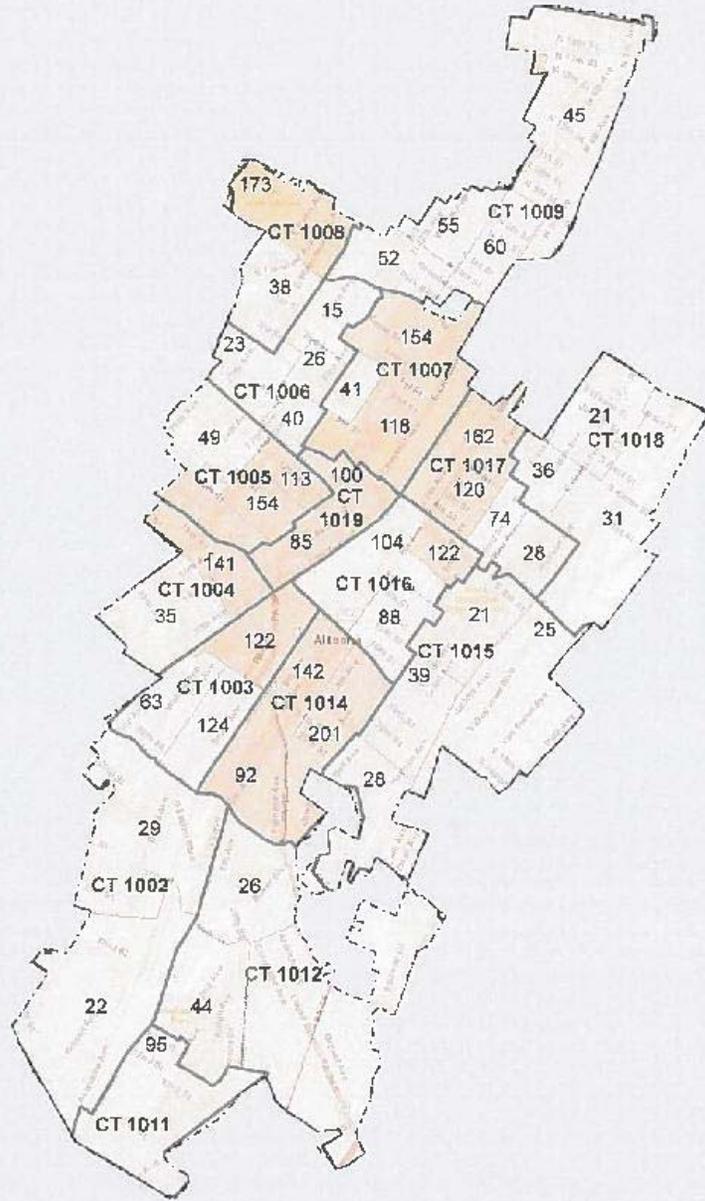
CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show total white population 2014.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014. ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 3/2015

