CITY OF ERIE
PENNSYLVANIA

FY2016

ANNUAL PLAN

Department of Economic and Community Development
City of Erie • 626 State Street, Room 404 • Erie, Pennsylvania 16501

FY2016 ANNUAL PLAN
CITY OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

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AP-05
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SECTION 1

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Erie, Pennsylvania is an entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG). The City of Erie prepared its Five Year Consolidated Plan (CP) in FY 2015. This document is for the period July 1, 2015 through FY 2019, ending June 30, 2019. The Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan to implement federal programs for housing and community development activities within the City of Erie 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 City of Erie has participation in the Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice prepared by Destination Erie: A Regional Vision, a consortium of regional stakeholders envisioning the County's future and creating a strategy to meet the region's economic, social, and environmental challenges of the 21st century. The City of Erie will take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through the Analysis. The City of Erie approves and adopted the Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the City of Erie, Pennsylvania on December 16, 2015.

The Five Year Consolidated Plan establishes the goals the City of Erie 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 developments plans.

The Total amount of CDBG, HOME and ESG funding availability to the City for the Second Annual Plan for FY 2016 is $3,744,979 including entitlement and program income dollars. HOME funds will be distributed to eligible HOME activities that address affordable housing and improve the quality of life for residents. Programs include housing rehabilitation and rental housing for qualified residents. ESG funds will be distributed to eligible activities that address the needs of Erie's homeless population. Projects include both emergency and transitional shelter, along with essential services. The purpose of the Homeless Assistance Program is to reduce the incidence of homelessness in Continuum of Care (CoC) communities by assisting homeless individuals and families in quickly transitioning to self-sufficiency and permanent housing as authorized under Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. CDBG funding will address a variety of needs, including affordable housing and non-housing needs. CDBG funding will be distributed to acquisition, public facility improvements, clearance, public service, code enforcement, technical assistance and rehabilitation.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The following six (6) priorities and subsequent goals/strategies have been identified for the City of Erie for the period of FY 2015 through FY 2019 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, and Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG). Full descriptions of the goals and strategies are included below in the AP20 Annual Goals section.

Housing Priority – (High Priority) There is a need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the community by increasing the amount of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers that is affordable to low and moderate income persons and families. Goals/Strategies: HS1 Housing Rehabilitation; HS2 Rental Rehabilitation; HS3 Housing Construction; HS4 Fair Housing; HS5 Home Ownership; HS6 Public Housing.

Homeless Priority – (Low Priority) There is a need for housing and support services for homeless persons, and persons who are at risk of becoming homeless. Goals/Strategies: HO1 Continuum of Care; HO2 Operation/Support; HO3 Prevention and Housing; HO4 Housing; HO5 Permanent Housing.

Other Special Needs Priority – (Low Priority) There is a continuing need for affordable housing, services, and facilities for persons with special needs and the disabled. Goals/Strategies: SN1 Housing; SN2 Social Services; SN3 Accessibility.

Community Development Priority – (High Priority) There is a need to improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for all residents in the community. Goals/Strategies: CD1 Community Facilities; CD2 Infrastructure; CD3 Public Services; CD4 Accessibility; CD5 Public Safety; CD6 Code Enforcement; CD7 Clearance; CD8 Revitalization; CD9 Historic Preservation; CD10 Community Policing.

Economic Development Priority– (Low Priority) There is a need to increase employment, self sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low and moderate income residents in the community. Goals/Strategies: ED1 Employment; ED2 Financial Assistance; ED3 Redevelopment Program; ED4 Financial Incentives.

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. Goal/Strategy: AM1 Overall Coordination.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Erie strives to equitably allocate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to income eligible areas and persons throughout the City and has funded activities during the past year to meet the City's FY 2015 to FY 2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Second Annual Action Plan goals and objectives. Erie's CDBG Program regularly meets the performance standards established by HUD. Each year the City prepares its Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER) which summarizes the objectives it has addressed in achieving the Con Plan goals and objectives. The City submits its CAPER within ninety (90) days of the start of the new program year. Copies of the CAPER are available for review at the City of Erie's Department of Economic and Community Development.

In the FY 2014 CAPER, the City of Erie expended 92.76% of its CDBG funds to benefit low and moderate income persons. The City expended 19.31% of its funds during the FY 2014 CAPER period on public service, which is above the statutory maximum of 15%, but within the City's allowable cap of 22.6%

granted the City of Erie under the exception clause of the regulation or the 1982 Public Service cap of $841,000. The City can choose to take whichever is higher. The City expended 19.83% of its funds during this CAPER period on Planning and Administration, which is below the statutory maximum of 20%. The City met the required 1.5 maximum drawdown ratio. The City's ratio was 0.81 as of April 5, 2016.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The City of Erie, in compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, advertised and held two (2) public hearings March 22, 2016 and April 12, 2016 on the needs of the City of Erie and provided input on the proposed activities to be funded. Residents were given the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG Program and to offer their suggestions on future CDBG program priorities. The public hearings were advertised in the *Erie Times News* on March 4, 2016 and March 28, 2016. The City maintains a stakeholder contact list for the Economic and Community Development program. All stakeholders received applications and letters notifying the listees of all public hearings and meetings. A copy of the list can be found in the attached Citizen Participation materials.

A "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the City's website at www.erie.pa.us and hard copies of the plan were available for review at the following locations: Erie City Hall, Economic and Community Development, Room 404, 626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501; Blasco Memorial Library; Booker T. Washington Center; JFK Center; and MLK Center. The "Draft Plan" was available from March 28, 2016 until April 28, 2016 for review and comment. The draft plan review period was advertised in the *Erie Times News* on March 28, 2016. The City developed the Second Year Annual Plan based on the input received from residents and stakeholders through applications, public hearings, and draft plan review comments.

5. Summary of public comments

The City of Erie held its First Public Hearing on March 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM. A full list of meeting notes can be found in the Citizens Participation appendix.

The City of Erie held its Second Public Hearing on April 12, 2016 at 10:00 AM. A full list of meeting notes can be found in the Citizens Participation appendix.

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

All comments and views were accepted.

7. Summary

The overall goal of the Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan is to improve the living conditions for all residents in the City of Erie, to create a suitable and sustainable living environment, and to address the housing and community development needs of the City. 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 funds, including this Second Year Annual Action Plan, 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 Erie. HUD will evaluate the City's performance under the Five Year Consolidated Plan against these goals.

PR-05
LEAD & RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

SECTION 2

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	ERIE	Department of Economic and Community Development
HOME Administrator	ERIE	Department of Economic and Community Development
ESG Administrator	ERIE	Department of Economic and Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development is the administering agency for CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs. The Department prepares the Five Year Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, Environmental Review Records (ERRs), the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPERs), monitoring, pay requests, contracting, and oversight of programs on a day-to-day basis. In addition, the City 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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AP-10
CONSULTATION

SECTION 3

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

1. Introduction

The City of Erie conducted a series of public meetings to solicit input into the preparation of the Second Annual Plan. The meetings were advertised in the Erie Times News. Input from the meetings was used in the development of specific strategies, goals, and priorities for the Second Year Annual Action Plan. Each year, as a part of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG 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. 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(l))

The City of Erie acts as the single point of contact to coordinate efforts between public and assisted housing providers, as well as private and governmental health, mental health, and social service agencies. The City works with the following agencies to enhance funding and service allocations to address the housing and community development needs of the City:

- *City of Erie Housing Authority:* coordinating on affordable housing (Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing improvements) especially for the very low and extremely low income residents of the City.

- *Social Services Agencies:* coordinating on funding allocations to improve the availability and efficacy of social service programs for low and moderate income persons.

- *Housing Providers:* coordinating on rehabilitation and development affordable housing needs for low and moderate income households. All members of the housing and social service community are encouraged to actively participate on the CoC's activities.

Each year, as part of the CDBG, HOME, and ESG application planning process, local agencies and organizations are invited to submit proposals for project funding for eligible project activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings and informational meetings, commenting on draft plans.

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

The City of Erie is a member of the City and County of Erie Continuum of Care. The CoC has branded itself as the Home Team. The Home Team, formed in 1997, was created to promote a comprehensive, collaborative and sustained community approach to homelessness. The Home Team consists of local government representatives, service providers, business owners, consumers, and concerned citizens.

The following agencies comprise the Home Team and its five standing subcommittees (Gaps/Information, Education/Outreach, Membership/Nominating, Housing, and Children and Youth): City of Erie School District; Community of Caring; Community Health Net – Health Care for Homeless; Community Shelter Services; Department of Human Services; Department of Veterans Affairs; Erie City Mission; Erie City Planning Department; Erie County Assistance Office; Erie County Care Management; Erie County Community Support Program; Erie County Health Department; Erie DAWN; Erie United Methodist Alliance/Project Hope; Family Services of NW PA; Gaudenzia Erie; GECAC; Housing And Neighborhood Development Services; Mental Health Association of Northwestern PA; Mercy Center for Women; Mercyhurst Civic Institute; Northwest Tri County IU # 5; Partnership of Women Religious (POWR); Penn State Erie, CORE; Safe Horizons; SafeNet; St. Martin Center, Inc.; Stairways, Inc.; Tirak & Huber; United Way of Erie County; and Voices for Independence. The Home Team meets bimonthly to work toward eradicating homelessness.

In Erie County, the six emergency shelters have done a good job of providing shelter. Individuals who are homeless are provided with a safe environment, but it has become increasingly difficult for people to easily leave shelter. Housing First takes the focus off of personal problems and puts it on housing. The Housing First concept is straightforward. People who are homeless need housing; therefore, aid will be given to help them find housing as quickly as possible after a crisis. If they need supports to stay housed, those supports will be put in place. Erie has made some strides in the direction of Housing First, however, the model should be applied universally. Two programs in Erie County reflect the Housing First model. Erie Dawn works with women to find permanent housing, subsidized locally, and then provides six months of case management and support. The Shelter Plus Care program works with individuals with mental illness to find housing of their choice, provides subsidies, and makes sure needed supports are in place. Further, the Home Team collects data related to the homeless services system in Erie County. The purpose of data collection is to ensure nonduplication of resources and to identify and address major gaps in the system.

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

The City of Erie actively participates in the CoC and consults with the CoC on the allocation of the ESG funds, which are used for rapid rehousing. It was determined that the rapid rehousing be administered by one agency and that each shelter would be allocated a set amount of funds for their use but not to be so restrictive that the funds would be unexpended. The CoC is surveyed for the use of ESG funds and are invited to the public hearing for the allocations. The City of Erie also utilizes the CoC for their reports and to ascertain the need in the City. The CoC participates in the statewide discussion on ESG through direct participation at state meetings.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	AMERICAN RED CROSS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Health
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information concerning public health in the City of Erie
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Bike Erie
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Transportation
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding transportation needs in the City
3	Agency/Group/Organization	SNOOPS Neighborhood Watch
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Watch
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Neighborhood Safety
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding neighborhood safety and crime prevention within the City of Erie

4	Agency/Group/Organization	STAIRWAYS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information concerning the needs of the mental health community within the City of Erie, including financial literacy
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Voices for Independence
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information on the status of people with disabilities within the City of Erie and how the City can best help this population segment
6	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY SHELTER SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing; homeless; victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding the needs of the homeless population and for policies that could help the City of Erie

7	Agency/Group/Organization	HANDS: HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information concerning housing needs for low income families and people with disabilities within the City of Erie
8	Agency/Group/Organization	FAMILY SERVICES OF NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information on the status of low to moderate income families and individuals and their housing activity
9	Agency/Group/Organization	John F. Kennedy Center, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Community

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding the needs of low and moderate income communities, particularly the needs of children and the elderly within the City of Erie
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Neighborhood Resource Organization
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding community planning and leadership needs within the City of Erie
11	Agency/Group/Organization	NORTHWEST TRI-COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information concerning homeless populations, migrant and immigrant needs, and community development needs for the City of Erie
12	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR INDEPENDENCE, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding the needs of people with disabilities within the City of Erie

13	Agency/Group/Organization	MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information concerning housing needs for adult consumers of mental health services within the City of Erie
14	Agency/Group/Organization	ST. PATRICK'S HAVEN
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding homelessness within the City of Erie
15	Agency/Group/Organization	MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding immigrant population needs within the City of Erie
16	Agency/Group/Organization	ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Health Agency

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Healthcare
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding community health within the City of Erie
17	Agency/Group/Organization	UNITED WAY OF ERIE COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding combating poverty within the City of Erie and surrounding region
18	Agency/Group/Organization	NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information concerning the needs of people living with blindness within the City of Erie
19	Agency/Group/Organization	ERIE VA MEDICAL CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services - Veterans
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding the needs of the City of Erie's Veterans

20	Agency/Group/Organization	ERIE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information concerning housing complaints within the City of Erie
21	Agency/Group/Organization	ST. MARTIN CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information regarding low and moderate income families and individuals within the City of Erie
22	Agency/Group/Organization	THE REFUGE/ERIE UNITED METHODIST ALLIANCE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information concerning homeless population needs and Veteran's needs within the City of Erie

23	Agency/Group/Organization	NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH #13/SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH/BEST
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Neighborhood Organization
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information on the housing and community development needs for the City of Erie
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Greater Erie Board of Realtors
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Trade organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information on the housing and community development needs for the City of Erie

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting
All agencies were consulted.

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	Erie HOME Team	The PA 605 Erie City & County CoC is the primary provider of housing and supportive services for the City of Erie's homeless and at risk of being homeless populations. The goals of the City and CoC are complementary.
2016 PHA Annual and Five Year Plan	Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE)	The Housing Authority of the City of Erie is the lead agency providing public housing assistance and Section 8 vouchers in the City of Erie. The goals of the City and HACE are complementary.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The City of Erie's Department of Economic and Community Development is the lead planning and administrating agency for the City's CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs. Close coordination is maintained between the Department and other City departments to ensure the needs for affordable housing and community development are being met. Cooperation extends beyond the City limits to the county and state level. Communication between the City's program and the County's program exist to ensure activities are coordinated and efficiently utilize CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. The Vision of the City of Erie's Five Year Consolidated Plan and Second Annual Plan seeks to develop a viable community by promoting integrated approaches that provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expand economic opportunities for low and moderate income persons. The primary means towards this end is the development of partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for profit and nonprofit organizations. The Second Annual Action Plan is an application for FY 2016 CDBG funds under HUD's formula grant program. The Plans combined act as a strategic plan to be followed by the City in carrying out federal programs.

AP-12
PARTICIPATION

SECTION 4

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The preparation process for the Second Annual Action Plan incorporated a number of actions that encouraged citizen participation. The City contacted local agencies and organizations to respond to the City's request for proposals (RFPs) for CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding. In compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, the City held a needs public hearing during the development phase of the Consolidated Plan and a second public hearing to discuss FY 2016 projects held during the thirty (30) day draft review and comment period. A "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the City's website at www.erie.pa.us and hard copies of the plan were available for review at the following locations:

Erie City Hall, Economic and Community Development, Room 404, 626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 East Front Street, Erie, PA 16501
John F. Kennedy Center, 2021 East 20th Street, Erie, PA 16510
Martin Luther King Center, 312 Chestnut Street, Erie, PA 16507
The Booker T. Washington Center, 1720 Holland Street, Erie, PA 16503

The City developed the Second Annual Action Plan based on the input received from residents and stakeholders through application proposals, public hearings, meetings, and draft plan review comments. All stakeholders on the City's CDBG contact list received application proposals, hand-outs and letters notifying them of the public hearing. A copy of the list can be found in the Citizen Participation attachment.

In conjunction with the development and citizen participation schedule of the Second Year Annual Action Plan, the City of Erie invited public comment on an updated Citizen Participation Plan in accordance with HUD requirements on public participation. Residents were encouraged to provide comments on the Citizen Participation Plan at the Public Hearings held on March 22, 2016 and April 12, 2016. A draft copy of the updated Citizen Participation Plan was made available to the public on March 28, 2016 as an attachment to the Draft Second Annual Action Plan at the locations listed above. Public comments and input were invited to be submitted to the City of Erie's Department of Economic and Community Development. See Citizen Participation appendix for a description of the Plan's updates and a copy of the updated Citizen Participation Plan.

Citizen Participation Outreach

	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	Solicitation of Proposals	Non-targeted/ broad community	Proposals were opened for project submissions for the CDBG and HOME programs from December 1, 2015 to January 29, 2016. Department of Economic and Community Development staff provided technical assistance with applications by request for several agencies.	No comments received for applications	All applications were accepted	www.erie.pa.us
2	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/ broad community	Notice for the first public meeting was published in the Erie Times News on March 4, 2016	See Citizen Participation Plan advertisement attachment	No comments received	
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/ broad community	First Public Meeting held on March 22, 2016 - There were 38 people in attendance.	See Citizen Participation attachment	All comments were accepted	
4	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/ broad community	March 28, 2016 newspaper notification published for the Second Public Hearing. Copies of the Second Annual Action Plan draft were made available to the public at several accessible locations across the City and at the City's Department of Economic and Community Development.	See Citizen Participation advertisement attachment	No comments received	

	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/ broad community	The Draft Annual Action Plan was made available electronically for the public on the City of Erie's website on March 28, 2016 so residents could access the draft materials online during the comment period.	No comments received	No comments received	www.erie.pa.us
6	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/ broad community	Second public hearing held on April 12, 2016 - There were 37 people in attendance.	See Citizen Participation Plan attachment	All comments were accepted	
7	Council meeting	City Council	City Council meeting on May 4, 2016 to request authorization to submit the Second Annual Action Plan for HUD review	See Grantee SF-424s and Certificates Attachment	Approval to submit Plan Resolution. See Grantee SF-424s and Certificates Attachment	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

AP-15
EXPECTED RESOURCES

SECTION 5

Expected Resources AP-15

Expected Resources – 91.220(c) (1, 2)

The City of Erie anticipates receiving $2,804,599 in CDBG funds; $658,639 in HOME funds; and $252,664 in ESG funds for the FY 2016 program year. The program year goes from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. Based on a 5% cut in funds, the city projects the following anticipated resources (see chart). The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2016 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 2				Expected Available Remainder of ConPlan	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation	Program Income	Prior Year	Total		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	2,804,599	29,077	0	2,833,676	7,600,113	Due to consistent and continued declines in CDBG funding allocations, the City estimates that it will receive $7,600,113 for the remainder of the Consolidated Plan period.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	658,639	0	0	658,639	1,775,102	Due to consistent and continued declines in HOME funding allocations, the City estimates that it will receive $1,775,102 for the remainder of the Consolidated Plan period.
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	252,664	0	0	252,664	688,405	Due to consistent and continued declines in ESG funding allocations, the City estimates that it will receive $688,405 for the remainder of the Consolidated Plan period.

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

City subrecipients leverage CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding with other state, local and private grants. In response to the FY2015 IDIS updates where specific leveraging is now required, the City has incorporated a funding source form for all project proposals in their contract compliance procedures. Currently, total amounts are specified on budgets without breakdowns. Matching fund sources include private funding, United Way, PA CADV (Coalition Against Domestic Violence), Project Connect, Erie County Mental Health/Mental Retardation, annual appeals, donations, gifts, Office of Children and Youth, Department of Public Welfare, Housing Authority, Drug & Alcohol Counseling Services and many other sources.

The City of Erie receives a 100% HOME match reduction for distressed cities in accordance with 24 CFR 92.222 of the HOME Program regulation. In addition to the City's requirement that sub recipients specify Other Private and Public Funding Sources in their contract compliance information, sub recipients are required to submit subsidy layering when appropriate. The City requires subsidy layering in accordance with HOME Regulation 24 CFR 92.250(b) and HUD CPD Notice 98.01. The purpose is to ensure the City does not invest any more funds, in combination with other governmental assistance, than is necessary to provide affordable housing. The City will conduct subsidy layering reviews to determine whether the amount of funds used is the least amount necessary to accomplish the affordable housing objectives of the project. This will enable the City to identify all resources from private and public sources.

FHA Title I The Federal Housing Administration provides mortgage insurance to FHA approved mortgage lenders for up to 95% of the mortgage amount thus enabling lenders to make loans that have 5% down payment rather than 10% or 20%. Properties must meet FHA standards and borrowers must meet rigid underwriting criteria.

FHA 203(k) Mortgage Insurance Program One to four family units can be insured for the combined cost of acquisition and rehabilitation. Utilizing this program, lenders can provide borrowers with one mortgage loan at a long term fixed or variable rate to finance both acquisition and rehabilitation.

Low Income Housing Preservation Program This program provides financial incentives to maintain subsidized housing projects whose federal assistance is expiring.

Supportive Housing Program Grants to public entities and nonprofits to promote the development of supportive housing and services.

Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC) A federal tax credit program which provides incentives for the development of low income rental housing. A certain percentage of units must be set aside for various income categories. The units must be affordable for a minimum of 15 years. The amount of credit is 4% or 9% depending on federal subsidization. Developers of qualified projects can take credit against federal

income taxes for a ten year period. The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency administers this program in Pennsylvania. Individuals, for profits or nonprofits, corporations, trusts, and partnerships are eligible to apply. Tax credits are allocated to eligible recipients on a competitive basis.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA) Competitive grants and the **HOME Equity Conversion Mortgage program** (see 5 Year Consolidated Plan for descriptions)

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

Not applicable.

Discussion

The program plan year runs from July 1 through June 30. Funds for the Second Year Action Plan will be used to address the following priority needs:

Housing
Technical Assistance
Rehabilitation/Commercial
Homeless
Other Special Needs
Community Development
Administration, Planning, and Management

AP-20
ANNUAL GOALS & OBJECTIVES

SECTION 6

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Goals Summary Information

	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: $312,276 HOME: $200,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 44 Household Housing Unit
2	HS-3 Housing Construction	2015	2019	Affordable Housing		Housing Priority	HOME: $392,776	Rental units constructed: 3 Household Housing Unit Other: 1 Other
3	HO-2 Operation/ Support	2015	2019	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	ESG: $170,548	Homelessness Prevention: 1564 Persons Assisted Other: 1 Other
4	HO-3 Prevention and Housing	2015	2019	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	ESG: $82,116	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 63 Households Assisted
5	CD-1 Community Facilities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: $33,250	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2875 Persons Assisted
6	CD-2 Infrastructure	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: $200,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted
7	CD-3 Public Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: $118,909	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 806 Persons Assisted

	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	CD-4 Accessibility	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: $425,848	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4978 Persons Assisted
9	CD-6 Code Enforcement	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: $420,493	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 500 Household Housing Unit
10	CD-7 Clearance	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: $150,000	Buildings Demolished: 5 Buildings
11	CD-8 Revitalization	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: $111,550	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 2 Business Other: 6 Other
12	CD-10 Community Policing	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: $500,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted
13	AM-1 Overall Coordination	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Administratio n, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: $560,919 HOME: $65,863	Other: 2 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	**Goal Name**	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Continue to provide financial assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners to rehabilitate their existing owner-occupied housing.
2	**Goal Name**	HS-3 Housing Construction
	Goal Description	Increase the supply of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing that is affordable to owners and renters in the community through rehabilitation of vacant buildings and new construction.
3	**Goal Name**	HO-2 Operation/Support
	Goal Description	Assist providers in the operation of housing and support services for the homeless and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.
4	**Goal Name**	HO-3 Prevention and Housing
	Goal Description	Continue to support the prevention of homelessness and programs for rapid rehousing.
5	**Goal Name**	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Goal Description	Improve the parks, recreational centers, trails, libraries, and all public and community facilities in the municipality.
6	**Goal Name**	CD-2 Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction.
7	**Goal Name**	CD-3 Public Services
	Goal Description	Improve and increase public safety, municipal services, and public service programs throughout the community.

8	**Goal Name**	CD-4 Accessibility
	Goal Description	Improve the physical and visual accessibility of community facilities, infrastructure, and public buildings.
9	**Goal Name**	CD-6 Code Enforcement
	Goal Description	Enforce the local codes and ordinances to bring buildings into compliance with the standards through systematic code enforcement.
10	**Goal Name**	CD-7 Clearance
	Goal Description	Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned and dilapidated structures.
11	**Goal Name**	CD-8 Revitalization
	Goal Description	Promote neighborhood revitalization in strategic areas through acquisition, demolition, rehabilitation, code enforcement, infrastructure improvements, housing construction, public and community facilities improvements, etc.
12	**Goal Name**	CD-10 Community Policing
	Goal Description	Improve neighborhoods by having the Police Department work cooperatively with residents and community based organizations to identify and resolve issues affecting the neighborhood.
13	**Goal Name**	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, state, and local funded programs, including planning services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

AP-35
PROJECTS

SECTION 7

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Erie is proposing the following projects for its FY 2016 Annual Action Plan.

#	Project Name	
1	General Administration	
2	Summer Recreation	
3	JFK Center - Summer	
4	MLK Center - Summer	
5	Trinity Center - Summer	
6	BTW - Summer	
7	YMCA Downtown Teen Center	
8	St. Martin Center	
9	Community Policing	
10	Park / Playground Improvements	
11	Handicapped Curb Cuts	
12	Streets Resurfacing	
13	JFK Center Water Fountains	
14	ERA Housing Rehabilitation	
15	GECAC Weatherization	
16	Clearance / Demolition	
17	Code Enforcement	
18	ERA Acquisition	
19	Mercyhurst Civic Institute - NRO Technical Assistance	
20	ERA Facade Renovations / Buildings	
21	ERA Housing Rehabilitation (HOME)	
22	HANDS New Construction Rental Mid-Town #7	
23	HANDS Construction Our West Bayfront Rental	
24	HANDS CHDO Operating	
25	HOME Administration	
26	ESG16 City of Erie	Community Shelter Services St. Patrick's Haven SafeNet – Hospitality House City Mission The Refuge Community of Caring Mercy Center for Women SafeNet-Bridge House SafeNet-TLC GECAC Rapid Rehousing Administration

Table 8 – Project Information

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

CDBG funds are intended to provide lower and moderate income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, housing rehabilitation and preservation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration.

The system for establishing the priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the following criteria:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG program;
- Meeting the needs of very-low, low-, and moderate-income residents;
- Focus on low- and moderate-income areas or neighborhoods;
- Coordination and leveraging of resources;
- Response to expressed needs;
- Sustainability and/or long term impact;
- The ability to measure or demonstrate progress and success.

AP-38
PROJECTS SUMMARY

SECTION 8

2016 Annual Plan Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 9 – Project Summary

1	CD16-19	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $560,919 Program income: $431
	Description	Funds will be used for CDBG program administration, planning, and management costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 21A General Program Administration 570.206

2	CD16-3	SUMMER RECREATION
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $10,000
	Description	Funds will be used for recreational activities, related salaries, and operating costs at the Roger Young City Pool.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	Buffalo Road and Downing Street, Erie, PA
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05 Public Services (General) 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

3	CD16-3c	JFK CENTER – SUMMER
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $12,724
	Description	Funds will be used for the JFK Center's summer recreation youth program.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	125 youth
	Location Description	2012 East 20th Street, Erie, PA 16510
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2).

4	CD16-3e	MLK CENTER – SUMMER
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $6,225
	Description	Funds will be used for the MLK Center summer youth recreation program.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	42 youth
	Location Description	312 Chestnut Street, Erie, PA 16507
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2).

5	CD16-3f	TRINITY CENTER – SUMMER
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $8,960
	Description	Funds will be used for Bethesda Trinity Center's summer youth recreational program.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	77 youth
	Location Description	462 West 18th Street, Erie, PA 16502
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

6	CD16-3d	BTW CENTER - SUMMER
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $6,000
	Description	Funds will be used for the BTW Center's summer youth recreation program.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	24 youth
	Location Description	1720 Holland Street, Erie, PA 16503
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

7	CD16-168	YMCA DOWNTOWN TEEN CENTER
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $50,000
	Description	Funds will be used for YMCA Downtown Teen Center programs.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	300 youth
	Location Description	31 West 10th Street, Erie, PA 16501
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05D Youth Services 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

8	CD16-138	ST. MARTIN CENTER
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $25,000
	Description	Funds will be used for pre-purchase and pre-closing home buying education and counseling, and financial literacy education and counseling.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	138
	Location Description	1701 Parade Street, Erie, PA 16503
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05 Public Services 570.201(e); 05U Housing counseling National objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit; activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

9	CD16-119	COMMUNITY POLICING
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-10 Community Policing
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $500,000
	Description	Funds will be used for Police Officer salaries and fringe benefits to patrol and interact with the community in targeted high crime areas of the City.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide LMI CTs and BGs
	Location Description	Citywide LMI CTs and BGs
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05I Crime Awareness/Prevention 570.201(e) National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit: the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(a)(1)

10	CD16-13	PARK / PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $25,000
	Description	Funds will be used for park/playground improvements in LMI service areas of the City.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide LMI CTs and BGs
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03F Parks, Recreation Facilities 570.201(c) National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit: the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(a)(1)

11	CD16-2d	HANDICAPPED CURB CUTS
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-4 Accessibility
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $425,848
	Description	Funds will be used for wheelchair accessibility (curb cuts) at street intersections.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4,978 ambulatory disabled persons
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03L Sidewalks 570.201(c) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, presumed benefit. 570.208(a)(1)

12	CD16-2	STREETS RESURFACING
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-2 Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $200,000
	Description	Funds will be used for street reconstruction and curb cuts.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	LMI CTs and BGs
	Location Description	LMI CTs and BGs
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03K Street Improvements 570.201(c) National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit: the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(a)(1)

13	CD16-16a	JFK CENTER WATER FOUNTAINS
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1 Community Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $8,250
	Description	Funds will be used for two (2) new water fountains at the JFK Center.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	875 persons
	Location Description	2012 E 20th Street, Erie, PA 16510
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03E Neighborhood facilities 570.201(c) National objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit; activities that benefit a limited clientele, presumed benefit. 570.208(a)(2)

14	CD16-4	ERA HOUSING REHABILITATION
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $306,276 (includes $28,646 program income)
	Description	Funds will be used for housing rehabilitation assistance and delivery costs. Eligible single units may receive up to $24,999 for housing rehabilitation costs. If applicable, a $6,000 grant will be included under the cap for handicap accessibility modifications. Eligible single units may receive an additional $8,000 for lead remediation housing costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	12 housing units
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 14A Rehab; Single-Unit Residential 570.202 National Objective: LMH Low/mod housing benefit: activities that are carried out for the purpose of providing or improving permanent residential structures that will be occupied by low/mod income households. 570.208(a)(3)

15	CD16-17e	GECAC WEATHERIZATION
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $6,000
	Description	Funds will be used for operational costs of the weatherization program, which provides services to reduce fuel consumption, thereby reducing utility bills for LMI households.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	24 LMI households
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 14F Energy Efficiency Improvements 570.202 National Objective: LMH Low/mod housing benefit: activities that are carried out for the purpose of providing or improving permanent residential structures that will be occupied by low/mod income households. 570.208(a)(3)

16	CD16-5d	CLEARANCE / DEMOLITION
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-7 Clearance
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $150,000
	Description	Funding will be used for demolition, site clearance, and related delivery costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 04 Clearance and Demolition 570.210(d) National Objective: SBS Slum/blight spot basis: activities that address conditions of blight or physical decay on a spot basis not located in a slum/blight area. 570.208(a)(2)

17	CD16-1	CODE ENFORCEMENT
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-6 Code Enforcement
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $420,493
	Description	Funds will be used for code enforcement activities in LMI areas of the City and provide for an additional full-time code enforcement officer.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide LMI CTs and BGs
	Location Description	Citywide LMI CTs and BGs
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 15 Code Enforcement 570.202(c) National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit: the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(a)(1)

18	CD16-4a	ERA ACQUISITION
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-8 Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $39,550
	Description	Funds will be used to pay legal fees for the purchase of vacant and dilapidated structures on a spot blight basis.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 01 Acquisition of Real Property 570.201(a) National Objective: SBS Slum/blight spot basis: activities that address condition of blight or physical decay on a spot basis not located in a slum/blight area. 570.208(b)(2)

19	CD16-169	MERCYHURST CIVIC INSTITUTE - NRO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-8 Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $15,000
	Description	Funds will be used to provide training and technical assistance to the City's neighborhood groups to increase the capacity of such entities to carry out eligible neighborhood revitalization or economic development activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Low to moderate income area benefit
	Location Description	Low to moderate income area benefit
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 19C Non-Profit Capacity Building 570.201(p) Technical Assistance National Objective: LMA Low/mod area benefit; the service area identified for activities is primarily low/mod income. 570.208(1)

20	CD16-86a	ERA FACADE RENOVATIONS / BUILDINGS
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-8 Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: $57,000
	Description	Funds will be used to assist with exterior facade improvements to commercial properties.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated two (2) buildings
	Location Description	Slum / blight spot basis
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 14E Rehab: Publicly or privately owned comm/indust buildings 570.202(a)(3) National Objective: SBS Slum/blight spot basis: activities that address conditions of blight or physical decay on a spot basis not located in a slum/blight area 570.208(b)(2)

21	H16-01	ERA HOUSING REHABILITATION (HOME)
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: $200,000
	Description	Funds will provide deferred loans to qualified individuals for the purpose of rehabilitating their homes. Eligible owners may receive up to $24,999 for eligible housing rehabilitation costs. Additional funding of approximately $8,000 for lead improvements may be applied. The $24,999 may include an incentive grant of up to $6,000 to facilitate the adaptability of singe units for occupancy by disabled persons. Properties must be brought up to code.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8 units
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 14A Rehab; Single-Unit Residential 570.202 National Objective: LMH Low/mod housing benefit: activities that are carried out for the purpose of providing or improving permanent residential structures that will be occupied by low/mod income households. 570.208(a)(3)

22	H16-05g.1	HANDS NEW CONSTRUCTION RENTAL MID-TOWN #7
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-3 Housing Construction
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: $137,070
	Description	HANDS will construct one (1) single family rental home for income eligible tenants in the Mid-Town Development.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 household
	Location Description	239 East 13th Street, Erie, PA 16503
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 12 Construction of Housing 570.201(m) National Objective: LMH Low/mod housing benefit: activities that are carried out for the purpose of providing or improving permanent residential structures that will be occupied by low/mod income households. 570.208(a)(3)

23	H16-05g.2	HANDS CONSTRUCTION OUR WEST BAYFRONT RENTAL
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-3 Housing Construction
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: $234,783
	Description	HANDS will construct two (2) single family rental homes for income eligible households in the West Bayfront area. Each home will have three (3) bedrooms.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2 households
	Location Description	West Bayfront area
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 12 Construction of Housing 570.201(m) National Objective: LMH Low/mod housing benefit: activities that are carried out for the purpose of providing or improving permanent residential structures that will be occupied by low/mod income households. 570.208(a)(3)

24	H16-05d	HANDS CHDO OPERATING
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-3 Housing Construction
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	HOME: $20,923
	Description	Funds will be used for personnel, training, general operating assistance, and other eligible CHDO operating costs for the administration of CHDO designated HOME activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	7 East 7th Street, Erie, PA 16501
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 19B CHDO Operating Costs (not part of 5% admin) National Objective: LMH Low/mod housing benefit: activities that are carried out for the purpose of providing or improving permanent residential structures that will be occupied by low/mod income households. 570.208.208(a)(3)

25	H16-3	HOME ADMINISTRATION
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AM-1 Overall Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	HOME: $65,863
	Description	Funds will be used for HOME program administration, planning, and management costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 19A HOME Admin/Planning Costs of PJ (not part of 5% Admin Cap)

26	Project Name	ESG16 CITY OF ERIE
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HO-2 Operation/Support HO-3 Prevention and Housing
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
	Funding	ESG: $252,664
	Description	Emergency Shelter Community Shelter Services $26,632. Emergency Shelter St. Patrick's Haven $12,976. Emergency Shelter SafeNet (Hospitality House) $16,389. Emergency Shelter City Mission $34,144. Emergency Shelter The Refuge $13,657. Emergency Shelter Community of Caring $15,706. Transitional Living Mercy Center for Women $15,706. Transitional Living SafeNet (Bridge House) $10,926. Transitional Living SafeNet (TLC) $5,463. GECAC Rapid Re-Housing $82,116. Administration $18,949.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	GECAC Rapid Rehousing: 63; Emergency and Transitional Shelters: 1564
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03C Homeless Facilities (not operating costs) 570.201(c), 03T Operating Cost for Homeless / AIDS Patients Programs, and 05Q Subsistence Payments 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Emergency Shelter	COMMUNITY SHELTER SERVICES
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	HO-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $26,632
Description	Funds will be used for personnel and operating costs for the emergency shelter.
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	375 homeless families and individuals
Location Description	652 West 17 Street, Erie, PA 16502 (Emergency Shelter location)
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Costs for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Emergency Shelter	ST. PATRICK'S HAVEN
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $12,976
Description	Funds will be used for utilities and insurances for the shelter.
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	70 homeless men
Location Description	147 East 12 Street, Erie, PA 16501
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Costs for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Emergency Shelter	SAFENET - HOSPITALITY HOUSE
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $16,389
Description	Funds will be used for utilities (security, fuel, electric, etc.)
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	250 women and children needing emergency shelter related to domestic violence situations
Location Description	Citywide (unpublished address)
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Cost for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Emergency Shelter	CITY MISSION
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $34,144
Description	Funds will be used for operations (utilities) and essential services (wages) for the Samaritan Care Emergency Shelter
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	475 homeless adult men
Location Description	1017 French Street, Erie, PA 16501
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Costs for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Emergency Shelter	THE REFUGE
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $13,657
Description	Funds will be used for operations (partial salaries for a client advocate and house security staff)
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	140 homeless adults and children
Location Description	1027 East 26 Street, Erie, PA 16504 (Shelter location)
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Costs for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Emergency Shelter	COMMUNITY OF CARING
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $15,706
Description	Funds will be used for operating expenses (food, utilities, client advocate position, etc.) for the shelter
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	150 individual men and women who are mentally ill or homeless
Location Description	245 East 8th Street, Erie, PA 16503
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Costs for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Transitional Living	MERCY CENTER FOR WOMEN
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $15,706
Description	Funds will be used for operations (utilities, such as gas, water, and electric) and insurances
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	44 women and their children
Location Description	1039 East 27 Street, Erie, PA 16504
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Cost for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Transitional Living	SAFENET - BRIDGE HOUSE
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	bilitation iority
Funding	ESG: $10,926
Description	Funds will be used for utilities (security, fuel, electric, etc.) needed for operations
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	35 women and children
Location Description	Citywide (unpublished address)
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Costs for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Transitional Living	SAFENET - TLC
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $5,463
Description	Funds will be used for utilities (security, electric, fuel, etc.) needed for operations
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 mothers under 25 years old and their children (8 beds for 2016 allocation)
Location Description	Citywide (unpublished address)
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 03T Operating Costs for Homeless/AIDS Patients Programs National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16 – Rapid Rehousing	GECAC – RAPID REHOUSING
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-3 Prevention and Housing
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $82,116
Description	Funds will be used for rapid rehousing services, such as security deposits, rent, or other costs of housing homeless individuals/families along with delivery
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	63 homeless families/individuals
Location Description	Citywide
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 05Q Subsistence Payments 570.201(e) National Objective: LMC Low/mod limited clientele benefit: activities that benefit a limited clientele, at least 51% of which are low/mod income. 570.208(a)(2)

ESG16	ESG Administration
Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	H0-2 Operation / Support
Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
Funding	ESG: $18,949
Description	Funds will be used for the administration of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program.
Target Date	6/30/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide
Location Description	Citywide
Planned Activities	Matrix Code: 21A General Program Administration

AP-50
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

SECTION 9

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The City of Erie will distribute CDBG, HOME, and ESG on a citywide basis to all eligible beneficiaries. An eligible beneficiary may be a LMI individual person or family, an activity that primarily benefits a LMI household, or an activity located in a LMI Census Tract (CT) or Block Group (BG). Since the City's low mod income population exceeds 51%, certain activities that have a citywide benefit may be considered.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	100

Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically
CDBG funds are intended to provide lower and moderate income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, housing rehabilitation and preservation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration.

The system for establishing the priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the following criteria:
Meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG program;
Meeting the needs of very-low, low-, and moderate-income residents;
Focus on low- and moderate-income areas or neighborhoods;
Coordination and leveraging of resources;
Response to expressed needs;
Sustainability and/or long term impact;
The ability to measure or demonstrate progress and success.

Discussion
Under the FY 2016 Community Development Program, the City of Erie will be receiving $2,804,599 in CDBG funds and will use $29,077 in program income ($2,833,676 total). The City will budget $560,919 in CDBG funds and $431 in program income ($561,350 total) for CDBG general administration. The balance of CDBG funds ($2,243,680) and program income ($28,646) totals $2,272,326. From this balance, $2,025,776 will be allocated to activities which principally benefit low and moderate income persons (71%) and $246,550 will be allocated for the removal of slums and blight (9%).

AP-55
AFFORDABLE HOUSING

SECTION 10

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Erie will utilize its CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds to rehabilitate existing affordable housing units, support the construction of new affordable housing units, and provide rental assistance to facilitate housing affordability.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	63
Non-Homeless	47
Special-Needs	0
Total	**110**

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	63
The Production of New Units	3
Rehab of Existing Units	44
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	**110**

Table 12 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The one-year projects for affordable housing funded by the City for FY 2016, CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds are as follows:

CD16-4, ERA Housing Rehabilitation (12 housing units)
CD16-17e, GECAC Weatherization (24 households)
H16-01, ERA Housing Rehabilitation (8 housing units)
H16-05g.1, HANDS Construction Mid-Town #7 Rental (1 household)
H16-05g.2, HANDS Our West Bayfront Rental (2 households)
ES16 ESG Program (GECAC Rapid ReHousing, 63 households)

AP-60
PUBLIC HOUSING

SECTION 11

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE) exists to provide safe, decent, and affordable housing for lower-income families, elderly and persons with disabilities; and to foster among the residents we serve economic self-sufficiency, and a sense of community and pride in the neighborhoods where they reside.

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

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE) plans to allocate the following FY 2016 funds (Total $2,806,098) for its public housing units:
Operations $710,524
Administration $280,609
Fees and Costs $86,425
Site Acquisition $10,000
Site Improvement $75,000
Dwelling Structures $1,652,540

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

The Housing Authority actively encourages resident involvement through the following measures:

Tenant Councils - The Senior Tenant Council is composed of residents in each high-rise apartment building – Curry/Schell Apartments, Ostrow Apartments, Schmid Towers, and Friendship Apartments. Officers are elected yearly under guidelines set forth by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The primary purpose for electing Tenant Councils is to give residents an opportunity to explain their needs and points of view to the manager of the building in order to have a part in decisions and policy making. Tenant Councils also plan and promote activities that enhance the health and welfare, educational opportunities and recreational activities available to each buildings residents.

Resident Advisory Board - The Resident Advisory Board is comprised of elected officers from each of the Family Development and High-rise Tenant Councils. These include Lake City, Ostrow Apartments, Erie Heights, Friendship Apartments, Harbor Homes, Harbor Homes Annex, John E. Horan Garden Apartments, Pineview, Agnes R. Priscaro Apartments, Schmid Towers, Section 8, and Section 8 Family Self Sufficiency. When there is no functioning Tenant Council, community representatives from the family developments or high-rise buildings are asked to serve on the Resident Advisory Board. Members of the Resident Advisory Board meet regularly with Authority staff to provide input on policy matters, Capital Fund expenditures, and new program development.

Resident Survey – An annual survey is conducted by the Housing Authority to solicit residents' opinions about safety in their neighborhoods, along with their awareness of, and satisfaction with, services provided by the Housing Authority and its social service partners. The Housing Authority has conducted this survey on an annual basis since the late 1990s. While originally required to have this survey completed by the federal government, because the survey provided useful data to HACE, the decision was made to continue the annual survey. The data provide insight into safety issues in neighborhoods, which can then be addressed by the Housing Authority and its partners (e.g., the Erie police). Moreover,

the results of the survey regarding awareness of and use of the Housing Authority's services, along with satisfaction with HACE management, provide information that can be used to make improvements where needed. With this knowledge, HACE is able to make informed decisions with respect to quality improvements.