Percent Minority Population by Block Group: Altoona, Pennsylvania



Legend

Percent Minority Population
 0% - 10% 11% - 20%

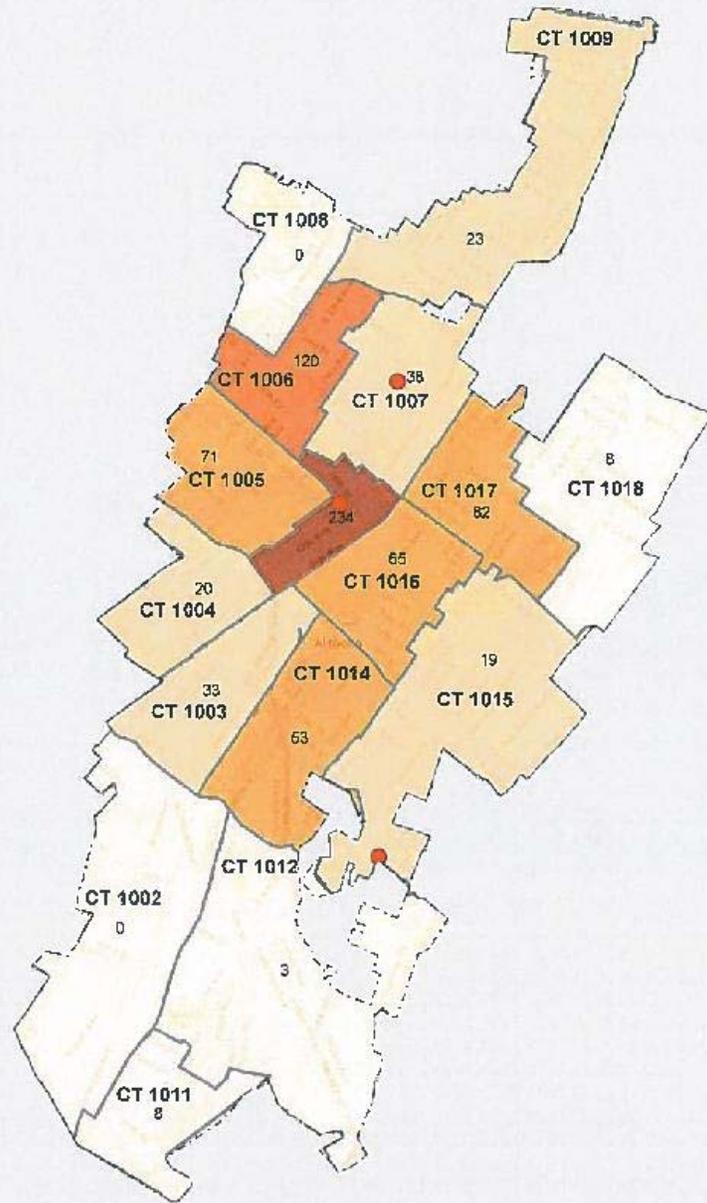
City Boundary
 Tracts Boundary
 CT 9719 = tract number

Block group labels show total minority population 2014.

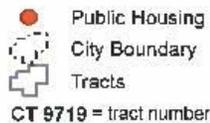
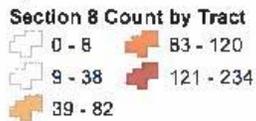


ESRI Data & Maps, 2014. ArcGIS Online. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4CGeoWorks, 3/2015

Section 8 Housing Count by Census Tract and Public Housing Locations: Altoona, PA



Legend



Census tract labels show the count of Section 8 Housing.



ESRI Data & Maps, 2014, ArcGIS Online, Census 2010. Created for Urban Design Ventures LLC by 4C GeoWorks, 5/2015



RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION No. 0050-15

adopting the 2015 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Action Plan, the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan for the Community Development Block Grant and the HOME Investment Partnership Grant Programs and the 2015-2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents and certifications and the City Clerk to attest to same and to file appropriate documents with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

ROLL CALL

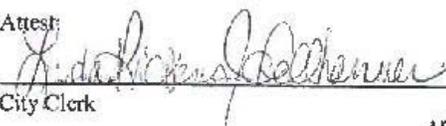
	Yeas	Nays
Butterbaugh	✓	
Cacciotti	✓	
Cagle	✓	
Haire	✓	
Kelley	✓	
Neugebauer	✓	
Mayor Pacifico	✓	
Total ...	7	0

APR 22 2015

Adopted _____

Mayor  _____

Date signed by the Mayor: APR 22 2015

Attest:  _____
City Clerk

Recorded in the City Clerk's Office: APR 23 2015

RESOLUTION 2015-___ 0050-15

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA
APPROVING THE FY 2015-2019 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN, THE
FY 2015 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, & THE FY 2015-2019 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 2015, the City is eligible to apply for an entitlement grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program in the amount of \$1,418,161; and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program in the amount of \$194,238; and

WHEREAS, the City of Altoona's Department of Planning and Community Development has prepared a FY 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2015 Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for Fiscal Years 2015 - 2019, 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 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2015 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2015-2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice was on public display from March 23, 2015 through April 22, 2015 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 COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the FY 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan, FY 2015 Annual Action Plan, and FY 2015-2019 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 2015 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.