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

Not applicable.

Discussion

The City of Erie has identified that there is a need for housing to address the households affected by housing problems, severe housing problems, and housing cost burdens. The Housing Authority of the City of Erie is an important part of the City of Erie's housing strategy. The Housing Authority is the primary assisted housing provider of housing for extremely low income, very low income, and low income residents of the City.

AP-65
HOMELESS AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS ACTIVITIES

SECTION 12

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

Introduction

The Home Team was created to promote a comprehensive, collaborative and sustained community approach to homelessness in Erie County. The Home Team meets bimonthly to work toward eradicating homelessness. In addition, the Home Team collects data related to the homeless services system in Erie County. The purpose of data collection is to ensure non-duplication of resources and to identify and address major gaps in the system. Ultimately, the Home Team's goal is to enable the person or family experiencing homelessness to become self-sufficient and to move into permanent housing.

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 following ESG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan:

Emergency Shelter
Community Shelter Services $26,632
St. Patrick's Haven $12,976
SafeNet (Hospitality House) $16,389
City Mission $34,144
The Refuge $13,657
Community of Caring $15,706

Transitional Living
Mercy Center for Women $15,706
SafeNet (Bridge House) $10,926
SafeNet (TLC) $5,463

GECAC Rapid Re-Housing $82,116
Administration $18,949

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The following *transitional* housing programs received CoC Project Priority Ranking for 2015:
TLC Plus Renewal (SafeNet) - $254,457
Hope for the Homeless Renewal (Erie United Methodist Alliance) - $341,622
New Life Program Renewal (Erie City Mission) - $177,297
Reach Renewal 2015 Erie CoCR (Mercy Center for Women, Erie DAWN, SafeNet, Gaudenzia) - $134,218

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 following *permanent* housing programs received CoC Project Priority Ranking for 2015:
Self Start I Renewal (ECCM) - $421,411
Self Start II Renewal (ECCM) - $141,862

Self Start III Renewal (ECCM)- $142,356
Stairways ACT (ECCM) - $93,761
Lighting the Candle I Renewal (Community Shelter Services) - $131,948
Lighting the Candle II Renewal (Community Shelter Services) - $110,075
Finally Home Renewal (Community of Caring) - $73,032
Make it a Home Always Renewal (Mental Health Association) - $106,539

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

The following is a summary of homeless prevention programs and resources available. Many of these programs and resources are administered by GECAC:

Housing and Rental Assistance - This program provides assistance with the first month's rent and/or a security deposit up to $750. Maximum is $1,000 every two years without children, and $1,500 every two years with children. Checks are mailed directly to the landlord and are subject to a client fee determined by monthly income and the rent/security deposit being requested.

HEMAP - The Homeowner's Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (HEMAP) is a cost-effective means of preventing homelessness among Pennsylvanians. It helps homeowners who, through no fault of their own, are financially unable to make their mortgage payments.

Weatherization - GECAC works closely with the Department of Community and Economic Development, Natural Fuel Gas, and GPU energy to provide efficiency improvements to eligible owner and renter residences within the City of Erie. The Weatherization program aims to make a client's home more comfortable and energy efficient. The client's dwelling is assessed and an audit is performed in accordance with Industry standards to determine the best possible solution. Some measures taken care: weather-stripping, caulking, replacement of broken glass, attic insulation, and furnace inspection. To be eligible to receive weatherization services, the applicant must have an income at or below the 150% federal poverty level and not have had the residence weatherized after September 1993.

WARM Program - The WARM program is a free weatherization and energy education program for GPU Energy's residential customers. Applicants must meet income guidelines, have electric heat or electric water heat, and average $55 per month or greater on electric bills.

The CoC works closely with the Erie County Office of Children and Youth (OCY), where foster care placements originate, to identify individuals who are aging out of foster care. The CoC ensures that individuals have a viable housing plan before they reach their termination date to leave that level of care.

Erie County is a small close-knit community where no local hospitals discharge people to an emergency shelter or the streets. The hospital social workers work diligently to find resources for individuals who arrive for services and have nowhere to go upon discharge. Discharge planning at the State Hospital or

acute care hospitals begins on the first day of admission with case managers at our Base Service Unit for mental health (BSU). The BSU is at the acute care hospitals three times a week and at the State Hospital once every two week. The BSU works with the individuals on detailed housing plans for people to either go to a step down unit or directly to an apartment of their choosing or to reunite with family members. The State Hospital is mandated to have a housing plan in place upon discharge and the acute care hospitals rely on the BSU to find suitable housing for people upon discharge.

The Commonwealth and County mandates that a person must have a viable housing plan before release from a corrections facility that includes a memorandum of understanding with HUD that clearly states that a housing plan cannot include McKinney funded projects. Medical Assistance benefits are suspended for people who had those benefits before their incarceration so they would be reinstated for benefits upon release.

Discussion

The City has allocated CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds to the following FY 2016 community development and anti-poverty programs to address the other special needs and homeless needs:

CD16-4 ERA Housing Rehabilitation
H16-01 ERA Housing Rehabilitation
H16-05g.1 HANDS Construction Mid-Town #7 Rental
H16-05g.2 HANDS Our West Bayfront Rental
CD16-17e GECAC Weatherization
CD16-138 St. Martin Center
ESG16 - ESG Program

AP-75
BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

SECTION 13

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

Introduction

The City participated in the Regional Analysis of Impediments (AI) prepared by Destination Erie: A Regional Vision, a consortium of regional stakeholders envisioning the County's future and creating a strategy to meet the region's economic, social, and environmental challenges of the 21st century dated March 2015. The Council of the City of Erie approved and adopted the Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the City of Erie, Pennsylvania on December 16, 2015 and confirms the City's continued commitment to affirmatively further fair housing.

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

The City intends to continue collaborative efforts that represent an ongoing need and impact on addressing barriers to fair housing in the City and region. City Department of Economic and Community Development staff regularly attend and participate in the Mayor's Roundtable on Disabilities' Housing Committee, Erie County Home Team (Continuum of Care) meetings and sub-committees, and Housing Authority of the City of Erie (HACE) meetings. These ongoing collaborations represent strong initiatives in the City to ameliorate current fair housing impediments for citizens, including low-income residents, people with disabilities, individuals experiencing homelessness, and public housing tenants. In addition, the City will continue to support local Fair Housing Advocates and engage local HUD-certified housing counselors that work extensively with minorities. The City has also updated our Citizen Participation Plan this year (see Citizen Participation attachment) in our continuing efforts to encourage input on HUD-funded and fair housing programs. The City will continue to respond to any requests for accommodations for limited-English speaking populations and individuals with disabilities.

For 2016, the City of Erie Code Enforcement office will respond to community concerns for blight and deteriorating properties, particularly in the City's low to moderate income neighborhoods. CDBG funds will support an additional full-time code enforcement officer to focus on strategic housing and neighborhood improvement efforts in Erie's East and West Bayfront areas. St. Martin Center will provide homebuyer education and outreach, as well as financial literacy programs. CDBG and HOME funds will be allocated to improve the quality and availability of affordable housing for low to moderate income populations with housing rehabilitation and construction projects implemented by the Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC), Housing and Neighborhood Development Service (HANDS), and Erie Redevelopment Authority (ERA).

Discussion

A detailed summary of the City's Actions to respond to Fair Housing impediments are included in the Affirmative Fair Housing Goals and Strategies attachment (see Grantee Unique Appendices). The City will report on progress for actions to reduce barriers to fair housing in annual Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs).

AP-85
OTHER ACTIONS

SECTION 14

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The City of Erie has developed the following actions to address the following city needs: obstacles to meeting underserved needs; fostering affordable housing; reducing lead-based hazards; reducing the number of families living in poverty; developing institutional structures; and enhancing coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Despite City and service provider efforts, there remain a significant number of obstacles to meeting underserved needs. The following are obstacles to meeting those needs in Erie:

- High cost of housing
- Growing gap between incomes and housing
- Unemployment
- Crime
- Substance abuse
- Increasing physical and mental handicap housing needs
- Cycle of poverty

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

To foster and maintain affordable housing, the City of Erie proposes to carry out the following activities:

CD16-4 ERA Housing Rehabilitation
CD16-17e GECAC Weatherization
HO16-01 ERA Housing Rehabilitation
HO16-05g.1 HANDS Construction Mid-Town #7 Rental
HO16-05g.2 HANDS Our West Bayfront New Construction Rental

The Housing Authority of the City of Erie will continue to fund the following activities to foster and maintain affordable housing in the City of Erie:

Continue to provide Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing units
Continue to rehabilitate and make improvements to public housing units

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Erie will continue to comply with Title 24 Part 35: Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention in Certain Residential Structures (Current Rule) for its Housing Rehabilitation Projects. In order to meet the requirements of the new lead-based paint regulations, the City of Erie will take the following actions regarding housing rehabilitation:

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

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

The Erie Redevelopment Authority will continue to offer a program that reduces or eliminates toxic lead hazards in residential dwellings throughout Erie County.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families
Based on 2007-2011 ACS data, approximately 22.9% of the City of Erie's residents live in poverty, which is greater than the State of Pennsylvania where 12.6% of residents live in poverty. More recent data (2010-2014 ACS) indicates that poverty is increasing with 27.4% of the City's residents now estimated to be considered below the poverty level. Female-headed households with children are particularly affected by poverty at 54.1%. The Census Bureau (ACS 2014) estimates that 40.6% of all Erie City youth under the age of 18 live in poverty.

The City's goal is to reduce the extent of poverty by actions the City can control and through work with other agencies and organizations. During this program year the City will fund:
ESG16 – Emergency Solutions Grant Program (Rapid Re-Housing, Emergency Shelter, Transitional Living)
CD16-138 - St. Martin Center (Housing counseling and financial literacy)

The City of Erie also will fund programs primarily benefiting low to moderate income youth:
CD16-3 Summer Recreation (Roger Young City Pool)
CD16-3c JFK Center Summer
CD16-3d BTW Center Summer
CD16-3e MLK Center Summer
CD16-3f Trinity Center Summer
CD16-168 YMCA Teen Center

Actions planned to develop institutional structure
The City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development will coordinate activities among the public and private agencies and organizations in the City. This coordination will ensure that the goals and objectives outlined in the FY 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan and 2016 Action Plan will be effectively addressed by more than one agency. The staff of the Department of Economic and Community Development will facilitate and coordinate the linkage between these public and private partnerships and develop new partnership opportunities in the City.

This coordination and collaboration between agencies is important to ensure that the needs of the residents of Erie are being addressed. The main agencies that are involved in the implementation of the Plan, as well as additional financial resources that are available are the following:

Public Agencies:
• City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development – is responsible for administration of the CDBG program.
• Housing Authority of the City of Erie – is responsible for administering Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing units.

Non-Profit Agencies:
There are several non-profit agencies that serve low income households in the City. The City continued to collaborate with these agencies- a full list can be found in Section AP-10 Consultations.

Private Sector:
The private sector is a key collaborator in the services and programs associated with the Five Year Consolidated Plan. The private sector brings additional financial resources and expertise that can be used to supplement existing services in the City. Examples of these private sectors are: local lenders, affordable housing developers, business owners, community and economic development organizations, healthcare organizations, and others. The City will continue to collaborate with local financial institutions, private housing developers, local realtors, etc.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies
The Department of Economic and Community Development will continue to act as a coordinator between housing and social service activities provided by the City and activities provided by the Housing Authority, the Continuum of Care, private and non-profit housing providers, and social service agencies to address the housing and community development needs of the City. The Department will accomplish this coordination by continuing to attend various public and private housing and social service agencies meetings and conference calls, participating in planning correspondence, and providing technical assistance for funding match options and program compliance.

Discussion
The Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) has the primary responsibility for monitoring the City's Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. The Department maintains records on the progress toward meeting the goals and the statutory and regulatory compliance of each activity. Service area documentation is achieved through scheduling activities, drawdown of funds, and maintenance of budget spread sheets which indicate the dates of expenditures. Program modifications are considered if project activities are not able to be completed within the allowable time limits of the grant. DECD is also responsible for the on-going monitoring of any sub recipients for similar compliance. DECD's responsibility is to ensure that Federal Funds are used in accordance with all program requirements, determining the adequacy of performance under sub-recipient agreements; and taking appropriate action when performance problems arise. The City monitors it performance with meeting its goals and objectives with its Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. It reviews it goals on an annual basis in the preparation of it CAPER and makes adjustments to its goals, as needed.

Additionally, the City has a Section 3 Plan that to the greatest extent possible, provides job training, employment, and contract opportunities for low- or very-low income residents in connection with projects and activities in their neighborhoods.

AP-90
PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 15

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

The City of Erie will receive an annual allocation of CDBG funds in the amount of $2,804,599, HOME funds in the amount of $658,639, and ESG funds in the amount of $252,664. Since the City receives these entitlement allocations, the questions below have been completed as applicable.

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

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	29,077
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:	**29,077**

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.	74.65%

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:

   See attached HOME Investment Partnership Program Recapture Policy and Resale Policy.

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:

   See attached HOME Investment Partnership Program Recapture Policy and Resale Policy.

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:

   See attached HOME Investment Partnership Program Recapture Policy and Resale Policy.

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:
   The City of Erie will only consider refinancing of the mortgage if the amount to be refinanced is the amount that was originally borrowed, and the interest rate is lower. See attached HOME Investment Partnership Program Recapture Policy and Resale Policy.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Reference 91.220(l)(4)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)
   See attached Emergency Solutions Grant Guidelines.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.
   See attached Emergency Solutions Grant Guidelines.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).
   See attached Emergency Solutions Grant Guidelines.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.
   See attached Emergency Solutions Grant Guidelines.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.
   See attached Emergency Solutions Grant Guidelines.

Discussion

Under the FY 2016 Community Development Program, the City of Erie will be receiving $2,804,599 in CDBG funds and will use $29,077 in program income ($2,833,676 total). The City will budget $560,919 in CDBG funds and $431 in program income ($561,350 total) for CDBG general administration. The balance of CDBG funds ($2,243,680) and program income ($28,646) totals $2,272,326. From this balance, $2,025,776 will be allocated to activities which principally benefit low and moderate income persons (71%) and $246,550 will be allocated for the removal of slums and blight (9%).

ATTACHMENTS
SF-424s AND CERTIFICATIONS
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
GRANTEE UNIQUE APPENDICES

The City of Erie, Pennsylvania

Joseph E. Sinnott , Mayor

June 10, 2016

Mr. John Tolbert
Community Planning and Development
U.S. Department of Housing and
Urban Development
William Moorhead Federal Building
1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1000
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2507

Attention: Patricia Obringer

RE: SUBMISSION OF 2016 SF-424 AND CERTIFICATIONS

Dear Ms. Obringer:

Please accept these SF-424 forms for HOME, CDBG and ESG, and Certifications, as fulfillment of the City of Erie's requirement for the Annual Plan for FY2016.

All comments and questions regarding these forms should be directed to Mrs. Kim Green, Director, Department of Economic and Community Development, Room 404, 626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501, (814) 870-1270.

Sincerely,

Joseph E. Sinnott
Mayor, City of Erie

JES:smd
Attachments

Kim Green • Director - Department of Economic & Community Development
626 State Street - Room 404 • Erie, PA 16501 • Voice 814.870.1270 - Fax 814.870.1443 • ecd@erie.pa.us

The Flagship City
Erie, Pa

OMB Number: 4040-0004
Expiration Date: 8/31/2016

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:	* 2. Type of Application:	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):
☐ Preapplication	☐ New	
☒ Application	☒ Continuation	* Other (Specify):
☐ Changed/Corrected Application	☐ Revision	

* 3. Date Received:	4. Applicant Identifier:
06/10/2016	City of Erie

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:	5b. Federal Award Identifier:
PA422178	B16-MC420101

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:	7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: City of Erie

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):	* c. Organizational DUNS:
25-6000857	0749570280000

d. Address:

* Street1:	626 State Street, Room 404
Street2:	
* City:	Erie
County/Parish:	
* State:	PA: Pennsylvania
Province:	
* Country:	USA: UNITED STATES
* Zip / Postal Code:	16501-1128

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:	Division Name:
Economic & Community Develop	Planning

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:		* First Name:	Kim
Middle Name:			
* Last Name:	Green		
Suffix:			

Title: Director, Economic and Community Development

Organizational Affiliation:
City of Erie

* Telephone Number:	814-870-1270	Fax Number:	814-870-1443

* Email: kgreen@erie.pa.us

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.218

CFDA Title:

Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Communities

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

N/A

* Title:

Community Development Block Grant

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

2016 Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Annual Action Plan, City of Erie, PA

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments | Delete Attachments | View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant: PA003
* b. Program/Project: PA003

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 07/01/2016
* b. End Date: 06/30/2017

18. Estimated Funding ($):

* a. Federal	2,804,599.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	29,077.00
* g. TOTAL	2,833,676.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- [ ] a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- [x] b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- [ ] c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

- [x] ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: Mr.
* First Name: Joseph
Middle Name: E.
* Last Name: Sinnott
Suffix:

* Title: Mayor

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1200
Fax Number: 814-870-1208

* Email: jsinnott@erie.pa.us

* Signature of Authorized Representative:
* Date Signed: 06/10/2016

OMB Number: 4040-0004
Expiration Date: 8/31/2016

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:	* 2. Type of Application:	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):
☐ Preapplication	☐ New	
☒ Application	☒ Continuation	* Other (Specify):
☐ Changed/Corrected Application	☐ Revision	

* 3. Date Received:	4. Applicant Identifier:
06/10/2016	City of Erie

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:	5b. Federal Award Identifier:
PA422178	M16-MC420500

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:	7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: City of Erie

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):	* c. Organizational DUNS:
25-6000857	0749570280000

d. Address:

* Street1:	626 State Street, Room 404
Street2:	
* City:	Erie
County/Parish:	
* State:	PA: Pennsylvania
Province:	
* Country:	USA: UNITED STATES
* Zip / Postal Code:	16501-1128

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:	Division Name:
Economic & Community Develop	Planning

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:		* First Name:	Kim
Middle Name:			
* Last Name:	Green		
Suffix:			

Title: Director, Economic and Community Development

Organizational Affiliation:
City of Erie

* Telephone Number:	814-870-1270	Fax Number:	814-870-1443

* Email: kgreen@erie.pa.us

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME Investment Partnership

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

N/A

* Title:

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM - Entitlement Community

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

2016 HOME Investment Partnership Program Second Year Annual Action Plan - City of Erie, PA

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments | Delete Attachments | View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant: PA003
* b. Program/Project: PA003

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 07/01/2016
* b. End Date: 06/30/2017

18. Estimated Funding ($):

* a. Federal	658,639.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	658,639.00

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- [x] ** I AGREE

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Authorized Representative:

Prefix: Mr.
* First Name: Joseph
Middle Name: E.
* Last Name: Sinnott
Suffix:

* Title: Mayor

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1200
Fax Number: 814-870-1208

* Email: jsinnott@erie.pa.us

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* Date Signed: 06/10/2016

OMB Number: 4040-0004
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Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:	* 2. Type of Application:	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):
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☒ Application	☒ Continuation	* Other (Specify):
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* 3. Date Received:	4. Applicant Identifier:
06/10/2016	

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:	5b. Federal Award Identifier:
PA422178	E16-MC420101

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:	7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: City of Erie

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25-6000857	0749570280000

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Province:	
* Country:	USA: UNITED STATES
* Zip / Postal Code:	16501-1128

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:	Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:		* First Name:	Kim
Middle Name:			
* Last Name:	Green		
Suffix:			

Title: Director, Economic and Community Development

Organizational Affiliation:
City of Erie

* Telephone Number:	814-870-1270	Fax Number:	814-870-1443

* Email: kgreen@erie.pa.us

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.231

CFDA Title:

Emergency Solutions Grant

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

N/A

* Title:

Community Development Block Grant

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

2016 Emergency Solutions Grant Second Annual Plan - City of Erie, Pennsylvania

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments | Delete Attachments | View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant: PA003
* b. Program/Project: PA003

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 07/01/2016
* b. End Date: 06/30/2017

18. Estimated Funding ($):

* a. Federal	252,664.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	252,664.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- [ ] a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .
- [x] b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
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* First Name: Joseph
Middle Name: E.
* Last Name: Sinnott
Suffix:

* Title: Mayor

* Telephone Number: 814-870-1200
Fax Number: 814-870-1208

* Email: jsinnott@erie.pa.us

* Signature of Authorized Representative:
* Date Signed: 06/10/2016

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing -- The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing, which means it will conduct an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction, take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis, and maintain records reflecting that analysis and actions in this regard.

Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR 24; and it has in effect and is following a residential antidisplacement and relocation assistance plan required under section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the CDBG or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying -- To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;

2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and

3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction -- The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan -- The housing activities to be undertaken with CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds are consistent with the strategic plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.

6/10/2016

Signature/Authorized Official Date

Specific CDBG Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated housing and community development plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that provide decent housing, expand economic opportunities primarily for persons of low and moderate income. (See CFR 24 570.2 and CFR 24 part 570)

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan (or Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy) that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it certifies that it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low and moderate income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available);

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds including section 108 guaranteed loans during program year(s) 2014, 2015, 2016 (a period specified by the grantee consisting of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years), shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period;

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

   However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

   The jurisdiction will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108, unless CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of fee or assessment attributable to the capital costs of public improvements financed from other revenue sources. In this case, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds. Also, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its

jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and

2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction;

Compliance With Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d), the Fair Housing Act (42 USC 3601-3619), and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, subparts A, B, J, K and R;

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

Signature/Authorized Official

6/10/2016
Date

Mayor
Title

OPTIONAL CERTIFICATION
CDBG

Submit the following certification only when one or more of the activities in the action plan are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency as specified in 24 CFR 570.208(c):

> The grantee hereby certifies that the Annual Plan includes one or more specifically identified CDBG-assisted activities which are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

Signature/Authorized Official

6/10/2016
Date

Mayor
Title

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If the participating jurisdiction intends to provide tenant-based rental assistance:

> The use of HOME funds for tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of the participating jurisdiction's consolidated plan for expanding the supply, affordability, and availability of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- it is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR § 92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in § 92.214.