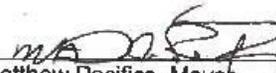
SECTION 3. That the City Manager, on behalf of the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania, is AUTHORIZED to file an Application for financial assistance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which has indicated its willingness to make available funds to carry out the CDBG Program in the amount of \$1,418,161 and the HOME Program in the amount of \$194,238; 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 City Manager, 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 22nd DAY OF APRIL 2015 BY THE COMMON COUNCIL 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 22nd day of April 2015.

CITY OF ALTOONA, PA


Matthew Pacifico, Mayor

ATTEST:


Linda Rickens Schellhammer, City Clerk

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

1	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>Vacant Property</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>The City of Altoona.</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>To analyze the vacant properties in Altoona.</p>
	<p>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</p> <p>This data set is comprehensive and is not geographically or demographically limited.</p>
	<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p> <p>2007-2011 American Community Survey.</p>
	<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p> <p>The data set is complete.</p>

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

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

7. Summary

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

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

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

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

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))

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.

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

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

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?

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

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)

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Altoona is receiving \$1,418,161 from CDBG funds and \$194,238 from HOME funds for the FY 2015 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020. Based on a 5% cut in funds, the Municipality projects the following anticipated resources:

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

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

Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,418,161	200,000	0	1,618,161	5,748,140	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	194,238	0	0	194,238	684,569	Five years of funding at a 5% reduction each year.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

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

STATE PROGRAMS

The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) provides loans and grants under the Penn Homes Program for development of rental housing and administers the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) issued a Keystone Community Grant to assist the City in a streetscape enhancement project along Broad Avenue.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources funds have been and will 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 the Low Income Housing Tax Credits or an historic tax credit. 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. The City also utilizes HUD funds to operate the Altoona Police Bike Patrol, which plays a big role in curtailing the illegal drug trade. 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 of Altoona assists in providing land and infrastructure improvements to the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity to construct housing to serve low-to-moderate income families.

The City also 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 Consolidated Plan.

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$314,976 HOME: \$174,814	Rental units rehabilitated: 129 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit
3	CD-1 Community Facilities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$481,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 15425 Persons Assisted
4	CD-4 Public Safety	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$215,176	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 18656 Persons Assisted
5	CD-5 Code Enforcement	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$55,377	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 400 Household Housing Unit
6	CD-6 Slum and Blight	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$228,000	Buildings Demolished: 15 Buildings

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

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

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

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

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

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

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

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

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

Table 8 – 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 would be finding more federal resources to accomplish those activities and having local resources to pair with them to make successful projects.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 9 – Project Summary

1	Project Name	Planning and Community Development Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$323,632
	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 such as update of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Fair housing activities including eliminating housing discrimination through the promotion of fair housing using educational programs, monitoring, research and community involvement.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 44,900 people will benefit from this activity.
	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	Single Family Homeowner Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,376
	Description	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.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 10 units will be rehabilitated.
	Location Description	This activity will benefit low- and moderate-income families in the City of Altoona.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing, 570.208(a)(3)(i)(C). The HUD Matrix Code is 14A Rehab; Single-Unit Residential, 570.202.
3	Project Name	Safe Housing/Healthy Living
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-5 Code Enforcement
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,377

	Description	In order to prevent slum and blight, daily routine inspections of low/moderate income areas of the City to identify and address property maintenance, housing violations, health-related violations, etc.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 20,125 people will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	The activity will take place in the following census tracts: C.T. 1003, BG1; C.T. 1004 BG 1; C.T. 1005 BG 2; C.T. 1007 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1009 BG 3; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1019 BG 1,2 64% L/M
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 15, Code Enforcement, 570.202(c).
4	Project Name	Blighted Property Program
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-6 Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$228,000
	Description	Prevention or elimination of spot blight through property acquisition, relocation, safeguarding, demolition and disposition activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 15 properties will be addressed.
	Location Description	This activity will take place citywide.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Slum/Blight 570.208(b)(2). The Matrix Code is 04, Clearance and Demolition, 570.201(d).
5	Project Name	Street Reconstruction
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	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. Project will be administered by the City's Department of Engineering. Actual locations will be advertised for public review prior to project initiation.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 4,960 people will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	The activity will take place in low/moderate income areas of the City. C.T. 1007 BG 3; C.T. 1009 BG 2,3. C.T. 1017 BG 3 and C.T. 1019 BG 1, 2 Serving a total of 4960 people - 3275 L/M or 64.62%

	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
6	Project Name	Street Light Enhancement
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	Upgrade 100 watt high pressure sodium to LED dusk to dawn fixtures in low/moderate income areas of the City. Project administered by the Department of Engineering.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 10,205 people will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	The activity will take place in low/moderate income areas of the City. C.T. 1003 BG: 1,2; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1015 BG 3; C.T 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1018 BG 3 - serving 10,205 –people – 6245 L/M or 61.20%.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K, Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
7	Project Name	Broad Avenue Curb and Sidewalk Project Phase II
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority

	Funding	CDBG: \$250,500
	Description	New concrete curb, sidewalk and roadway restoration, along with tree improvements, topsoil and seeding. Project administered by the Department of Engineering.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 260 people will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	The activity will take place on Broad Avenue between 26th and 31st Streets.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective Low/Mod Area, 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 03K Street Improvements, 570.201(c).
8	Project Name	Neighborhood Police Patrol
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-4 Public Safety
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$215,176
	Description	Community policing program in the low and moderate income neighborhoods of the City. Also providing service to the Evergreen Manors low/moderate income housing development.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 18,656 people will benefit from this activity.

	Location Description	This activity will take place in the following Census Tracts: C.T. 1003 BG 1,2; C.T. 1004 BG 1; C.T. 1005 BG 2; C.T. 1007 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1009 BG 2,3; C.T. 1014 BG 1; C.T. 1015 BG 3; C.T. 1016 BG 1,2,3; C.T. 1017 BG 2,3,4; C.T. 1018 BG 3; C.T. 1019 BG 1,2 Total persons 18,280 with 11,490 l/m or 63% L/M and Evergreen Manors 5919 Evergreen Court 376 l/m persons.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Area 570.208(a)(1)(i). The Matrix Code is 05I, Crime Awareness, 570.201(e).
9	Project Name	Altoona Housing Authority Pleasant Village Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$64,600
	Description	The Altoona Housing Authority will utilize CDBG funding to assist with window replacement in 120 units at Pleasant Village Housing Development.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 120 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity is located at 2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing, 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14C Public Housing Modernization 570.202(a)(2).
10	Project Name	HOME Program Administration
	Target Area	Citywide

	Goals Supported	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$19,424
	Description	Administration costs to provide for staffing to oversee HOME funded projects.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 44,900 individuals will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity will take place 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	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$49,814
	Description	This rehab program consists of a 50/50 financial match. Units will be made available to income eligible tenants and comply with HOME affordable period requirements. Structures located within the City's limits which contain substandard rental units are eligible.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 3 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity will take place citywide.
	Planned Activities	The National Objective is 570.208(a)(3). The Matrix Code is 14B, Rehabilitation; Multi-Unit Residential, 570.202.
12	Project Name	CHDO Project - Improved Dwellings for Altoona
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: \$125,000
	Description	Lexington Park rehabilitation of 6 affordable housing units.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 6 housing units will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	This activity will take place at the following addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1112 14th Avenue, Altoona • 1124 14th Avenue, Altoona
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 2007-2011 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 1980 and 2010, the population decreased by approximately 18.8%
- The City population was 46,662 in 2011.