Appropriate Financial Assistance -- before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;

Signature/Authorized Official

6/10/2016
Date

Mayor
Title

ESG Certifications

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program Recipient certifies that:

Major rehabilitation/conversion – If an emergency shelter's rehabilitation costs exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed rehabilitation. If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed conversion. In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 3 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation.

Essential Services and Operating Costs – In the case of assistance involving shelter operations or essential services related to street outreach or emergency shelter, the jurisdiction will provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families for the period during which the ESG assistance is provided, without regard to a particular site or structure, so long the jurisdiction serves the same type of persons (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or persons in the same geographic area.

Renovation – Any renovation carried out with ESG assistance shall be sufficient to ensure that the building involved is safe and sanitary.

Supportive Services – The jurisdiction will assist homeless individuals in obtaining permanent housing, appropriate supportive services (including medical and mental health treatment, victim services, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living), and other Federal State, local, and private assistance available for such individuals.

Matching Funds – The jurisdiction will obtain matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201.

Confidentiality – The jurisdiction has established and is implementing procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted under the ESG program, including protection against the release of the address or location of any family violence shelter project, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of that shelter.

Homeless Persons Involvement – To the maximum extent practicable, the jurisdiction will involve, through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise, homeless individuals and families in constructing, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, in providing services assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under the program.

Consolidated Plan – All activities the jurisdiction undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Discharge Policy – The jurisdiction will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from

publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

Signature/Authorized Official

6/10/2016
Date

Mayor
Title

Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)

626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501

Check _____ if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.

This information with regard to the drug-free workplace is required by 24 CFR Part 21.

7. Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules:

"Controlled substance" means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

"Conviction" means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes;

"Criminal drug statute" means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance;

"Employee" means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including:

a. All "direct charge" employees;

b. all "indirect charge" employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and

c. temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Note that by signing these certifications, certain documents must be completed, in use, and on file for verification. These documents include:

1. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing
2. Citizen Participation Plan
3. Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan

Signature

6/10/2016
Date

Mayor
Title

By: James Winarski Seconded By: Casimir Kwitowski

Resolution #1 **COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Journal NO. 130-500-A Erie, PA June 8, 2016

Resolved, by the Council of the City of Erie,

WHEREAS, under the 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 elimination of prevention 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 Partnerships Program created by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 (NAHA) and amended by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1991, the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to extend financial assistance to participating jurisdictions to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, under the Emergency Solutions Grants Program contained in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transaction Act of 2009, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to extend financial assistance to grantees and nonprofit agencies which provide essential services, operations, homeless prevention, rapid re-housing and shelter rehabilitation for homeless persons; and

WHEREAS, The U. S. Department of HUD has advised the City of the FY2016 Entitlements, we have been advised as follows: CDBG, $2,804,599; HOME, $658,639; and ESG $252,664; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the entitlement funds, the City expects to receive $29,077 in program income; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Economic and Community Development of the City of Erie has prepared a Second Annual Plan for the FY2016 funding year which assesses the housing needs of low and moderate income households, homeless families and individuals, and others with special needs; and

WHEREAS, the draft Second Annual Plan for 2016 was on public display since March 28, 2016, and the City held two Public Hearings on said Second Annual Plan, and the comments of various agencies, groups, and citizens were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final document; and;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Erie, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1: That the Second Annual Plan for the FY2016 CDBG, HOME, and ESG Program is hereby in all respects approved and the City Clerk is hereby directed to file a copy of said Second Annual Plan with the minutes of this meeting.

SECTION 2: That it is cognizant of the conditions that are imposed in undertaking and carrying out of community development, affordable housing and emergency homeless activities with federal financial assistance, including those relating to (1) the relocation of site occupants, (b) the prohibition of discrimination because of race, color, age, religion, sex, disability, family status, or national origin and other assurances as set forth under the certifications.

SECTION 3: That the Mayor, on behalf of the city of Erie, is authorized to file an application for financial assistance with the U. S. Department of HUD which has indicated its willingness to make available a grant to carry out the CDBG Program in the amount of $2,804,599, Home in the amount of $658,639, and ESG in the amount of $252,664 and is further authorized to act as an authorized representative of the City of Erie to sign any and all documents in regard to these programs.

SECTION 4: That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Erie, Pennsylvania, is authorized to provide assurances and/or certifications as required by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as Amended, the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, and also any supplemental or revised data which the U. S. Department of HUD may request in connection with the review of this application.

SECTION 5: That the enactment of this Resolution hereby repeals and rescinds the amended Resolution No. 6, Journal No. 130-475-A, which was enacted on May 4, 2016.

June 8, 2016. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Brennan, Kwitowski, Winarski, Merski . 4. Nay s. 0. Council Members Arrington, Jones and Witherspoon abstain.

June 8, 2016. Signed by the President. Attested by the City Clerk

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ATTACHMENT

Citizen Participation Plan

Citizen Participation Mailing List

March 22, 2016 Public Hearing Materials

April 12, 2016 Public Hearing Materials

Annual Plan Media Coverage

Citizen Participation Letters

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ATTACHMENT

Citizen Participation Plan

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

FOR

CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSIONS OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS & AFFIRMATIVE FAIR HOUSING

UNDER

24 CFR PART 91 SECTION 105

IN

THE CITY OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

BY: CITY OF ERIE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
ROOM 404 MUNICIPAL BUILDING
626 STATE STREET
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16501
(814) 870-1270

JANUARY 2016

This plan will be made available to individuals with disabilities in an accessible format upon request.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Section I	Introduction
Section II	Certification of Compliance
Section III	Community Development Needs and AFH/Public Hearings
Section IV	Request for Proposals
Section V	Citizen Access to Information
Section VI	Performance Reports
Section VII	Amendment Process
Section VIII	Complaint/Objection Process
Section IX	Technical Assistance
Section X	Bilingual Requirement
Section XI	City's Responsibility
Section XII	Section 108 Loan Program

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

I. INTRODUCTION

This Citizen Participation Plan was prepared in accordance with Section 104(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. The 24 CFR 91.105 and 24 CFR 5.158 federal regulations outline the "citizen participation" requirements. This document has been established in order for the City of Erie to be in conformance with the requirements of the regulations.

The Plan sets forth the City's policies and procedures by which it encourages residents to participate and comment on various federally funded City programs and Affirmative Fair Housing (AFH) planning. The programs include the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG). Currently, the City of Erie does not receive an entitlement grant under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). However, if it does in the future, this program will be included under this Citizen Participation Plan. The provisions concerning citizen involvement in implementing and assessing the Community Development program apply to all activities that are ongoing, as well as to all future activities. This plan shall remain in effect until all activities are completed or until this Plan is superseded by a new Plan.

The City of Erie is updating its existing Citizen Participation plan as part of its 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan and in response to new HUD guidance on Citizen Participation for Affirmative Fair Housing (AFH) planning processes. This Plan is anticipated to be adopted by City Council in 2016.

The City of Erie encourages residents to participate in the development of any consolidated plan, any substantial amendment to the consolidated plan, performance reports, and AFH. This document outlines the City's procedures and methods to provide continuity for participation throughout all stages of the process. The City of Erie also may explore alternative public involvement techniques and quantitative ways to measure efforts that encourage citizen participation in a shared vision for change in neighborhoods and the review of program performance (e.g., use of focus groups and the Internet).

The City of Erie encourages the participation of all residents, including minorities, non-English speaking persons, and individuals with disabilities. The City will take appropriate actions to achieve accessibility for public participation as detailed in this plan. In addition, the City of Erie places special emphasis on encouraging the involvement of the following audiences:

- low- and moderate-income persons, residents living in slum and blighted areas and in areas where CDBG funds are proposed to be used, and residents of predominantly low- and moderate-income neighborhoods;

- residents of public and assisted housing developments (in conjunction with the Housing Authority of the City of Erie), along with other low-income residents of targeted revitalization areas in which the developments are located; and

- the Continuum of Care/Erie Home Team, local businesses, developers, nonprofit organizations, philanthropic organizations, and community-based and faith-based organizations, particularly those serving low to moderate income residents.

Consultations

The City shall make an effort to consult with and provide information to the Housing Authority of the City of Erie regarding Consolidated Plan and AFH activities related to its developments and surrounding communities so that the Public Housing Authority (PHA) can make this information available at the annual public hearing required for the PHA Plan. The City encourages representatives and residents of public and assisted housing to participate in the process of developing and implementing the AFH or AFH revisions.

The City shall also make an effort to consult with:

- the Continuum of Care/Erie Home Team in determining how to allocate ESG funding for eligible activities; in developing the performance standards for, and evaluating the outcomes of, projects and activities assisted by ESG funds; and in developing funding, policies, and procedures for the operation and administration of the HMIS;
- public and private agencies, such as those that provide assisted housing, health services, and fair housing services for residents and families including Veterans, youth, elderly, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS; and
- adjacent local governments, with regard to non-housing community development needs and agencies with metropolitan-wide planning responsibilities.

II. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

As part of the City's submission of its Annual Consolidated Plan and AFH, the City will submit certification to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that the City is following an approved Citizen Participation Plan, which:

(a) provides for and encourages citizen participation with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low and moderate income who are residents of slum and blighted areas and of areas in which funds are proposed to be used, and provides for participation by residents in low and moderate income neighborhoods or targeted revitalization areas within/as defined by the City;

(b) provides for and encourages citizen participation of residents of public and assisted housing developments, as well as providing information to the housing agency about the AFH Plan and Consolidated Plan activities related to its developments;

(c) provides for and encourages citizen participation of persons with disabilities as well as provides a copy of the participation plan in a format accessible to persons with disabilities, upon request;

(d) provides for and encourages citizen participation of all of Erie's residents, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, and identifies how the needs of non—English speaking residents will be met in the case of public hearings where a significant number of non—English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate;

(e) provides residents with reasonable and timely notification and access to local meetings, information, and records relating to the City's proposed and actual use of federal Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership Funds, and Emergency Solutions Grant funds, and for AFH revisions/plans;

(f) provides for technical assistance to groups/organizations representative of persons of low and moderate income that request such assistance in developing proposals with the level and type of assistance to be determined by the City;

(g) provides for public hearings to obtain residents' views, and to respond to proposals and questions at all stages of the community development program, including at least the development of needs, the review of proposed activities, and review of programs' annual performance. The hearings shall be held after adequate notice, at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries, and with accommodations for the disabled; and

(h) provides for a timely written response to written complaints and grievances where applicable.

III. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS AND AFH PUBLIC HEARINGS

The City of Erie will, at a minimum, convene two (2) public needs hearings conducted during the development of the Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and/or AFH to obtain residents' views and to respond to proposals and questions. The first public hearing will be held during the development of the Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and/or AFH before the proposed Plan is published for comment. The second public hearing will be held during the 30-day public comment period.

First Public Hearing

The City will hold the first Public Hearing to obtain resident views on community development and housing needs and to provide residents important program information as a part of the planning process for the coming program year. At the Public Hearing, the following information will be made available:

- The estimated amount of Entitlement Grant, program income, and other funds expected to be available during the program year;
- The range of activities that may be undertaken with CDBG, HOME and ESG funds, and the local priorities established for such use of funds;
- The estimated amount of those funds to be used for activities that will benefit low and moderate income persons;
- A description of CDBG, HOME and ESG activities likely to result in displacement,

plans for minimizing such displacement, and the type and level of assistance that will be made available to persons displaced;

- The process to be followed in determining the use of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds, including the schedule of meetings at which City's Department of Economic and Community Development will recommend projects for funding, when the Mayor selects projects for inclusion in the Consolidated or Annual Action Plan and when City Council will adopt the Plan.

Second Public Hearing

Once drafted and before the Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and/or AFH is adopted, the document(s) will be made available to interested parties for a public comment period no less than 30 days. A public meeting will be conducted during the 30-day comment period to gather comments on the proposed plan. A summary of these comments or views, and a summary of comments and views not accepted and the reasons therefore, shall be attached to final Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and AFH.

IV. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Erie may solicit proposals for funding which address identified community development and/or housing needs prior to the first Public Hearing, or anytime during the course of the program year.

The proposals must include the name and status (for-profit, non-profit) of the agency responsible for the implementation of the project, the sources of funding available to undertake the described activity, the need for block grant or HOME assistance, the location of the project, the anticipated accomplishments and/or beneficiaries of the project, and additional items outlined in the City's application instructions.

Proposals are to be submitted to the Department of Economic and Community Development, Room 404 Municipal Building, 626 State Street, Erie, Pennsylvania 16501.

V. CITIZEN ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The City of Erie will provide for full public access to program information and will make affirmative efforts to make adequate information available to residents. Program records are available for resident review upon request in the Department of Economic and Community Development, Room 404 Municipal Building, 626 State Street, Erie, Pennsylvania 16501 during normal working hours. Such documents include the following:

- All mailings and promotional material
- Records of Public Hearings/Meetings
- All key documents, including prior applications, letters of approval, grant agreements, the citizen participation plan, annual performance reports, and other reports required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Copies of the regulations and issuances governing the program(s)

- Documents regarding other aspects of the program such as contracting requirements, environmental procedures, fair housing and other equal opportunity requirements and relocation policies

- HUD-provided data and supplemental information the City plans to incorporate into its AFH

The City of Erie will publish a Notice of Public Hearing in the *Erie Times News*, including the schedule of Public Hearings and other meetings that may be sponsored by the City. Also, notices will be published announcing the availability for public view of such documentation relating to the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER); the Citizen Participation Plan; the Five Year Consolidated Plan and/or Annual Consolidated Plan and all substantial amendments to the Plan and use of CDBG/HOME/ESG funds; and AFH and applicable revisions. These notices will appear in the non-legal classified section of the newspaper and will be printed in easy readable type.

In addition, the City of Erie will make available all information during regular working hours at the following locations, which are conveniently located for persons affected by the program as well as being accessible to the handicapped.

City Clerks Office
Room 104 Municipal Building
626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501

The Booker T. Washington Center
1720 Holland Street
Erie, PA 16503

Blasco Memorial Library
160 East Front Street
Erie, PA 16507

Martin Luther King Center
312 Chestnut Street
Erie, PA 16507

John F. Kennedy Center
2021 East 20th Street
Erie, PA 16510

City Department of Economic
and Community Development
626 State Street, Room 404
Erie, PA 16501

City of Erie Website
www.erie.pa.us = Departments:
Economic & Community Develop.

A reasonable number (as determined by the City) of free copies of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan and AFH Plan will be provided to residents and groups upon request.

VI. PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Before the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is submitted to HUD, it will be made available to interested parties for a comment period of no less than 15 days. Residents will be notified of the CAPER's availability through newspaper notification in the *Erie Times News*. The notification will be published the day the CAPER comment period

begins. Comments will be considered from individuals and/or groups received in writing. A summary of the written comments and a summary of those not accepted and the reasons therefore, will be included in the final CAPER.

VII. AMENDMENT PROCESS

Substantial Amendments to the Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans:

1. Definition:
   A substantial amendment to the Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan is:

   a. A change in the allocation of priorities, National Objectives, or a change in the method of distribution of funds.

   b. A proposal to undertake a new activity, using funds from any program covered by the Five Year Consolidated Plan (including program income received from previous year's funds), and not previously described in the Annual Action Plan;

   c. A change in the purpose, scope, location or beneficiaries of a previously approved activity;

   d. The use of Program Income that was not previously allocated to an eligible activity;

   e. Deletion or elimination of a previously approved activity;

   f. A change of 50% or more of a line item amount of an approved activity, either increased or decreased; or

   g. The use of contingency or unprogrammed funds, based on the following criteria.

2. Criteria:
   The criteria used to determine what constitutes an amendment are based on the following:

   a. **Purpose** – the original purpose for which the activity was selected has changed, including the category of the National Objective selected.

   b. **Scope** – the size or scope of work of the project activity has increased or decreased, which changes the cost of the activity by more than 50% of the total original budgeted dollar amount for that activity.

   c. **Location** – the location of the project activity is different from that originally proposed, or the size of the project service area has increased or decreased by 25% in size, or the location of the activity had to be relocated to another area.

   d. **Beneficiaries** – the number of beneficiaries has been reduced by 25% or more, and/or the activity no longer serves at least 51% low- and moderate-income persons.

   e. **Cost** – the total cost of the activity has increased or decreased by 50% or more than the original budget amount.

f. **New Activity** – a new activity is proposed which was not previously approved.

g. **Deleted or Canceled Activity** –a previously approved activity is proposed to be deleted/canceled from the approved plan.

If any one of the above criteria applies, then a substantial amendment to a project activity has occurred.

3. Procedure:

A description of the substantial amendment to the Five Year Consolidated Plan or the Annual Action Plan will be published in the local newspaper of general circulation. A period of no less than thirty (30) days will be provided to receive resident comments prior to the approval of the amendment. The date, time, and place of the public meeting/hearing shall be listed. The public meeting/hearing shall be published at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the hearing date and shall be advertised in the local newspaper of general circulation in the area.

a. The City will consider any comments or views of residents received in writing or orally at the public hearing in preparing the substantial amendment of the Five Year Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plans. A summary of any comments or views, as well as a summary of any comments or views not accepted and reasons therefore, shall be attached to the substantial amendment of the Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

b. The substantial amendment must be presented to and approved by the City Council of Erie.

Emergency Activities:

For emergency activities of recent origin, it is the policy of the City of Erie to grant a temporary waiver for the 30-day Citizen Review and Comment Period. The City of Erie will advertise the project in the *Erie Times News* for citizen comment concurrent with the start of the project.

In keeping with Federal regulations, an emergency activity can be defined as an emergency activity of recent origin in which existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health, safety or welfare of the community. The City's Department of Economic and Community Development will obtain a certification from a qualified official stating the nature of the emergency and that it poses a serious threat to the community.

AFH Revisions

Revisions to the AFH will be made public and follow the same procedures as the Consolidated Plan and Annual Plan substantial amendments, as outlined above in Section VII.3 (Amendment Process, Procedures) of this Citizen Participation Plan. AFH revisions will be submitted to HUD for review following the citizen participation process.

Criteria for AFH revisions include a material change in circumstances that affects the information on which the AFH is based, to the extent that the analyses, the fair housing contributing factors, or the priorities and goals of the AFH no longer reflect actual circumstances. Revisions subject to the Citizen Participation process include amended analyses, assessments, priorities, and goals that take into account the material change, including new fair housing issues and contributing factors that may arise as a result of the material change. Revisions may not require the submission of a new AFH, but may only focus on appropriate adjustments to analyses, priorities, or goals for the material change.

VIII. COMPLAINT/OBJECTION PROCESS

Residents may register complaints regarding any aspect of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs or AFH by telephoning the Department of Economic and Community Development at 814-870-1270, or by writing to the Director, Room 404 Municipal Building, 626 State Street, Erie, Pennsylvania 16501. All complaints so received by the Department will be referred to a staff person who will investigate all complaints. All complaints will be addressed in writing fifteen (15) working days, where feasible. A summary of comments and views will be attached to the Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan or AFH with reasons why or why not such comments were accepted.

Residents wishing to object to HUD approval of the final Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan or AFH may send objections to the HUD Pittsburgh Field Office, William Moorhead Federal Building, 100 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1000, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222-4004. Objections should be made within thirty (30) days after the City of Erie publishes notice in the *Erie Times News* that an application has been submitted to HUD. Any objections made will only be submitted to HUD for the following reasons:

> The applicant's description of needs and objectives is plainly inconsistent with available facts and data; or the activities to be undertaken are plainly inappropriate to meeting the needs and objectives identified by the applicant; or the application does not comply with the requirements of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME, ESG or other applicable laws; or the application proposed activities which are otherwise ineligible under the program regulations. Objections should include both an identification of requirements not met and available facts and data.

IX. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance may be requested in writing by appropriate neighborhood organizations, community-wide advisory groups, project area organizations, groups of low and moderate income persons and/or groups of residents of blighted neighborhoods.

This assistance may be requested for the purposes of adequately participating in planning, implementing and assessing the program; developing proposals and statements of views; commenting on the AFH; organizing and operating neighborhood and project area organizations or in carrying out Community Development/HOME/ESG Program activities. The level and type of necessary assistance will be determined by the City of Erie. Assistance need not include the provision of funds to such groups. If necessary, assistance will be provided by specialists jointly selected by the City of Erie and groups of organizations in need of assistance.

All correspondence requesting technical assistance should be addressed to the Director, Department of Economic and Community Development, Room 404 Municipal Building, 626 State Street, Erie, Pennsylvania 16501. All requests should specify the name of the citizen groups or organizations as well as a contact person, the nature of technical assistance requested, immediate problems and the reason for the request.

X. BILINGUAL REQUIREMENT

Whenever a significant number of low and moderate income persons and residents of blighted neighborhoods speak and read a primary language other than English, the City will provide that all notices of public hearings and summaries of basic information be produced in such language or languages upon request and that bilingual opportunities be offered at required public hearings.

XI. CITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

The requirement for citizen participation does not restrict the responsibility or authority of the City for the development and execution of its Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan or AFH.

XII. SECTION 108 LOAN PROGRAM

Applications for assistance filed by the City of Erie for Section 108 loan guarantee assistance authorized under HUD regulation 24 CFR Part 570, Subpart M, are subject to all provisions set forth within this Citizen Participation Plan. Such applications for 108 loan guarantee may be included as part of the process for obtaining CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement funds, or may be undertaken separately anytime during the program year. The required public hearing to inform citizens of program requirements will be carried out by the City's Department of Economic and Community Development.