Age:

Key points are:

- Median age in Altoona is 38.7 years old
- Youth under age 18 account for 23.6% of the population
- Seniors age 62 or over are 19.0% of the population

Race/Ethnicity:

Composition from 2007-2011 American Community Survey Data:

- 3.4% are Black or African American
- 94.1% are White
- 0.8% are Asian
- 0.3% Some Other Race
- 1.3% are Two or More Races
- 1.2% are Hispanic or Latino

Income Profile:

The Median Income for a family of four (4) in the Altoona, Pennsylvania HMFA is \$54,810 for 2015. The following is a summary of income statistics for the City of Altoona:

At the time of the 2007-2011 American Community Survey, median household income in the City of Altoona was \$35,052 which was significantly lower than Blair County (\$43,243) and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (\$52,548).

- 36.8% of households have earnings received from Social Security income.
- 5.7% of households have earnings received from public assistance.
- 20.3% of households have earnings, received retirement income.
- 40.9% of female headed households were living in poverty.
- 28.4% 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 44.82%.

Economic Profile:

The following illustrates the economic profile for the City of Altoona as of the 2007-2011 American Community Survey:

- 25.6% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as management, business, science, and arts.
- 30.0% of the employed civilian population had occupations classified as sales and office.
- 20.7% were in the service sector.
- The education, health, and social service industry represented 26.8% of those employed.
- 12.5% of workers were considered in the government class.

According to the U.S. Labor Department, the preliminary unemployment rate for Altoona in December 2014 was 4.3% compared to a preliminary rate of 4.4% in Blair County, a preliminary rate of 5.0% for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in December, 2014, and a national unemployment rate of 5.6% in December 2014.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	100

Table 10 - 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 2015 are the following:

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

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

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

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

Discussion

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

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

affordable housing units.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

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

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

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

During FY 2015, the City of Altoona will cooperate with the Altoona Housing Authority in the Pleasant Village Rehabilitation. This project will utilize CDBG funding to assist with window replacement in 120 units at Pleasant Village Housing Development located at 2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA.

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

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

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

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

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

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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

Introduction

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

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. The grant provides \$105,966 to operate the program. Services are provided to both sheltered and unsheltered persons. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the program served 163 adults and 90 children. All persons served are assessed to determine their individual needs.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

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

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

The CoC annually funds two transitional housing programs that are operated in Altoona/Blair County by the Blair County Community Action Agency. One is named simply “The Transitional Housing Program” and serves the general public. The second program is named the “Journey Program” and is targeted to 18-25 year olds who have a mental or physical disability but are able to live independently. These two programs offer a variety of supportive services to clients to assist them in the transition to permanent

housing. These services include; life skills, employment services, clothing, furniture, general case management, housing search, budget counseling etc. The Transitional Housing Program (THP) grant annually provides \$361,937 to operate the program. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the THP program served 67 adults and 58 children. Of the persons who exited the program 78% exited into permanent housing. The Journey Program grant annually provides \$181,668 to operate the program. During the most recently completed program year that ended on 09/30/2014 the Journey program served 32 adults and 15 children. Of the persons who exited the program 59% exited into permanent housing.

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

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

Discussion

Not Applicable.

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family
Tenant-based rental assistance
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds
Total

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

Introduction

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

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

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

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

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

Impediment 6: Public Policies

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

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

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

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

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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 and Habitat for Humanity. 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. Our annual affordable housing goals are identified in Table 3B.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City intends to reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards by 18 this year using CDBG and HOME funds.

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.

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 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 \$200,000 in program income from the repayment of Housing Rehabilitation Loans. These funds have been included in the FY 2015 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	200,000
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:	200,000

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.	82.00%

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 anticipate the receipt of any additional program income funds prior to July 1, 2015 that is has not yet programmed. 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, as established by HUD.
 - 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, as established by HUD.
 3. The housing must be acquired by a homebuyer whose family qualifies as a low-income family as determined by the HOME Investment Partnership Program and the housing must be the principal residence of the family throughout the period described in paragraph 4.
 4. *Periods of affordability.* The HOME-assisted housing must meet the affordability requirements for not less than the applicable period specified in the following table, beginning after project completion. The per unit amount of HOME funds and the affordability period that they trigger are described more fully in paragraph 5 (recapture) of this section.