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ATTACHMENT

Citizen Participation Mailing List

SCOTT HENRY
REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
917 STATE STREET
ERIE PA 16503

DAVID GONZALEZ
ST MARTIN CENTER
1701 PARADE STREET
ERIE PA 16503

PAMELA MASI
AMERICAN RED CROSS
4961 PITTSBURGH AVENUE
ERIE PA 16509

DR ANTHONY SNOW CFO
COMMUNITY HEALTH NET
1202 STATE STREET
ERIE PA 16501

RONALD STEELE
GECAC
18 WEST 9TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

SHANTEL HILLIARD
BOOKER T WASHINGTON CENTER
1720 HOLLAND STREET
ERIE PA 16503

JOANNA CHERPAK
MULTI-CULTURAL COMMUNITY
RESOUCE CENTER
554 EAST 10TH STREET
ERIE PA 16503

JAMES SHERROD
MARTIN LUTHER KING CENTER
312 CHESTNUT STREET
ERIE PA 16507

SAMELLA HUDSON-BREWTON
JOHN F KENNEDY CENTER
2021 EAST 20TH STREET
ERIE PA 16510

LISA KELLEHER
ST PAUL'S NEIGHBORHOOD CLINIC
1608 WALNUT STREET
ERIE PA 16502

AL MESSINA
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
1515 EAST LAKE ROAD
ERIE PA 16511

KATRINA VINCENT
DEVELOP ERIE
5240 KNOWLEDGE PARKWAY
ERIE PA 16510

MARK ALEXA
COMMUNITY SHELTER SERVICES
655 WEST 16TH STREET
ERIE PA 16502

GEORGE TRAUNER
BETHESDA CHILDREN'S HOME
15487 STATE HIGHWAY 86
MEADVILLE PA 16335

MELISSA LYON
ERIE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
606 WEST 2ND STREET
ERIE PA 16507

CHIEF RANDY BOWERS
CITY OF ERIE POLICE
626 STATE STREET
ERIE PA 16501

JOHN VILLA
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH #13
1401 WALLACE STREET
ERIE PA 16501

DOUG MITCHELL
CITY OF ERIE - PUBLIC WORKS
626 STATE STREET
ROOM 504
ERIE PA 16501

GARY H ORTON
UECDC/QUALITY OF LIFE LEARING CTR
2046 EAST 19TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

SHAWNTA PULLIAM
NURTURING HEARTS INC
32 WEST 8TH STREET
SUITE 505
ERIE PA 16501

ELDER BRAXTON VAUGHN
GREATER CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
2624 GERMAN STREET
ERIE PA 16503

BISHOP DWANE BROCK
BISHOP'S INSTITUTE OF APPLIED SCIENCE
1133 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
ERIE PA 16503

ROCHELLE KROWINSKI
LIFEWORKS
406 PEACH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

JOHN WILLIAMS
ERIE VETERANS CENTER
240 WEST 11TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

AMY HELMER
TRINITY CENTER
462 WEST 18TH STREET
ERIE PA 16502

KATHY MARINOCK
MH/MR
154 WEST 9TH STREET
ERIE PA 16505

BILL GROVE
MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATES OF
NW PENNSYLVANIA
1101 PEACH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

JUDY JOBES
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND
460 SANDSTONE
ERIE PA 16505

DAVE DETER DIRECTOR
NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE ORGANIZATION
509 EAST 26TH STREET
ERIE PA 16504

DONALD CRENSHAW
COMMUNITY MARKETING AND
MANAGEMENT OFFICE (CMM)
1854 EAST 26TH STREET
ERIE PA 16510

JEREMY BLOESER
BEST
402 PARADE STREET
ERIE PA 16503

CHUCK SCALISE
HANDS
7 EAST 7TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

PPNA INC
3518 STATION ROAD
ERIE PA 16510

SHONNA EAKINS
VFI
1107 PAYNE AVENUE
ERIE PA 16503

CHRISTINE RUSH
REPRESENTATIVE PAT HARKINS OFFICE
460 EAST 26TH STREET
ERIE PA 16504

TIMOTHY FINEGAN
CRI
2410 WEST 12TH STREET
ERIE PA 16506

GRACE KENNEDY
COMMUNITY OF CARING
245 EAST 8TH STREET
P O BOX 204
ERIE PA 16512

ROSE GRAHAM
SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH
425 WEST 18TH STREET
ERIE PA 16502

DAN ROESSNER
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF ERIE
606 HOLLAND STREET
ERIE PA 16507

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF ERIE
606 HOLLAND STREET
ERIE PA 16507

GREGORY LOOP
FAMILY SERVICES
3427 ALLEGHENY ROAD
ERIE PA 16508

ANN BADACH
CATHOLIC CHARITIES
329 WEST 10TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

JON TUSHAK
CITY OF ERIE – ENGINEERING
626 STATE STREET
ROOM 400
ERIE PA 16501

ANDY ZIMMERMAN
CITY OF ERIE – CODE ENFORCEMENT
626 STATE STREET
ROOM 407
ERIE PA 16501

KIM STUCKE
STAIRWAYS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
2158 WEST 8TH STREET
ERIE PA 16505

JERRY VANDEMERWE
YMCA
31 WEST 10TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

LORRI BLAND
ERIE SCHOOL DISTRICT
148 WEST 21ST STREET
ERIE PA 16502

DYLANNA JACKSON DIRECTOR
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
517 EAST 26TH STREET
ERIE PA 16504

DARRELL SMITH
CITY MISSION
1023 FRENCH STREET
P O BOX 407
ERIE PA 16512

SISTER MARY FROMKNECHT
ST PATRICK'S HAVEN
147 EAST 12TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

DARLENE KOVACS
EARLY CONNECTIONS
420 WEST 6TH STREET
ERIE PA 16507

MIKE BATCHELOR
ERIE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
459 WEST 6TH STREET
ERIE PA 16507

LINDA WAGNER
GANNON UNIVERSITY
109 UNIVERSITY SQUARE
ERIE PA 16541

MIKE JARUSEWICZ
UNITED WAY OF ERIE
420 WEST 6TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

PAUL LUKACH
CRIME VICTIM CENTER
125 WEST 18TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

JOSEPH AGUGLIA
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
ERIE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
140 WEST 6TH STREET
ERIE PA 16501

TREVOR NASH
3201 PEACH STREET
ERIE PA 16508

CHERYL DAVIS
PROJECT HOPE
1033 EAST 26TH STREET
ERIE PA 16503

CHRISTINE TOMBAUGH
MERCY CENTER FOR WOMEN
1039 EAST 27TH STREET
ERIE PA 16504

KURT CRAYS
THE REFUGE
C/O EUMA
1033 EAST 26TH STREET
ERIE PA 16504

ERIKA RAMAHLO
ERIE GAINS
GANNON UNIVERSITY
109 UNIVERSITY SQUARE
ERIE PA 16541

LINDA LYONS KING
SAFENET
P O BOX 1436
ERIE PA 16512

NANCY MILKOWSKI
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
413 EAST 9TH STREET
ERIE PA 16503

PEGGY RUSNAK
ASSOCIATES CO-DIRECTOR
ST PATRICK'S HAVEN
5031 WEST RIDGE ROAD
ERIE PA 16506

LASHON SANDERS
2670 CHELSIE DRIVE
ERIE PA 16509

FRED WILLIAMS
4411 WAYNE STREET
ERIE PA 16504

STEVE WESTBROOK
CITY MISSION
1023 FRENCH STREET
P O BOX 407
ERIE PA 16512

NW REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE DEAF
AND HARD OF HEARING
3200 LOVELL PLACE
ERIE PA 16503

NANCY KALISTA
EARLY CONNECTIONS
420 WEST 6TH STREET
ERIE PA 16507

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ATTACHMENT

March 22, 2016 Public Hearing Materials

AGENDA

CITY OF ERIE
JOSEPH E. SINNOTT, MAYOR

NEEDS HEARING FOR 2016 SECOND ANNUAL PLAN
UPDATED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Tuesday, March 22, 2016
10:00 a.m.

- Welcome and Opening Comments from Kim Green
- Citizen Participation Plan
- Application Process, Needs and Priorities
- Anticipated Funding Amounts for FY 2016
  - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG Program) $2,804,599
  - HOME Investment Partnership (HOME Program) $ 655,049
  - Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG Program) $ 252,664
- Projected Use of Funds – CDBG, ESG, and HOME
- Schedule for Preparation, Adoption and Submission of the 2016 Second Annual Plan
- Groundrules for Providing Public Comment
- Citizen Comments
- Closing Comments
- Adjournment

CITY OF ERIE

JOSEPH E. SINNOTT, MAYOR

APPLICATION PROCESS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

UPDATED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

CONTENT **Page**

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APPENDICES: Summary of Program Activity (Proposed)

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D.	HOME Program	

Department of Economic
and Community Development
Room 404, 626 State Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16501

CITY OF ERIE
APPLICATION PROCESS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

FUNDS AVAILABLE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

On or about May 12, 2016, the City of Erie must submit its FY2016 Annual Statement describing the intended uses of the following resources made available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG Program)	$2,804,599
HOME Investment Partnership (HOME Program)	655,049
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG Program)	252,664

In addition to the funding resources noted above, the City has identified and included anticipated or received program income from CDBG funded activities of $29,077.00 and reprogrammed funds from prior fiscal years, totaling $43,724.47.

II. UPDATED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

The City of Erie encourages local citizen participation on federally funded HUD programs, including CDBG, HOME, ESG, and AFH activities. The City's Citizen Participation Plan outlines policies and procedures to encourage involvement of all citizens. Since the City's plan was formally adopted in March 2005, HUD has amended federal regulations regarding the requirements for Citizen Participation Plans. Amendments include *91.105 [71 FR 6962, Feb. 9, 2006; 76 FR 75967, Dec. 5, 2011; 80 FR 42360, July 16, 2015] and 91.100 [71 FR 6962, Feb. 9, 2006; 76 FR 75967, Dec. 5, 2011; 80 FR 42360, July 16, 2015].*

The City's Participation process has been in compliance with HUD's amended regulations, including active collaborations with the Erie HOME Team on ESG programs and consultations with housing agencies. As the formal, written plan has not been officially revised for approval since 2005, the City would like to make several revisions to better reflect actual processes in place and provide other relevant updates. The following provides an overview of the proposed revisions for the City's Citizen Participation Plan:

- A revised introduction
- Updated information on the actions taken for consultations with local and regional agencies, including the Erie Continuum of Care/Home Team

- Addition of the City's website for public access to information
- Updated HUD office contact for complaints or objections
- Inclusion of Affirmative Fair Housing planning throughout the Citizen Participation Plan and processes
- Addition of options to explore alternative public involvement techniques
- General formatting revisions

The City of Erie invites public comment on the revised Citizen Participation Plan in accordance with the same comment process and schedule as established for the City's 2016 federal HUD Annual Plan.

III. FY2016 ANNUAL PLAN/FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2015-2019

The following six (6) priorities and subsequent goals/strategies have been identified for the City of Erie for the period of FY 2015 through FY 2019 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program:

A. HOUSING PRIORITY – (High Priority)

There is a need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the community by increasing the amount of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers that is affordable to low- and moderate-income persons and families.

Goals/Strategies:

HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation - Continue to provide financial assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners to rehabilitate their existing owner-occupied housing.

HS-2 Rental Rehabilitation - Provide financial assistance to landlords to rehabilitate housing units that are rented to low- and moderate-income tenants.

HS-3 Housing Construction - Increase the supply of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing that is affordable to owners and renters in the community through rehabilitation of vacant buildings and new construction.

HS-4 Fair Housing - Promote fair housing choice through education and outreach in the community.

HS-5 Home Ownership - Assist low- and moderate-income households to become homeowners by providing down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, and requiring housing counseling training.

HS-5 Public Housing - Support the local public housing authority in its efforts to improve and maintain the existing public housing communities, and promote homeownership programs through the use of Section 8 Vouchers for home purchase.

B. HOMELESS PRIORITY – (Low Priority)

There is a need for housing and support services for homeless persons, and persons who are at-risk of becoming homeless.

Goals/Strategies:
HO-1 Continuum of Care - Support the local Continuum of Care's (CoC) efforts to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing to persons and families who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless.
HO-2 Operation/Support - Assist providers in the operation of housing and support services for the homeless and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.
HO-3 Prevention and Housing - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness and programs for rapid rehousing.
HO-4 Housing - Support the rehabilitation of and making accessibility improvements to emergency shelters, transitional housing and permanent housing for the homeless.
HO-5 Permanent Housing - Support the development of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.

C. OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS PRIORITY – (Low Priority)

There is a continuing need for affordable housing, services, and facilities for persons with special needs and the disabled.

Goals/Strategies:
SN-1 Housing - Increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing buildings and new construction.
SN-2 Social Services - Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs.
SN-3 Accessibility - Improve the accessibility of owner occupied housing through rehabilitation and improve renter occupied housing by making reasonable accommodations for the physically disabled.

D. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY – (High Priority)

There is a need to improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for all residents in the community.

Goals/Strategies:
CD-1 Community Facilities - Improve the parks, recreational centers, trails, libraries, and all public and community facilities in the municipality.

CD-2 Infrastructure - Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction.
CD-3 Public Services - Improve and increase public safety, municipal services, and public service programs throughout the community.
CD-4 Accessibility - Improve the physical and visual accessibility of community facilities, infrastructure, and public buildings.
CD-5 Public Safety - Improve the public safety facilities, equipment, and ability to respond to emergency situations.
CD-6 Code Enforcement - Enforce the local codes and ordinances to bring buildings into compliance with the standards through systematic code enforcement.
CD-7 Clearance - Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned and dilapidated structures.
CD-8 Revitalization - Promote neighborhood revitalization in strategic areas through acquisition, demolition, rehabilitation, code enforcement, infrastructure improvements, housing construction, public and community facilities improvements, etc.
CD-9 Historic Preservation - Promote historic preservation and adaptive reuse of existing buildings in the community through financial incentives.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY – (Low Priority)

There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low and moderate income residents in the community.

Goals/Strategies:
ED-1 Employment - Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, employment, and job training services.
ED-2 Financial Assistance - Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development through technical assistance programs and low interest loans.
ED-3 Redevelopment Program - Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of the downtown business district.
ED-4 Financial Incentives - Support and encourage new economic development through local, state and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), tax abatements (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, etc.

F. 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.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING/SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Notice was published in the classified section of the Erie Times News on Friday, March 4, 2016 announcing the first Public Needs and Input Hearing which is being held today, March 22, 2016. Notice will be published again on Monday, March 28, 2016 announcing the second Public Hearing, which is being held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in City Council Chambers. See copy of Notice attached.

Citizens will be provided an opportunity to present their views on housing and non-housing community development needs and to comment on the priorities and level of funding assigned by the City of Erie in addressing the needs, as contained in the HUD Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

CRITICAL DATES

December 1, 2015 to January 29, 2016	-	Solicitation of proposals. Applications available beginning December 1, 2015
January 29, 2016	-	Applications due
February 1-19, 2016	-	Review Applications
March 4, 2016	-	Published Notice for First Public Hearing
March 10, 2016	-	Study Session with City Council
March 22, 2016	-	First Public Hearing, Citizen Input
March 28, 2016	-	Publish Second Annual Plan, project use of funds, advertise for required 30 day public comment period ending April 28, 2016. Second Public Hearing date advertised for April 12, 2016
April 12, 2016	-	Second Public Hearing, Citizen Input
May 4, 2016	-	Council authorization to submit Second Annual Plan to HUD
May 12, 2016	-	Second Annual Plan submitted to HUD for Required 45 day review period, ending June 27, 2016

June 1 and 15, 2016	-	Council appropriation and authorization to enter into contract with subrecipients
July 1, 2016	-	Program Year Begins

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the City of Erie that it intends to apply for funding for Fiscal Year 2016 to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or about May 12, 2016. The City will apply for the following estimated funding resources:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), $2,804,559
- Home Investment Partnership (HOME), $665,049
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), $252,664

In accordance with the Final Rule (24 CFR Parts 91 et al), the City of Erie is required to prepare its Second Annual Plan, consistent with its HUD approved Five-Year Consolidated Plan, which identifies its projected use of CDBG, HOME, and ESG program funds in addressing the identified housing and community development needs.

The City of Erie will also present the Updated Citizen Participation Plan.

In order to obtain the views of citizens, public agencies and other interested parties, the City of Erie will hold a public hearing to hear comments from all interested persons and parties relative to the affordable housing and community development needs for Erie, the priorities and level of funding assigned in addressing those needs, and the Updated Citizen Participation Plan, as follows:

Needs/Proposed Use of Funds and
Updated Citizen Participation Plan
Public Hearing
Tuesday, March 22, 2016
City Council Chambers
626 State Street
10:00 a.m.

The Municipal Building is accessible to persons with physical disabilities. Persons requiring special accommodations can make arrangements by contacting the City of Erie Department of Economic & Community Development at (814) 870-1270. Please call at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting. In addition, hearing impaired persons may call Pennsylvania Relay at 711.

On or about March 28, 2016, the City intends to publish the Second Annual Plan/Projected Use of Funds for a required 30 day public comment period. All comments will be considered prior to the submission of the Second Year Action Plan to HUD on or about May 12, 2016.

Information regarding the funding programs and the Annual Plan is available during the business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Department of Economic and Community Development, Municipal Building, Room 404, 626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501.

Joseph E. Sinnott
Mayor

The City of Erie, Pennsylvania

Joseph E. Sinnott, Mayor

SAMPLE LETTER

March 1, 2016

David Gonzalez
St. Martin Center
1701 Parade Street
Erie, PA 16503

Dear Mr. Gonzalez:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the City of Erie will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** in City Council Chambers located at 626 State Street. This meeting is to obtain comments on housing and community development needs on the proposed Second Year Annual Action Plan for FY2016. The City of Erie will also present the Updated Citizen Participation Plan.

In addition, there will be a Second Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in City Council Chambers for public comment on the proposed plan.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Smith
Grant Administrator

DAS:smd
cc: Kim Green
Abby Skinner

Kim Green • Director - Department of Economic & Community Development
626 State Street - Room 404 • Erie, PA 16501 • Voice 814.870.1270 - Fax 814.870.1443 • ecd@erie.pa.us

The Flagship City
Erie, Pa

APPENDIX A

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

3/22/2016

The City of Erie encourages residents to participate in the ongoing activities of our federally funded HUD programs and efforts to address fair housing. HUD requires jurisdictions receiving HUD funds through certain programs (i.e., CDBG, HOME, ESG) to have a written Citizen Participation Plan and to comply with regulations to ensure the public has opportunities to be involved in such programs.

The Plan outlines the City's policies and procedures to encourage residents to provide input for planning, performance, amendments, and other activities, as well as how the City will comply with HUD regulations for Citizen Participation.

The City is revising the written Citizen Participation Plan to provide updates to the document, as the last formal version was finalized in March 2005. The updated Plan will include changes that align with HUD's amended regulations since 2005 and better reflect the City's procedures and process for inviting resident participation. Changes to the Plan include:

- A revised introduction, minor formatting and terminology changes (ex: exchanging the term "citizens" for "residents" in some areas);
- Updated information regarding how the City consults with the Erie Home Team (Continuum of Care) on Emergency Solutions Grant funds, data systems (HMIS), and addressing homelessness;
- Criteria used to define what constitutes a substantial amendment and the minimum number of days for notifications of amendments to the Consolidated or Annual Plan;
- New guidance on how the City will include Affirmative Fair Housing (AFH) planning and activities within our Citizen Participation process; and
- Addition of the City's website for online access to documents and language noting that the City may include additional, alternative forms of public participation in the future to increase the ability of residents to provide input.

The City invites all residents to provide comments on these revisions to the Plan in accordance with this year's Annual Plan citizen participation schedule. Resident input will be accepted at public meetings and in writing addressed to the Department of Economic and Community Development.

APPENDIX B
PROPOSED

3/22/2106

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY
ACTION PLAN FOR 2016 - CONSOLIDATED PLAN (CP)
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017
B-16-MC-42-0101

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit: L/M Income	Program Benefit: Slum & Blight	Program Benefit: Urgent Need	Totals
	ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY				**$ 39,550**
CD16 -4a,	ERA Acquisition		39,550		
	DISPOSITION				**$ -**
	PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS				**$ 659,098**
CD16-16a,	JFK Center - Water Fountains	8,250			
	Park/Playground Improvements				
CD16 -13,	Park/Playground Improvements Force Account	25,000			
	Street Improvements				
CD-16-2d,	Handicapped Curb Cuts	425,848			
-2,	Street Resurfacing	200,000			
	CLEARANCE				**$ 150,000**
CD16 -5d,	City Demolition		150,000		

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit L/M Income	Slum & Blight	Urgent Need	Totals
	PUBLIC SERVICE				**$ 618,909**
CD16-3	Summer Recreation	10,000			
-3c,	JFK Center - Summer	12,724			
-3d,	BTW Center - Summer	6,000			
-3e,	MLK Center - Summer	6,225			
-3f,	Trinity Center - Summer	8,960			
-113,	Community Policing	500,000			
-138,	St. Martin Center	25,000			
-168,	YMCA Downtown Teen Center	50,000			
	RELOCATION				**$ -**
	REHABILITATION				**$ 312,276**
CD16-4,	ERA Housing Rehab	306,276			
-17e,	GECAC Weatherization	6,000			
	CODE ENFORCEMENT				**$ 420,493**
CD16 -1,	Bureau of Housing	420,493			
	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE				**$ 15,000**
CD16-169,	Mercyhurst Civic Inst. - Neigh Res. Organization	15,000			
	REHABILITATION - Commercial/Industrial Rehabilitation				**$ 57,000**
CD16-86a,	ERA - Façade Renov./Buildings etc.		57,000		
	SUB-TOTALS	**$ 2,025,776**	**246,550**		**$ 2,272,326**

Total cost subject to benefit rule is $2,025,776. Expenditures planned to principally benefit low and moderate income persons is $2,272,326 or 89% of the total cost subject to program benefit rules.

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit: LM Income	Program Benefit: Slum & Blight	Program Benefit: Urgent Need	Totals
	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION				**561,350.00**
	CD14-19, DECD	$ 561,350.00			
	Planning and Capacity Building				
	SUB-TOTALS				**561,350.00**
	TOTAL PROGRAM COST				**2,833,676.00**
	HUD FY2016 Base Allocation				**2,804,599.00**
	Program Income				**29,077.00**
	total				**2,833,676.00**
	Difference between Total Program Cost and HUD Alloc.				**$ -**

APPENDIX C
PROPOSED

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program
FY2016 Allocation
3/22/2016

ESG Program funds are made available to the City of Erie by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as amended by the Hearth Act of 2009. The program is designed to reduce the incidence of homelessness in Continuum of Care communities by assisting homeless individuals and families in quickly transitioning to self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

Use of funds has the following limitations:

FY2015 Total Allocation	$252,664
Street Out/Emer Shelter may use greater of	
60% of recipient's fiscal year grant or	$151,598
Hold Harmless Need (HHN) derived from FY2010	$147,101

Use of funds by the City of Erie provides for the renovation, operations, delivery of essential services, etc. at the six (6) Emergency Shelters, (3) Transitional Living facilities, and one (1) Rapid Re-Housing Provider. The allocations proposed for the FY2016 program year are as follows:

		FY 2016	Total # of Beds	Prior Year 2015 Allocation	Proposed Allocation	Actual # of beds for 2016 Allocation
Allocation for Emergency Shelter & Transitional Living	(60%)	$151,598				
Emergency Shelter:						
Community Shelter Services			55	$ 28,490	$ 26,632	39
St. Patrick's Haven			21	$ 13,533	12,975	19
SafeNet (Hospitality House)			43	$ 12,820	16,389	24
City Mission			56	$ 34,188	34,144	50
The Refuge			32	$ 13,533	13,657	20
Community of Caring			24	$ 17,094	15,706	23
Transitional Living:						
Mercy Center for Women			27	$ 15,669	$ 15,706	23
SafeNet (Bridge House)			28	$ 9,972	10,926	16
SafeNet (TLC)			12	$ 7,122	5,463	8
GECAC Rapid Re-Housing:	(32.5%)	$ 82,116		$ 82,565	$ 82,116	
Administration	(7.5%)	$ 18,950		$ 19,050	$ 18,950	
Totals	100%	$252,664	298	$254,036	$252,664	222

The allocation of ESG funds is based on the ratio of the daily average number of beds provided per facility to the daily average provided by all facilities, times the amount of ESG funds available for the street outreach/emergency shelter activity. **This year's allocation is based on the 2014 average daily bed count.**

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
2016
APPENDIX D
PROPOSED

3/22/2016

		Amount
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie	ERA - Housing Rehabilitation	$200,000
*HANDS - Our West Bayfront	New Construction - Rental	$231,552
*HANDS - Mid Town #7	New Construction - Rental	$137,070
HANDS - CHDO Operating	Operating Expenses	$20,923
City Administration	Administration	$65,504

10% Administration
5% CHDO Operating
*15% CHDO Set aside activities

Total Allocation	$655,049

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY2016 CDBG, HOME AND ESG
Tuesday, March 22, 2016
10:00 A.M.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL
Chris Strub	City of Erie			
Darlene Kovacs	Early Connections	200 West 11th St.	874-0144	dkovacs@earlyconnectionserie.org
Tammy Roche	YMCA	31 W. 10th 16501	452-1432	troche@ymcaerie
Stephen Westbrook	Erie City Mission	1017 French Street	452-4421	steve.westbrook@erie.org
Halladay Swanson	Community Health Net	1202 State	814/454 4530	hswanson@community.org
[illegible] Setter	GECAC	18 W 9th	479 4581	[illegible]
David Gonzalez	St. Martin Center		452-6113	
Chris Tombaugh	Mercy Ctr For Women	E27	4554577	
Jessica Knigger	St. Martin Center, Inc.	1701 Parade	452-6113	
Nancy Milkowski	Habitat & Humanity	413 E.9	454 7025	
Karen Grattler	JTK	2021 E20	8980400	
JAMES C. SHERRED	BAYFRONT NATO Inc.	312 C Hestnut	459-2761	
V. Fields	SMC	1701 Parade		
[illegible]	HANDS	7E7		
Matt Bond	HANDS	7E7	453-3333	
Tim Althof	HANDS	"	"	
Heidi Meyer	Erie Co. Human Relations Comm.	1001 State Ste 812	451-7021	hmeyer@erie countypa.gov
[illegible]	EOHRC			

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL
DEBRA SMITH	CITY OF ERIE	626 STATE ST.	870-1274	dsmith@erie.pa.us
KIM GREEN	City of Erie	626 State St.	870-1275	kgreen@erie.pa.us

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL
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Donald Crenshaw	ZAC ASS.	1854 East 26 Erie PA	814-434-1843	Dcrenshaw@zacassociates.org
Aaron Crenshaw	" "	" "	"	"
Joseph Aguglia	ECHRC	1001 State #812 Erie 16501	814-451-7021	jaguglia@eriecountypa
Dave Deter	NRO	509 E. 26th	814/434-8294	DDeter@neroe.org
DIANA AMES	MHA of NW PA	1101 PEACH ST. ERIE 16501	431-6011	pcen@hotmail.com
Jeremy Bloeser	BEST	420 Parade Street		jbloeser@besterie
Aaron T. Suppert	ERIA	626 State St Rm 107		asuppert@redevelopa
Shantel Hilliard	Booker T. Washington Center	1720 Holland St.	453-5744	shilliard.hilliards@gmail.com
Sonia Arrington	City Council	P.O. Box 11414 Erie PA. 16514	572-9567	sonia.erie@aol.com
Walaa Ahmad	UECDC	2046 E. 19th St.	814-899-3904	wahmad@uecdc.org
T Dim	CSS	655 W. 16th St	455 4369	aconcilla@css.org
GARY HORTON	UECDC	2046 E. 19th St	899-3904	ghorton@uecdc.org
Michael R. Fraley	HACE	606 Holland St	452-2425	mfraley@hace.org
Tiffany L. McCloud	NAACP	P.O. Box 1681 ERIE, PA	16512	ERIENAAC@gmail.com
Katherine Mannock	Erie County DHS	154 W. 9th St Erie PA	16501	kmarinock@eriecountypa.gov
Mas Sala	City of Erie	626 State	870-1469	msala@erie.pa.us
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LISA GOMERSALL	CITY OF ERIE	626 STATE	870-1264	LGOMERSALL@ERIE.PA.US

MARCH 28, 2016

NOTICE OF DISPLAY OF PLANS AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY 2016 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, CITY OF ERIE, PA AND UPDATED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the City of Erie, Erie County, PA has prepared its Second Annual Action Plan for 2016 and Updated Citizen Participation Plan. In accordance with the regulations and requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), these plans will be on public display for a period of 30 days, beginning Monday, March 28, 2016 at the following locations:

Blasco Memorial Library, 160 East Front Street
Martin Luther King Center, 312 Chestnut Street
Booker T. Washington Center, 1720 Holland Street
John F. Kennedy Center, 2021 East 20th Street
Department of Economic & Community Development, 626 State St., Room 404

These plans will be available for public inspection during normal business hours of operation. Written or oral comments will be accepted until April 28, 2016. Comments may be directed to the Department of Economic and Community Development, City of Erie, 626 State Street, Room 404, Erie, PA 16501.

A second public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 10 AM in the City Council Chambers located at 626 State Street, Erie, PA. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of $2,833,676 (FY 2016 CDBG of $2,804,599, and Program Income of $29,077), reprogrammed funds of $43,724.47 for FY 2014 CDBG Projects, Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds in the amount of $655,049, and for the use of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds in the amount of $252,664. The Municipal Building is accessible to persons with physical disabilities. Persons requiring special accommodations can make arrangements by contacting the City of Erie Department of Economic & Community Development at (814) 870-1270. Please call at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting.
In addition, hearing impaired persons may call Pennsylvania Relay at 711.

City Council is expected to act on the proposed Second Annual Action Plan for FY 2016 and Updated Citizens Participation Plan on May 4, 2016 at the regularly scheduled Council meeting in City Council Chambers. The final Second Annual Action Plan for FY2016 and Updated Citizens Participation Plan will be submitted to HUD for review and approval on or before May 12, 2016.

The purpose of the City's Second Annual Action Plan for FY 2016 is to improve the housing and living conditions of its residents, especially the low and very low income households, the homeless, and persons with special needs; upgrade and improve the public and community facilities in the City; improve and expand the public services for residents of the City; and promote economic development opportunities for all residents.
The following CDBG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan:

1.	Public Services	$618,909.00
·	Summer Recreation $10,000	
·	BTW Center – Summer Rec $6,000	
·	JFK Center – Summer Rec $12,724	
·	MLK Center – Summer Rec $6,225	
·	Trinity Center – Summer Rec $8,960	
·	Community Policing $500,000	
·	St. Martin Center $25,000	
·	YMCA Downtown Teen Center $50,000	
2.	Public Facilities Improvements	$659,098.00
·	Park/Playground Improvements $25,000	
·	Handicapped Curb Cuts $425,848	
·	Streets Resurfacing $200,000	
·	JFK Center – Water Fountains $8,250	
3.	Housing Rehabilitation	$312,276.00
·	ERA Housing Rehabilitation $306,276	
·	GECAC Weatherization $6,000	
4.	Clearance/Demolition	$150,000.00
5.	Code Enforcement	$420,493.00
6.	Acquisition of Real Property ERA Acquisition $39,550	$39,550
7.	Technical Assistance	$15,000.00
·	Mercyhurst Civic Institute-Neighborhood Resources Organization $15,000	
8.	Rehab-Commercial/Industrial Rehabilitation	$57,000.00
·	ERA Façade Renovation/Buildings, etc. $57,000	
9.	General Administration	$561,350.00

Total FY 2016 CDBG Funds for Project Activities $2,833,676.00

The following HOME activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan:

1.	ERA Housing/Rehabilitation	$200,000.00
2.	HANDS Construction Mid-Town #7 Rental	$137,070.00
3.	HANDS Construction Our West Bayfront-Rental	$231,552.00
4.	HANDS CHDO Operating	$20,923.00
5.	Administration	$65,504.00

Total FY 2016 HOME Funds for Project Activities $655,049.00

The following ESG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2016 Second Annual Action Plan:

1.	Emergency Shelter	$119,503.00
·	Community Shelter Services $26,632	
·	St. Patrick's Haven $12,975	
·	SafeNet (Hospitality House) $16,389	
·	City Mission $34,144	
·	The Refuge $13,657	
·	Community of Caring $15,706	
2.	Transitional Living	$32,095.00
·	Mercy Center for Women $15,706	
·	SafeNet (Bridge House) $10,926	
·	SafeNet (TLC) $5,463	
3.	GECAC Rapid Re-Housing	$82,116.00
4.	Administration	$18,950.00

Total FY 2016 ESG Funds for Project Activities $252,664.00

The City will also be using CDBG Reprogramming funds in the amount of $43,724.47 as follows:

ERA Housing Rehabilitation - $43,724.47

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, HOME, or ESG 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 2016 Second Annual Action Plan.

Written comments or oral comments may be addressed to Department of Economic and Community Development, City of Erie, 626 State Street, Room 404, Erie, PA 16501. Persons with hearing and/or speech impairments may contact the City via 711.

Joseph E. Sinnott, Mayor
City of Erie, Pennsylvania

3Feb'16

MINUTES

CDBG PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF ERIE

Tuesday, March 22, 2016
10:00 a.m.
City Council Chambers, 626 State Street

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Kim Green, Director of Economic and Community Development
Debra Smith, Grant Administrator
Abby Skinner, Assistant Grant Administrator

I. WELCOME BY CITY OFFICIALS

Introduction by Kim Green. Ms. Green thanked everyone on behalf of the Mayor and City Council for coming to the Needs Hearing for the 2016 Second Annual Plan. Funds will be available July 1, 2016 for the fiscal year. The Mayor regrets he couldn't be here today. Ms. green introduced her team, including Debra Smith, Grant Administrator, Abby Skinner, Assistant Grant Administrator, Lisa Gomersall, Fiscal Administrator, who replaced Randy DeSanto after he retired, Chris Strub, Contract Compliance Specialist and Mas Sala, Community Outreach and ADA Coordinator are also here from our department.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Debra Smith read the Public Notice. The Public Notice was read as it was printed in the newspaper.

ALLOCATION PROCESS NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

We have received allocations from HUD of a little over $2.8 million. Looking back at fiscal year 2011, we had almost half a million more funded that year. As expected, that number continues to decrease, although, we were happy to see a little increase in HOME funding this year. Ms. Green asked Debra Smith, Grant Administrator, to go over the Citizens Participation Plan, and the application process and our needs and priorities so you can understand the budget as it is represented.

Ms. Smith asked the attendees to turn to Appendix A of the packet, the Citizen Participation Plan. Debra explained the Citizen Participation Plan to ensure public has opportunity to be

involved in process of these programs. She read the Citizens Participation Plan. She explained that we are revising to make updates, as it has not been updated since 2005. Reviewed some of the changes and guidance and activities within the participation process. Will be adding information to the City's website for online documents and language. She explained that the City invites all residents to provide comments on these revisions to the Plan. Resident input will be accepted today or can be sent to our office, the Department of Economic and Community Development. An updated draft plan will be available Monday, March 28 in our office, as well as the three Neighborhood Centers and the Blasco Library.

Debra gave an overview of the Application Process and summarized the Allocation Process Needs and Priorities. Back in 2015 the City of Erie completed our 2015-2019 Consolidated and 2015 Annual Plan. There were a series of focus group meetings, public hearings, and surveys completed and we gathered all the information. There were six priorities and subsequent goals and strategies. From 2015-2019 we will be following what is in our consolidated plan to try to achieve these goals and strategies with the funding we will be getting.

ANTICIPATED FUNDING AMOUNTS FOR 2016

Ms. Green gave the anticipated funding amounts for the CDBG Program $2,804,599; HOME Investment Partnership Program $655,049; and Emergency Solutions Grant program $252,664. Ms. Green turned it over to Debra Smith to go over projected uses of funds. We had quite a lot of requests this year – more requests than we have funding. There is a lot of work to be done in the City and this is a very limited pot of money we are able to use. We tried to look at what our goals and priorities for the community are. Debra Smith reviewed the amounts allocated for the three HUD-funded programs (CDBG, HOME and ESG) on the Proposed Budget handout that were given to everyone. Debra reiterated that these are proposed funds, and have not been finalized until City Council approves it. There is a 30 day comment period in which the public is welcome to make comment. In the Public Service area we are restricted to only 22.6% of our funding, and this is actually where we get most of our applications, so this is a hard category to allocate funding for.

CRITICAL DATES

Ms. Smith handed the meeting over to Abby Skinner, Assistant Grant Administrator, who read and reviewed the schedule of critical dates for the Annual Plan. There will be a Second Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 in City Council Chambers. All citizens will be provided an opportunity to present their views on housing and non-housing needs.

I. GROUNDRULES FOR TESTIMONY AT PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Green informed citizens that in order to be fair with everyone in attendance there would be a five (5) minute time limit per speaker. She also asked that speakers give their name, organization and address if applicable. Also, if they have written testimony, they can give it to us today or anytime within the 30-day comment period at our office until April 28, 2016 at our office in Room 404.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Darlene Kovacs, Exec. Director Early Connections. Early Connections provides high – quality early education at six locations, four of them in the city of Erie. The children served are about 85% low income or living in poverty. We made a submission for funding for CDBG of $13,026, and are respectfully asking for consideration. Ms. Kovacs gave an example of what kind of help they provide. A few years ago we became aware of a homeless mom and two children. They had a single room with two mattresses on the floor. We provided children with scholarship funding and were able to enroll one of the children in Early Connections and discovered she was delayed academically. We referred her for early intervention services and she attended with two years with us. In that time the family made great strides, mom was back on her feet, working and moved into a home. The child needed no additional academic support when she entered kindergarten. For this particular proposal we have targeted children of homeless families and children whose parents are incarcerated or on probation. Last year they served 64 children ages 3-5 who are homeless. In two neighborhoods we are aware of 12 children whose parents are on probation and additional children whose parents are incarcerated. Early Connections is proposing a pilot program to enroll a total of 14 children in four of our centers from homeless families or who have incarcerated parents or parents on probation. We are asking for funding for these children to attend our summer programs. They will also be given two nutritious meals per day. Early Connection is considered high quality and rated Star 4, the highest possible rating in the Keystone Stars. These benefits are most notable for children in economically disadvantaged families. The National Association for Education of Young Children states "we can invest now in our children and families and enjoy long term savings with a more vibrant nation of healthy, achieving children in stable families, or we can fail to make the investment and we pay the price; increased delinquency, educational failure, lowered productivity, fewer adults prepared to be effective, loving parents - the time for action is now". We ask that you please reconsider Early Connections' proposal to allow us to make a difference in the lives of children currently underserved.

2. Gary Horton, Executive Director, Quality of Life Learning Center and Urban Erie Community Development Corp (UECDC). Expressed concern about his proposal this year. Asking to reconsider his application. His agency hasn't received a penny from the City since 2005 when this Administration came in. They serve almost exclusively New American people. They make up a significant part of our community, add value to our community, and represent challenges to our community that he does not see reflected in your proposal. He is hoping that City Council will reconsider. He also believes that the proposal represents the City's record of employment for investment in minorities as indicated by an article in the Times News in February, the City is looking at a horrible employment record as far as giving minorities an employment opportunity. Looking at the Police and Fire Depts. it is reflected there also. Also reflected in Section 3 report. Although everyone recognizes we face challenges in our community that need to be addressed I don't think your proposal addresses that. In the Public Services section especially, by saying there are many organizations that apply and unfortunately you cannot fund them all, but then giving half a million dollars for overtime for Community

Policing. Not only are they funded out of General Fund, but now you are funding them out of this. Seems like we should go back to when there was a CDBG board when citizens had a voice. I believe a lot of the problem in the inner-City mirrors the defunding of the three Neighborhood Centers. I asked for $20,000 where I serve 180 children for a year-round program, mostly foreign, and you give me nothing. I applied in the Economic Development area where you don't have these other restrictions to bring hope, opportunity and investment where we can help our own self. Look at what John Horan was doing. He has the safest public housing neighborhoods in Erie because he immerses the neighborhoods with services – job training, health, education services. He gives them hope . I don't think we are getting a return on the CDBG funding – it should give the community hope and it doesn't. We can solve our problems in Erie with investment in Erie. An administration that won't give my agency one penny in 11 years, it's almost as if you are punishing us. What do we have to do?

3. Shantel Hilliard, Executive Director, BTW Center. I agree with Mr. Horton as far as the funding. We deal with youth, and it is very frustrating to look at this and see the dollar amounts. I know we put in for maybe four or five programs, I just don't think we are being represented at all. It is frustrating from year to year and come up here and have to go through this again. You say the centers aren't being represented, they don't know how to run them. If you continue to keep getting cut, see if you can keep your doors open. We have continued to do that, and continue to provide services for our community, and then we get smacked in the face with $6,000. What is that going to do. Nothing! We can barely even run a summer program with $6,000. But then you say the Administration can't administrate – you're right, with these kind of funding streams. And we have served the community and have for 93 years. The others centers have been doing it for 50-60 years. You give us $6,000 and think that is okay – it is not okay, not with all that is going on with the spike in violence and everything going on with our youth. What does that say to me - it says you don't care. I am very upset, and I am angry at the problems we don't have solutions for. 10 years ago or even seven we were funded at good levels. I understand funding has continued to decrease but what have we done as a unit to figure this out. If you know the funding has been cut, have you convened a meeting to try to figure out how to get additional funding – how can we work together. We need to take a stance, City council, whoever, because these numbers are atrocious, especially dealing with the spike in violence. What you can do is start funding some programs at these community centers, that's what you can do. I am frustrated and fighting for my organization and the rest of these organizations. We have been around 93 years and continue to service this community and you should respect that.

4. Tammy Roach, Downtown YMCA Teen Center. Thanked the City for the consideration of funding the YMCA Program of the Teen Center through the CDBG funding. She recognizes the challenges facing City in allocating shrinking pool of funds. She brought some letters of support and overview of programming. We've come along way since we opened the Teen Center in 2008, serving a critical population of 12-18 year olds living in the City low-moderate income. It began with a handful of kids walking over after school and fulfilling a need of a safe haven. The YMCA had a part-time staff person and carved out some area where the kids could be, with very little actual programming in place.

Kids just started coming. Before we knew it we had almost 40-50 teens coming per night and eventually graduated our first class of seniors in 2014, most of them going on to college or military service, several returning during the summer working in parks and recs programs. At first our space was small, under 1,400 and our impact was limited. In 2013 we began a fund raising campaign to raise $515,000 – private funding, tax credit programs, etc. and renovated 6,000 square feet of vacant space in our building on the 5th floor. As we opened the new space we needed new staff, and through fund raising efforts, hired a full-time Teen Center Director and slowly added six part-time staff, and anticipate adding two more staff. We also have volunteers. Our new space opened this past October with a wide variety of programs. In January 2016 we had 100 individual teens over 300 times, and served 752 meals in the month of January. February the number inflated having 190 individual teens over 600 times, and served over 1,600 meals in the month of February. We have strong collaborations with a lot of the centers represented in the room, and believe it is better together, and we believe we strengthen each other's programs. We need the money because the YMCA is a large physical place, and it is our number one responsibility to the teens is to create a safe haven for them and surround them with caring adults. We also maximize the rest of the facility, run a travel basketball league, teach instructional, recreational swimming, etc. and we need to have adult staff covering these areas. We need staff to serve and prepare meals – meals increase during the summer months. Transportation as well, to transport our teens to programs, trips and schools. We need staff to be able to send out on those trips. Added Saturday hours make us available to teens on Saturdays, which currently there is not. We are now open from 12-5 on Saturday in addition to week days 3-9. We want to say thank you for considering the YMCA's application.

5. Diana Ames, Director Pennsylvania Coalition to End Homeless, and Community Engagement Coordinator for Mental Health Association. My population is the homeless, mentally ill, drug or alcohol abusers, veterans. Housing is a huge solution to homelessness. I sit on a State Housing Board, sat on Federal Board for years, saw where housing makes a huge difference. Having a home creates an environment where people want to make that next step. It takes time, but that house provides that motivation. I also would like to speak about the community centers. I have worked a great deal with them, and see how important they are to the members of my community. I would really like to see you give some thought to them if you could. I have developed some relationships and have created a faith-based community of people willing to work with our individuals. I have seen the results in other communities, and seen what's happened here. It is something we need to take an interest in. The bottom line is, first thing we need to do is - everything starts with the home. Anything you can do to further that would be important.