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

- If the homeownership assistance amount per-unit is under \$15,000, the minimum period of affordability is 5 years
- If the homeownership assistance amount per-unit is between \$15,000 and \$40,000, the minimum period of affordability is 10 years
- If the homeownership assistance amount per-unit is over \$40,000, the minimum period of affordability is 15 years

5. *Recapture.* The participating jurisdiction (PJ) recoups all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyers, if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the family for the duration of the period of affordability. The period of affordability is based upon the total amount of HOME funds subject to recapture. If the homebuyer or the homeowner breaches the terms and conditions for any reason, e.g. no longer occupies the property as his/her/their/ principal residence, the full amount of the subsidy is immediately due and payable.

a. *Reduction during affordability period.* The PJ will reduce the HOME investment amount to be

recaptured on a prorata basis for the time the homeowner has owned and occupied the housing measured against the required affordability period at the following rate. Five (5) year period-1/60th 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 downpayment and any capital improvement investment made by the owner since purchase. The PJ may share the net proceeds. The net proceeds are the sales price minus loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and closing costs. The net proceeds will be divided proportionally as set forth in the following mathematical formulas:

$(\text{HOME Investment} / (\text{HOME Investment} + \text{Homeowner Investment})) \times \text{Net Proceeds} = \text{HOME amount to be recaptured}$

$(\text{Homeowner Investment} / (\text{HOME Investment} + \text{Homeowner Investment})) \times \text{Net Proceeds} = \text{Amount to homeowner}$

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:

(Continued from Question 2)

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.

d. In the event of the property changing title due to foreclosure, the City will not share any net proceeds from the sale. The City will retain any remaining net proceeds following payment of the first mortgage. The City shall have the right of first refusal to buy out the first mortgage from the primary lender in the event of foreclosure.

e. Upon any refinancing, sale or other disposition of the property following the affordability period, the loan provided by the City and the additional mortgage assistance loan, where applicable, shall become due and payable immediately. In the event that the lending institution mortgage is paid off in full, the full amount of these loans shall become due and payable within ninety (90) days thereafter.

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

1. the length of the affordability period (based on the dollar amount of HOME funds invested in the unit; either 5, 10, or 15 years);
2. that the home remain the Buyer's principal residence throughout the affordability period; and
3. the conditions and obligations of the Owner should the Owner wish to sell before the end of the affordability period, including:
 - a. the Owner must contact the City of Altoona Planning and Community Development Department or its representative in writing if intending to sell the home prior to the end of the affordability period;
 - b. The subsequent purchaser must be low-income as defined by HOME, and occupy the home as his/her new purchaser's primary residence for the remaining years of the affordability period. (However, if the new purchaser receives direct assistance through a HOME-funded program, the affordability period will be re-set according to the amount of assistance provided); and

c. The sales price must be affordable to the subsequent purchaser; affordable is defined as limiting the Principal, Interest, Taxes and Insurance (PITI) amount to no more than 30% of the new purchaser's monthly income.

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.

Discussion

(Resale, Recapture Continued)

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

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

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

3. The percentage of change as calculated by the Housing Price Index (HPI) Calculator of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The HPI Calculator is currently located at www.fhfa.gov 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.

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.

7. *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.

8. *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.

9. Homeownership is defined as ownership in fee simple title or a 99-year leasehold interest in a one-to-four unit dwelling. The ownership interest may be subject only to the restrictions on mortgages, deeds of trust, or other liens or instruments securing debt on the property as approved by the PJ.

10. Underwriting and Market Analysis shall be conducted by the Subrecipient/Developer or homebuyer's financial lending institution and submitted to the City for review and approval.