6. Veronica Rexford, staff member at the UECDC, past employee of the Booker T. Washington Center. Speaking in support of community centers, including UECDC. They have an enrollment of more than 180 individual students grades K-12, often times trailing 3 & 4 year old siblings with them, who come to the center to learn. The New American community is 85% of the population of the students that attend the center. This is a large area of population growth. Would like to see support come back to the Center. For the past ten years there has been no funding. I echo concerns of Mr. Hilliard

and Mr. Horton in terms of prevention for our youth. We know there are horrendous things happening in our community and prevention is where it is at, not just enforcement.

7. Joe Aguglia, Erie County Human Relations Commission. Housing discrimination isn't going to go away, it is a part of our community. Back in 1965 when the Federal Fair Housing Act was enacted we saw a lot of changes in this country, one was fair housing. There was a time in this country when white and African American people did not live in the same house, weren't allowed to live together, a time when homosexuals were not treated equally, when people weren't treated equally. Our Commission investigates housing discrimination cases and will continue to do so. We have a Housing Seminar that's usually attended by your whole department. Last year you gave us funding in regard to Fair Housing testing, and we will make those results of that testing public, but that was only for a couple protected classes. There's other protected classes out there that we can do testing for that we are asking funding for. We are not asking a lot of funding for it. It has never been done before in this community. The results show housing discrimination still exists. If housing discrimination is a barrier to people receiving fair housing, what are we going to do to resolve it. We educate for fair housing in the community, however, we would like you to consider again fair housing testing and ask you to reconsider our application in that area.

8. Malak Ahmad, Quality of Life Learning Center and UECDC. I am here to support the UECDC initiative for creating an economic development job program at Joyce Savocchio Park. The Park is located in a very impoverished neighborhood and will bring jobs to many people in the area. We serve many Housing Authority residents and have clients coming to the Center every day looking for employment. Bringing such an opportunity in their neighborhood would be a great investment for our future and the Erie Community. Also, in our after school program, we serve over 180 students. Three years ago I assisted about 50 students from Penn State, Mercyhurst and Gannon. Our students are still in need of help, so we can better assist them in education and employment.

9. Matthew Good, Director of Real Estate Development, HANDS. HANDS is grateful for City's support in programs we've been working on. To update, they probably within 30 days of final completion of Freedom Square Apartments which the City invested money into and helped us provide 30 apartments for at risk veterans and their families. The work we are looking at continuing in the Mid-Town neighborhood is in the inner-city near the Lovell Apartments. They are looking at a Seventh phase of development in that neighborhood serving low-moderate income single-family homes. Looking at the West Bayfront neighborhood, downtown west toward Cherry, Bayfront to 12th. Coordinated efforts with BEST and Gannon looking at targeting some blocks and doing some new construction and redevelopment in those neighborhoods as well. We thank you for the continued investment, and helping us leverage other resources. We are looking at leveraging resources again to do a rehab at the Villa Maria Apartments and are looking at doing the rest of the block, where we have 71 apartments. It needed a bit of an upgrade. In our first phase of rehab efforts, we have cut utility costs by a great amount by putting solar panels on the roof. We look at those investments as wise in our community. We currently provide a little over 900 housing units in the City. Freedom Square will put it

around 931. Many of the residents of Freedom Square will be veterans who have come out of homeless situations. HANDS is in multiple counties with over 1,200 units in those areas, with 900 in the City.

10. James Sherrod, Exec Director, Bayfront NATO, MLK Center. Based on what other representatives have said about support to community centers, when are the non-profits going to get a chance to start receiving adequate support from CDBG? The CDBG defunding has been going on now for at least 15 years. How are we to provide services to our community to address diverse issues and concerns of today if we continue to get cut from the CDBG funds and not receive any funds to address those issues. The poverty, violence, joblessness, undereducated and hopelessness continues to grow because we cannot provide needed services to the constituents within our areas. We as a community must do more. We as a City must do more. Everyone's come up here and talked about the violence in our community and how we can address it, and talked about the deficiency in our budgets. Those things are real. Tammy talked about the need for staffing to provide meals, services, transportation to get kids to programs. We have the same concerns and needs. They are growing. We are squeezed out of the funding wheel. There is nowhere for our kids to go. We cannot provide services to 125 kids on $2. Until we get more funding in our facilities we are going to have to continue to try to make ends meet with what we have and we cannot provide the services to those who need help. We need the City's help to make the changes within our community. Shantel talked about working together on a plan that we all can support to impact and change lives within the City of Erie – not about the MLK Center, or BTW Center or UECDC, this is about the kids and the families that we continue to try to provide services to without the City's support. We appreciate the funding for summer recreation - it is not enough but we try to make it work. If we had twice that amount or three times that amount, we could serve more kids. Let's really begin to look at laying a foundation where we all are going to be working together, including the City to try to come up with solutions to redistribute these CDBG funds to work with our communities to make changes in their lives.

III. CLOSING COMMENTS

Ms. Green thanked everyone for all of the work everyone is doing in the community. She knows the needs are great and the resources are small. CDBG funds are not the only means of funding to organizations and will continue to work with organizations to try to determine other means of funding. Our Assistant Grant Administrator is sending out notifications daily to find other sources of funding. She asked that if anyone is not getting emails from Abby, please contact her to get yourself on the list. Thank you to those that are doing a great job in housing. Obviously this is just an inadequate amount of money to meet the needs of the community. We have done our best. Asked people to look at leveraging your dollars, capital campaigns fundraising, because we don't even know if CDBG will be here. We hear the concerns you have raised about a good deal of funding going to Community Policing, we feel those funds are necessary to have in our neighborhoods. We recently received a $600,000 grant from the Department of Justice, the Byrne Grant, to do additional policing and code enforcement, and providing additional

services to young people in that neighborhood. We will be really focused on those efforts in the coming year.

If you would like to make additional comments, please do so to our office and we will make sure those are shared.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Kim Green adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m. The meeting was taped and is available on request in Room 404.

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ATTACHMENT

April 12, 2016 Public Hearing Materials

AGENDA

CITY OF ERIE
JOSEPH E. SINNOTT, MAYOR

NEEDS HEARING FOR 2016 SECOND ANNUAL PLAN
UPDATED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Tuesday, April 12, 2016
10:00 a.m.

- Welcome and Opening Comments
- Citizen Participation Plan
- Application Process, Needs and Priorities
- Anticipated Funding Amounts for FY 2016
  - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG Program) $2,804,599
  - HOME Investment Partnership (HOME Program) $ 655,049
  - Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG Program) $ 252,664
- Projected Use of Funds – CDBG, ESG, and HOME
- Schedule for Preparation, Adoption and Submission of the 2016 Second Annual Plan
- Groundrules for Providing Public Comment
- Citizen Comments
- Closing Comments
- Adjournment

CITY OF ERIE

JOSEPH E. SINNOTT, MAYOR

APPLICATION PROCESS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

UPDATED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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APPENDICES: Summary of Program Activity (Proposed)

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Department of Economic
and Community Development
Room 404, 626 State Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16501

CITY OF ERIE
APPLICATION PROCESS, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

FUNDS AVAILABLE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

On or about May 12, 2016, the City of Erie must submit its FY2016 Annual Statement describing the intended uses of the following resources made available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG Program)	$2,804,599
HOME Investment Partnership (HOME Program)	655,049
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG Program)	252,664

In addition to the funding resources noted above, the City has identified and included anticipated or received program income from CDBG funded activities of $29,077.00 and reprogrammed funds from prior fiscal years, totaling $43,724.47. The reprogramming funds will be used for projects in FY2014.

II. UPDATED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

The City of Erie encourages local citizen participation on federally funded HUD programs, including CDBG, HOME, ESG, and AFH activities. The City's Citizen Participation Plan outlines policies and procedures to encourage involvement of all citizens. Since the City's plan was formally adopted in March 2005, HUD has amended federal regulations regarding the requirements for Citizen Participation Plans. Amendments include *91.105 [71 FR 6962, Feb. 9, 2006; 76 FR 75967, Dec. 5, 2011; 80 FR 42360, July 16, 2015] and 91.100 [71 FR 6962, Feb. 9, 2006; 76 FR 75967, Dec. 5, 2011; 80 FR 42360, July 16, 2015].*

The City's Participation process has been in compliance with HUD's amended regulations, including active collaborations with the Erie HOME Team on ESG programs and consultations with housing agencies. As the formal, written plan has not been officially revised for approval since 2005, the City would like to make several revisions to better reflect actual processes in place and provide other relevant updates. The following provides an overview of the proposed revisions for the City's Citizen Participation Plan:

- A revised introduction
- Updated information on the actions taken for consultations with local and regional agencies, including the Erie Continuum of Care / Home Team

- Revisions to Substantial Amendments section
- Addition of the City's website for public access to information
- Updated HUD office contact for complaints or objections
- Inclusion of Affirmative Fair Housing planning throughout the Citizen Participation Plan and processes
- Addition of options to explore alternative public involvement techniques
- General formatting revisions

The City of Erie invites public comment on the revised Citizen Participation Plan in accordance with the same comment process and schedule as established for the City's 2016 federal HUD Annual Plan.

III. FY2016 ANNUAL PLAN/FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2015-2019

The following six (6) priorities and subsequent goals/strategies have been identified for the City of Erie for the period of FY 2015 through FY 2019 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, and Emergency Solutions Program (ESG).

A. HOUSING PRIORITY - (High Priority)

There is a need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the community by increasing the amount of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers that is affordable to low- and moderate-income persons and families.

Goals/Strategies:

HS-1 Housing Rehabilitation - Continue to provide financial assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners to rehabilitate their existing owner-occupied housing.

HS-2 Rental Rehabilitation - Provide financial assistance to landlords to rehabilitate housing units that are rented to low- and moderate-income tenants.

HS-3 Housing Construction - Increase the supply of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing that is affordable to owners and renters in the community through rehabilitation of vacant buildings and new construction.

HS-4 Fair Housing - Promote fair housing choice through education and outreach in the community.

HS-5 Home Ownership - Assist low- and moderate-income households to become homeowners by providing down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, and requiring housing counseling training.

HS-5 Public Housing - Support the local public housing authority in its efforts to improve and maintain the existing public housing communities, and promote homeownership programs through the use of Section 8 Vouchers for home purchase.

B. HOMELESS PRIORITY – (Low Priority)

There is a need for housing and support services for homeless persons, and persons who are at-risk of becoming homeless.

Goals/Strategies:
HO-1 Continuum of Care - Support the local Continuum of Care's (CoC) efforts to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing to persons and families who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless.
HO-2 Operation/Support - Assist providers in the operation of housing and support services for the homeless and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.
HO-3 Prevention and Housing - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness and programs for rapid rehousing.
HO-4 Housing - Support the rehabilitation of and making accessibility improvements to emergency shelters, transitional housing and permanent housing for the homeless.
HO-5 Permanent Housing - Support the development of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.

C. OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS PRIORITY – (Low Priority)

There is a continuing need for affordable housing, services, and facilities for persons with special needs and the disabled.

Goals/Strategies:
SN-1 Housing - Increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing buildings and new construction.
SN-2 Social Services - Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs.
SN-3 Accessibility - Improve the accessibility of owner occupied housing through rehabilitation and improve renter occupied housing by making reasonable accommodations for the physically disabled.

D. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY – (High Priority)

There is a need to improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life for all residents in the community.

Goals/Strategies:
CD-1 Community Facilities - Improve the parks, recreational centers, trails, libraries, and all public and community facilities in the municipality.

CD-2 Infrastructure - Improve the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction.
CD-3 Public Services - Improve and increase public safety, municipal services, and public service programs throughout the community.
CD-4 Accessibility - Improve the physical and visual accessibility of community facilities, infrastructure, and public buildings.
CD-5 Public Safety - Improve the public safety facilities, equipment, and ability to respond to emergency situations.
CD-6 Code Enforcement - Enforce the local codes and ordinances to bring buildings into compliance with the standards through systematic code enforcement.
CD-7 Clearance - Remove and eliminate slum and blighting conditions through demolition of vacant, abandoned and dilapidated structures.
CD-8 Revitalization - Promote neighborhood revitalization in strategic areas through acquisition, demolition, rehabilitation, code enforcement, infrastructure improvements, housing construction, public and community facilities improvements, etc.
CD-9 Historic Preservation - Promote historic preservation and adaptive reuse of existing buildings in the community through financial incentives.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY – (Low Priority)

There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low and moderate income residents in the community.

Goals/Strategies:
ED-1 Employment - Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, employment, and job training services.
ED-2 Financial Assistance - Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development through technical assistance programs and low interest loans.
ED-3 Redevelopment Program - Plan and promote the development and redevelopment of the downtown business district.
ED-4 Financial Incentives - Support and encourage new economic development through local, state and Federal tax incentives and programs such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), tax abatements (LERTA), Enterprise Zones/Entitlement Communities, Section 108 Loan Guarantees, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds, etc.

F. 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.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING/SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Notice was published in the classified section of the Erie Times News on Friday, March 4, 2016 announcing the first Public Needs and Input Hearing which is being held today, March 22, 2016. Notice will be published again on Monday, March 28, 2016 announcing the second Public Hearing, which is being held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in City Council Chambers. See copy of Notice attached.

Citizens will be provided an opportunity to present their views on housing and non-housing community development needs and to comment on the priorities and level of funding assigned by the City of Erie in addressing the needs, as contained in the HUD Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

CRITICAL DATES

December 1, 2015 to January 29, 2016	-	Solicitation of proposals. Applications available beginning December 1, 2015
January 29, 2016	-	Applications due
February 1-19, 2016	-	Review Applications
March 4, 2016	-	Published Notice for First Public Hearing
March 10, 2016	-	Study Session with City Council
March 22, 2016	-	First Public Hearing, Citizen Input
March 28, 2016	-	Publish Second Annual Plan, project use of funds, advertise for required 30 day public comment period ending April 28, 2016. Second Public Hearing date advertised for April 12, 2016
April 12, 2016	-	Second Public Hearing, Citizen Input
May 4, 2016	-	Council authorization to submit Second Annual Plan to HUD
May 12, 2016	-	Second Annual Plan submitted to HUD for Required 45 day review period, ending June 27, 2016

June 1 and 15, 2016	-	Council appropriation and authorization to enter into contract with subrecipients
July 1, 2016	-	Program Year Begins

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the City of Erie that it intends to apply for funding for Fiscal Year 2016 to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or about May 12, 2016. The City will apply for the following estimated funding resources:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), $2,804,559
- Home Investment Partnership (HOME), $665,049
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), $252,664

In accordance with the Final Rule (24 CFR Parts 91 et al), the City of Erie is required to prepare its Second Annual Plan, consistent with its HUD approved Five-Year Consolidated Plan, which identifies its projected use of CDBG, HOME, and ESG program funds in addressing the identified housing and community development needs.

The City of Erie will also present the Updated Citizen Participation Plan.

In order to obtain the views of citizens, public agencies and other interested parties, the City of Erie will hold a public hearing to hear comments from all interested persons and parties relative to the affordable housing and community development needs for Erie, the priorities and level of funding assigned in addressing those needs, and the Updated Citizen Participation Plan, as follows:

Needs/Proposed Use of Funds and
Updated Citizen Participation Plan
Public Hearing
Tuesday, March 22, 2016
City Council Chambers
626 State Street
10:00 a.m.

The Municipal Building is accessible to persons with physical disabilities. Persons requiring special accommodations can make arrangements by contacting the City of Erie Department of Economic & Community Development at (814) 870-1270. Please call at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting. In addition, hearing impaired persons may call Pennsylvania Relay at 711.

On or about March 28, 2016, the City intends to publish the Second Annual Plan/Projected Use of Funds for a required 30 day public comment period. All comments will be considered prior to the submission of the Second Year Action Plan to HUD on or about May 12, 2016.

Information regarding the funding programs and the Annual Plan is available during the business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Department of Economic and Community Development, Municipal Building, Room 404, 626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501.

Joseph E. Sinnott
Mayor

The City of Erie, Pennsylvania

Joseph E. Sinnott, Mayor

SAMPLE LETTER

March 1, 2016

David Gonzalez
St. Martin Center
1701 Parade Street
Erie, PA 16503

Dear Mr. Gonzalez:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the City of Erie will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** in City Council Chambers located at 626 State Street. This meeting is to obtain comments on housing and community development needs on the proposed Second Year Annual Action Plan for FY2016. The City of Erie will also present the Updated Citizen Participation Plan.

In addition, there will be a Second Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in City Council Chambers for public comment on the proposed plan.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Smith
Grant Administrator

DAS:smd
cc: Kim Green
Abby Skinner

Kim Green • Director - Department of Economic & Community Development
626 State Street - Room 404 • Erie, PA 16501 • Voice 814.870.1270 - Fax 814.870.1443 • ecd@erie.pa.us

The Flagship City
Erie, Pa

NOTICE OF DISPLAY OF PLANS AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY 2016 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, CITY OF ERIE, PA AND UPDATED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the City of Erie, Erie County, PA has prepared its Second Annual Action Plan for 2016 and Updated Citizen Participation Plan. In accordance with the regulations and requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), these plans will be on public display for a period of 30 days, beginning Monday, March 28, 2016 at the following locations:

Blasco Memorial Library, 160 East Front Street
Martin Luther King Center, 312 Chestnut Street
Booker T. Washington Center, 1720 Holland Street
John F. Kennedy Center, 2021 East 20th Street
Department of Economic & Community Development,
626 State St., Room 404

These plans will be available for public inspection during normal business hours of operation. Written or oral comments will be accepted until April 28, 2016. Comments may be directed to the Department of Economic and Community Development, City of Erie, 626 State Street, Room 404, Erie, PA 16501.

A second public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 10 AM in the City Council Chambers located at 626 State Street, Erie, PA. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of $2,835,676 (FY 2016 CDBG of $2,804,599), and Program Income of $29,077), reprogrammed funds of $43,724.47 for FY 2014 CDBG Projects, Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds in the amount of $655,049, and for the use of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds in the amount of $252,664. The Municipal Building is accessible to persons with physical disabilities. Persons requiring special accommodations can make arrangements by contacting the City of Erie Department of Economic & Community Development at (814) 870-1270. Please call at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting.
In addition, hearing impaired persons may call Pennsylvania Relay at 711.

City Council is expected to act on the proposed Second Annual Action Plan for FY 2016 and Updated Citizens Participation Plan on May 4, 2016 at the regularly scheduled Council meeting in City Council Chambers. The final Second Annual Action Plan for FY2016 and Updated Citizens Participation Plan will be submitted to HUD for review and approval on or before May 12, 2016.

The purpose of the City's Second Annual Action Plan for FY 2016 is to improve the housing and living conditions of its residents, especially the low and very low income households, the homeless, and persons with special needs; upgrade and improve the public and community facilities in the City; improve and expand the public services for residents of the City; and promote economic development opportunities for all residents.
The following CDBG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan:

1.	Public Services	$638,909.00
•	Summer Recreation $10,000	
•	BTW Center – Summer Rec $6,000	
•	JFK Center – Summer Rec $12,724	
•	MLK Center – Summer Rec $6,225	
•	Trinity Center – Summer Rec $8,960	
•	Community Policing $500,000	
•	St. Martin Center $25,000	
•	YMCA Downtown Teen Center $50,000	
2.	Public Facilities Improvements	$659,098.00
•	Park/Playground Improvements $25,000	
•	Handicapped Curb Cuts $425,848	
•	Streets Resurfacing $200,000	
•	JFK Center – Water Fountains $8,250	
3.	Housing Rehabilitation	$312,276.00
•	ERA Housing Rehabilitation $306,276	
•	GRCAC Weatherization $6,000	
4.	Clearance/Demolition	$150,000.00
5.	Code Enforcement	$120,493.00
6.	Acquisition of Real Property	
•	ERA Acquisition $39,550	$39,550.00
7.	Technical Assistance	$15,000.00
•	Mercyhurst Civic Institute-Neighborhood Resources Organization $15,000	
8.	Rehab-Commercial/Industrial Rehabilitation	$57,000.00
•	ERA Façade Renovation/Buildings, etc. $57,000	
9.	General Administration	$561,350.00

Total FY 2016 CDBG Funds for Project Activities $2,833,676.00

The following HOME activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan:

1.	ERA Housing/Rehabilitation	$200,000.00
2.	HANDS Construction Mid-Town #7 Rental	$137,070.00
3.	HANDS Construction	
	Our West Bayfront Rental	$231,552.00
4.	HANDS CHDO Operating	$20,923.00
5.	Administration	$65,504.00

Total FY 2016 HOME Funds for Project Activities $655,049.00

The following ESG activities are proposed for funding under the FY 2016 Second Annual Action Plan:

1.	Emergency Shelter	$119,503.00
•	Community Shelter Services $26,632	
•	St. Patrick's Haven $12,975	
•	SafeNet (Hospitality House) $16,389	
•	City Mission $34,144	
•	The Refuge $13,657	
•	Community of Caring $15,704	
2.	Transitional Living	$52,095.00
•	Mercy Center for Women $15,706	
•	SafeNet (Bridge House) $10,926	
•	SafeNet (TLC) $5,463	
3.	GRCAC Rapid Re-Housing	$82,116.00
4.	Administration	$18,950.00

Total FY 2016 ESG Funds for Project Activities $252,664.00

The City will also be using CDBG Reprogramming funds in the amount of $43,724.47 as follows:

ERA Housing Rehabilitation - $43,724.47

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, HOME, or ESG 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 2016 Second Annual Action Plan.

Written comments or oral comments may be addressed to Department of Economic and Community Development, City of Erie, 626 State Street, Room 404, Erie, PA 16501. Persons with hearing and/or speech impairments may contact the City via 711.

Joseph E. Sinnott, Mayor
City of Erie, Pennsylvania

[illegible]

APPENDIX A

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

3/28/2016

The City of Erie encourages residents to participate in the ongoing activities of our federally funded HUD programs and efforts to address fair housing. HUD requires jurisdictions receiving HUD funds through certain programs (i.e., CDBG, HOME, ESG) to have a written Citizen Participation Plan and to comply with regulations to ensure the public has opportunities to be involved in such programs.

The Plan outlines the City's policies and procedures to encourage residents to provide input for planning, performance, amendments, and other activities, as well as how the City will comply with HUD regulations for Citizen Participation.

The City is revising the written Citizen Participation Plan to provide updates to the document, as the last formal version was finalized in March 2005. The updated Plan will include changes that align with HUD's amended regulations since 2005 and better reflect the City's procedures and process for inviting resident participation. Changes to the Plan include:

- A revised introduction, minor formatting and terminology changes (ex: exchanging the term "citizens" for "residents" in some areas);
- Updated information regarding how the City consults with the Erie Home Team (Continuum of Care) on Emergency Solutions Grant funds, data systems (HMIS), and addressing homelessness;
- Criteria used to define what constitutes a substantial amendment and the minimum number of days for notifications of amendments to the Consolidated or Annual Plan;
- New guidance on how the City will include Affirmative Fair Housing (AFH) planning and activities within our Citizen Participation process; and
- Addition of the City's website for online access to documents and language noting that the City may include additional, alternative forms of public participation in the future to increase the ability of residents to provide input.

The City invites all residents to provide comments on these revisions to the Plan in accordance with this year's Annual Plan citizen participation schedule. Resident input will be accepted at public meetings and in writing addressed to the Department of Economic and Community Development.

APPENDIX B
PROPOSED

3/28/2106

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY
ACTION PLAN FOR 2016 - CONSOLIDATED PLAN (CP)
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017
B-16-MC-42-0101

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit: L/M Income	Program Benefit: Slum & Blight	Program Benefit: Urgent Need	Totals
	ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY				**$ 39,550**
CD16 -4a,	ERA Acquisition		39,550		
	DISPOSITION				**$ -**
	PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS				**$ 659,098**
CD16-16a,	JFK Center - Water Fountains	8,250			
	Park/Playground Improvements				
CD16 -13,	Park/Playground Improvements Force Account	25,000			
	Street Improvements				
CD-16-2d,	Handicapped Curb Cuts	425,848			
-2,	Street Resurfacing	200,000			
	CLEARANCE				**$ 150,000**
CD16 -5d,	City Demolition		150,000		

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit L/M Income	Slum & Blight	Urgent Need	Totals
	PUBLIC SERVICE				**$ 618,909**
CD16-3	Summer Recreation	10,000			
-3c,	JFK Center - Summer	12,724			
-3d,	BTW Center - Summer	6,000			
-3e,	MLK Center - Summer	6,225			
-3f,	Trinity Center - Summer	8,960			
-113,	Community Policing	500,000			
-138,	St. Martin Center	25,000			
-168,	YMCA Downtown Teen Center	50,000			
	RELOCATION				**$ -**
	REHABILITATION				**$ 312,276**
CD16-4,	ERA Housing Rehab	306,276			
-17e,	GECAC Weatherization	6,000			
	CODE ENFORCEMENT				**$ 420,493**
CD16 -1,	Bureau of Housing	420,493			
	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE				**$ 15,000**
CD16-169,	Mercyhurst Civic Inst. - Neigh Res. Organization	15,000			
	REHABILITATION - Commercial/Industrial Rehabilitation				**$ 57,000**
CD16-86a,	ERA - Façade Renov./Buildings etc.		57,000		
	SUB-TOTALS	**$ 2,025,776**	**246,550**		**$ 2,272,326**

Total cost subject to benefit rule is $2,025,776. Expenditures planned to principally benefit low and moderate income persons is $2,272,326 or 89% of the total cost subject to program benefit rules.

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit: LM Income	Program Benefit: Slum & Blight	Program Benefit: Urgent Need	Totals
	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION				**561,350.00**
	CD14-19, DECD	$ 561,350.00			
	Planning and Capacity Building				
	SUB-TOTALS				**561,350.00**
	TOTAL PROGRAM COST				**2,833,676.00**
	HUD FY2016 Base Allocation				**2,804,599.00**
	Program Income				**29,077.00**
	total				**2,833,676.00**
	Difference between Total Program Cost and HUD Alloc.				**$ -**

APPENDIX C
PROPOSED

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program
FY2016 Allocation
3/28/2016

ESG Program funds are made available to the City of Erie by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as amended by the Hearth Act of 2009. The program is designed to reduce the incidence of homelessness in Continuum of Care communities by assisting homeless individuals and families in quickly transitioning to self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

Use of funds has the following limitations:

FY2015 Total Allocation	$252,664
Street Out/Emer Shelter may use greater of	
60% of recipient's fiscal year grant or	$151,598
Hold Harmless Need (HHN) derived from FY2010	$147,101

Use of funds by the City of Erie provides for the renovation, operations, delivery of essential services, etc. at the six (6) Emergency Shelters, (3) Transitional Living facilities, and one (1) Rapid Re-Housing Provider. The allocations proposed for the FY2016 program year are as follows:

		FY 2016	Total # of Beds	Prior Year 2015 Allocation	Proposed Allocation	Actual # of beds for 2016 Allocation
Allocation for Emergency Shelter & Transitional Living	(60%)	$151,598				
Emergency Shelter:						
Community Shelter Services			55	$ 28,490	$ 26,632	39
St. Patrick's Haven			21	$ 13,533	12,975	19
SafeNet (Hospitality House)			43	$ 12,820	16,389	24
City Mission			56	$ 34,188	34,144	50
The Refuge			32	$ 13,533	13,657	20
Community of Caring			24	$ 17,094	15,706	23
Transitional Living:						
Mercy Center for Women			27	$ 15,669	$ 15,706	23
SafeNet (Bridge House)			28	$ 9,972	10,926	16
SafeNet (TLC)			12	$ 7,122	5,463	8
GECAC Rapid Re-Housing:	(32.5%)	$ 82,116		$ 82,565	$ 82,116	
Administration	(7.5%)	$ 18,950		$ 19,050	$ 18,950	
Totals	100%	$252,664	298	$254,036	$252,664	222

The allocation of ESG funds is based on the ratio of the daily average number of beds provided per facility to the daily average provided by all facilities, times the amount of ESG funds available for the street outreach/emergency shelter activity. **This year's allocation is based on the 2014 average daily bed count.**

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
2016
APPENDIX D
PROPOSED

3/28/2016

		Amount
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie	ERA - Housing Rehabilitation	$200,000
*HANDS - Our West Bayfront	New Construction - Rental	$231,552
*HANDS - Mid Town #7	New Construction - Rental	$137,070
HANDS - CHDO Operating	Operating Expenses	$20,923
City Administration	Administration	$65,504

10% Administration
5% CHDO Operating
*15% CHDO Set aside activities

Total Allocation	$655,049

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY2016 CDBG, HOME AND ESG
Tuesday, April 12, 2016
10:00 A.M.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL
Darlene Kovacs	Early Connections	200 W. 11th St	874 0144	
Michelle Harkins	Early Connections		874-0144	
David Gonzalez	St. Martin Center			
Gary Horton	EF Smith	2046 E. 19th St	899-3904	
Veronica Rexford	EF Smith		806-0979	
Dale Barney	EF Smith		566-6020	
Nancy Donnelly	St. Patrick's Haven		836-4134	
Jessica Krugger	St. Martin Center, Inc.	1701 Parade 16503	452-4113	
Tim Althof	HANDS	7 East 7th St.	453-3333	
Karen Grettler	JFK	2021 E 20	898-2400	
Tammy Roche	YMCA	31 W. 10th	452-1432	
Sue Moyer	Snoops NW	1401 Wallace	732-0113	
Darrell Fisher	Little Italy	611 West 16th St.	572-4730	
Veronica Fields	SMC			
Mark Kozlowski	MB	347 W 21st	696-3639	
Sean Beers	YMCA	31 W. 10th St	452-3261	
JAMES C SHERROD	MLK CENTER	312 CHESTNUT ST	459-7761	

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL
E. Sitter	GECAC	18 W 9th	4594581	SSITTEL@GECAC.org
Charlotte Sealise	ECHRC	1001 State St. 812	451-7021	
Heidi Meyer	Erie Co. HRC	1001 State St Ste 812	451-7021	hmeyer@eriecountypa.gov
Denise Horton	UECDC	1344 E. 36th		
Shamel Hilliard	BTWC	1720 Holland St.	453-5744	shilliardhilliard@gmail.com
Scott Henry	ERA	626 State St	870-1544	shenry@redevelopeerie.org
John Reitwiger	Private			
Bradford	Erie Colab	—	450-9005	—
James Yerton	St. James AME Church		814 806 4530	jamesyerton@gmail
Claire DeSantis	EVMA/The Refuge	1027 E 26th St	4546088	cdesantis@evma-erie.org
Jon Whaley	Self	447 Gordon Lane	6027153	Jon@scufoods.com
Sue Weber	YMCA Board	5338 Norris Dr. Erie	882-0047	controller12@verizon.net
Daryl Craig Sr	C.C.C			
Chris Strub	City of Erie - Economic Community Development	626 State St.	870-1276	cstrub@erie.pa.us
Abby Skinner	City of Erie	626 State St	870 1271	askinner@erie.pa.us
DEBRA SMITH	City of Erie	626 State St.	870-1274	dsmith@erie.pa.us
Alison Schmidt	City of Erie	626 State St.	870-1277	aschmidt@erie.pa.us
Kim GREEN	City of Erie	626 State St.	870-1270	kgreen@erie.pa.us
LISA GOMERSALL	CITY OF ERIE	626 STATE ST	870-1264	LGOMERSALL@ERIE.PA.US
Mar Sala	City of Erie	626 State St.	870-1469	msala@erie.pa.us

MINUTES

CDBG PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF ERIE

Tuesday, April 12, 2016
10:00 a.m.
City Council Chambers, 626 State Street

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Kim Green, Director of Economic and Community Development
Debra Smith, Grant Administrator
Abby Skinner, Assistant Grant Administrator

I. WELCOME BY CITY OFFICIALS

Introduction by Kim Green. Ms. Green thanked everyone on behalf of the Mayor and City Council for coming to the Needs Hearing for the 2016 Second Annual Plan. Ms. Green introduced her team, including Debra Smith, Grant Administrator, Abby Skinner, Assistant Grant Administrator, Lisa Gomersall, Fiscal Administrator, Chris Strub, Contract Compliance Specialist and Mas Sala, Community Outreach/ADA Compliance, and our new Assistant Director Alison Schmidt who just started this week.

On or about May 12th we must submit our Annual Plan to HUD that would lay out the intended uses of those funds. If we do not have that submitted by May 12th that will hold up our funding. I have expressed this to City Council, and anyone else that would want to make changes that must be done in a timely fashion to be submitted by May 12th.

Ms. Green gave the anticipated funding amounts for the CDBG Program $2,804,599; HOME Investment Partnership Program $655,049; and Emergency Solutions Grant program $252,664. In addition we have some reprogrammed funds from previous years that will be added into the equation, so we are about level with where we were last year, with a small decrease, but actually we were quite pleased with the numbers that came out from the Federal Government this year. With regard to the Citizens Participation Plan and the Application Process and our Needs and Priorities, I am going to let Debra Smith take it from here.

ALLOCATION PROCESS NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Debra Smith explained that the City is in the process of revising our Citizens Participation Plan (CPP). HUD has required that all jurisdictions that receive CDBG, HOME and ESG funding have a written CPP to comply with regulations to ensure that the public has an opportunity to be involved with the process of these programs.

Ms. Smith asked the attendees to turn to Appendix A of the packet, the Citizen Participation Plan. Debra explained the Citizen Participation Plan to ensure public has opportunity to be involved in process of these programs. She read the Citizens Participation Plan. She explained that we are revising to make updates, as it has not been updated since March, 2005. She reviewed some of the changes and guidance and activities within the participation process. Will be adding information to the City's website for online documents and language. She explained that the City invites all residents to provide comments on these revisions to the Plan. Resident input will be accepted today or can be sent to our office, the Department of Economic and Community Development. The revised plan has been on display since Monday, March 28th in our office, Room 404, as well as the three Neighborhood Centers and the Blasco Library.

Debra gave an overview of the Application Process and summarized the Allocation Process Needs and Priorities. Back in 2015 the City of Erie completed our 2015-2019 Consolidated and 2015 Annual Plan. There were a series of focus group meetings, public hearings, and surveys completed and we gathered all the information. There were six priorities and subsequent goals and strategies. Debra reviewed the priorities and goals. From 2015-2019 we will be following what is in our consolidated plan to try to achieve these goals and strategies with the funding we will be getting.

ANTICIPATED FUNDING AMOUNTS FOR 2016

These are listed in the pack of the packet, Appendix B, CDBG, HOME and ESG for Fiscal year 2016. Debra read the proposed projects that will be funded and funding amounts.

CRITICAL DATES

Ms. Smith handed the meeting over to Abby Skinner, Assistant Grant Administrator, who read and reviewed the schedule of critical dates for the Annual Plan.

I. GROUNDRULES FOR TESTIMONY AT PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Green informed citizens that in order to be fair with everyone in attendance there would be a three (3) to five (5) minute time limit per speaker. She also asked that speakers give their name, organization, or address if applicable. Also, if they have written testimony, they can give it to us today or anytime within the 30 day comment period at our office until April 28, 2016 at our office in Room 404.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. David Gonzales, CEO, St. Martin Center. I am here to speak in support of our CDBG application for Housing Counseling. While St. Martin Center wasn't funded the last two years, they were funded the nine years prior to that, and have a record of providing successful outcomes. SMC is a HUD certified counseling agency, staff are also individually certified in foreclosure, credit repair and pre-purchase counseling. We have won awards from the PA Housing Financing Agency. Our specific goal for this request is to provide pre-purchase, pre-closing counseling, financial literacy, education on credit,

budgeting and banking to 150 individuals, and as you know this is in line with the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The benefits of counseling are well documented – having educated, prepared homeowners, helps with family stability, helps avoid foreclosures, helps build neighborhoods, less blighted properties. In light of the decline in population in the City and our pervasive poverty, we need programs and strategies that put families into homes.

2. Gary Horton, E.F. Smith Quality of Life Learning Center. Regarding the Citizens Participation Plan, I believe that as you stated it is in the process of being amended. I believe it needs to be, it is not sensitive to the growing multi-lingual, multi-cultural populations that are faced with many of the challenges that CDBG program was written for when it talks about the most vulnerable in our society. The way that it is today is different than it was a few years ago when it had a citizens participation board that gave citizens a voice earlier in the process and helped the citizens establish priorities, as opposed to what it appears to be today, executive action, an administrative budget that we were given at the first Public Hearing for citizens participation forum and today, which is after the fact, without the input of organizations beyond the applications that were made, such as mine. Also regarding the 70% rule, in that where it says the Plan must provide citizens with timely access and provide for timely written opportunity to review proposed activities and program performance, and identify how the needs of non-English speaking residents' needs will be met where non-English speaking people can participate. It talks about the 70% funds which must be used to benefit persons of low-moderate income. When I look at the allocation, it is hard for me to believe that 70% of these monies are going to low and moderate income people when they seem to be supporting city services throughout the budget that you presented. It is supporting services, many of which are in the general fund of the budget already. That seems to go against having a particular urgency, because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community for which other funding is not available. Like the problems we are having in the inner-city today, plagued by hopelessness, restlessness, and violence. Our organization is on the front line of dealing with these situations /issues not having resources or funding to deal with it and the City puts half a million dollars in overtime for police officers that are funded in the general fund to a tune of over a million dollars already. I think that stretches impacting the 70% rule of investing in low/mod income. What is the benefit of the overtime to police officers to the low and moderate community. You have the opportunity to give funding to organizations like mine who haven't received funding from the City for 11 years, and I serve students from Uganda, Ukraine, Nepal, Sudan, Yemen, Zambia, Butan, China, Cameroon, and many others. I asked for $19,500 to run a year round program where we have sciences, job fairs, vocational prep, tolerance preparation, college prep, community service, leadership development. When I see you can fund the YMCA for $50,000 for a Youth Teen Center, I think we deserve the same level of funding commitment that you have given them for the populations that we serve. If the CDBG program of the City is going to refocus, if you want our trust, than you should genuinely going to be inclusive about it. I appeal for you to refocus on the budget you have presented and allocate $50,000 to the E.F. Smith Quality of Life Learning Center. You have an opportunity to do more for other organizations with federal funds otherwise not available to these organizations.

3. John Whaley, 447 Gordon Lane, Erie. If you look at the government's HUD website, it talks about all the things Mr. Horton touched on, talks about the 70% rule, and it says that over a 1, 2 or 3 year period, not less than 70% of the funds should be used for activities that benefit low and moderate income persons. When I look down the list the word Administration jumps out so often - $561,000, $65,000, $18,900 - these funds that are given to us from the Federal government for use to make Erie a better place, many of them are going to pay the four of you to sit here right now. They are funding your salaries. Without salaries and administration it would be very hard to administer those funds, but we're paying pension and health care costs for City employees rather than helping underprivileged people. In this report you have the gall to write that homelessness is a low priority. It is sickening what is happening here. This is one department that has the ability to change the face of the city of Erie daily, and you are choosing to not do that, you hare choosing to pay yourselves. We fund Code Enforcement to the tune of $420,000. That does not directly benefit low and moderate income people. I can drive around the City right now and find hundreds of properties that are blighted, that are a mess, garbage out front, that do not have code violations against them. I can go upstairs right now and probably find two Code Enforcement employees sitting in their office not writing violations. This is not how this money is to be spent. None of this is benefiting low income people. The St. Martin Center does a great job, got zero money last year. I've visited Gary Horton's building twice, young kids with no food, no juice boxes, trying to get computers - no funding. Your pensions, I've got a problem with that. Gary Horton's organization – find him $15,000, find him a computer, find him some juice boxes for kids that don't have anything. This is not your job, this is not what you are supposed to be doing. And now to scoop out $70,000 more to hire another Code Enforcement Officer when right now I can go to the East Bayfront, West Bayfront and write violations from the curb. The two people who have that job are not doing their job. Salary, pension, health care, car. We don't need that. Take $70,000 and divvy it up, tear down buildings, do something other than hire a person to cover for the five people who are not doing their jobs and the manager who is in his office right now not doing his job. Your job is to help low and middle income people, please do your jobs.

Kim Green stated that she wanted to reiterate that 89% of our funding is going to assist low to moderate income people and of course HUD has regulations in place that we must show them, we have to look at the streets we're working on, and areas working in are areas that are housed with people with low to moderate income. While Mr. Whaley may not think we are doing work that assists low to moderate income people, we have been told by HUD consistently that we are doing exactly what they are asking us to.

4. Darlene Kovacs, Exec Dir., Early Connections. Thank you for listening to my appeal requesting funding for our CDBG proposal, $13,029 to fund the attendance of children of homeless families and incarcerated program in our summer program, targeting ages 3-5 and would enroll up to 14 children in our Open Arms program, which will provide curriculum, opportunities for recreation and socialization, as well as breakfast and lunch. We welcome children in our program who are otherwise underserved. At the previous

public hearing I provided research on the long term effects of quality, early intervention, and noting that during the summer months, children that rely on meal programs at their preschools or school age programs often receive fewer meals or less nutritious meals. This is simply because school is closed. We will ensure children enrolled will receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch. We are making a proposal that will sustain itself into the school year. For those that are eligible for kindergarten, we will assist those families in registering them for kindergarten if they have not done so. For those not eligible, we will look into our Early Explorer scholarship program so that they can continue at Early Connections. As we put this proposal together I would like to thank and acknowledge the Housing Authority as well as Erie United Methodist Alliance for their support and partnership as they provided us with research and data. We all know our community faces many challenges, those who suffer the most are those most vulnerable, generally, our oldest and our youngest. We are the only ones that can speak for them. We are the only ones that can make positive changes. Many organizations represented here today are those trying to find the dollars to serve the young people, just as Early Connections is, we share many goals. Erie's children deserve better, and we ask that you allow us to make a difference.

5. Scott Henry, Director, ERA. Overall we are fairly pleased with the City's proposed allocations to our agency, and certainly commend the City for their attention to and concerns about the build environment. Over the past few years we have assisted about 30 families with CDBG funding and leveraged over $300,000 additional funds. Our rehabilitation programs directly support low to moderate income people, that family that lives in that house, directly benefits from those funds. As you drive through the city you see that many rehab issues need to be addressed, right now we have about 67 houses on a waiting list, that means if you applied today, it would be about three years before we could get to your house. Many of these homes have children in them, so we are helping provide children with safe, healthy places to live. Obviously our other chunk of the pie is dealing with blight mitigation. We are pleased to see the city is proposing a slight increase in our acquisition of blighted property. ERA typically acquire 8-10 properties that are then put on the demolition list. Right now we have about 90 properties on the blighted property list. Each year we add about 20 to the list and continue to fall behind in that regard as well. We will continue to work with the City, not only to use the CDBG funds, but also look for alternative funds for these programs as well.

6. Shantel Hillard, Executive Director, BTW. As we talked about last public hearing, thank you for the opportunity of giving us this time to express what we think needs changing. As Mr. Horton said, we would like to have $250,000 taken from Community Policing to distribute to all of the other community centers and a couple other programs to support what we are doing on the front line. We all know that the allocations you gave us of $6,000 for was strictly for a summer program, what we are asking is to utilize funds for a year round programs, because once summer is over, there's still programming throughout the year. We used to get dollars to do year round programs, like after school programs, job training development, employment, educational programs, all these programs our centers run are needed, specifically with the times we are going through with our youth, and also our adults. We are asking that you take $250,000 from Community Policing and

distribute to five organizations and give us $50,000 to be able to run programs throughout the year – BTW, UECDC, MLK, JFK, Eagles Nest. Those are the five organizations. You are probably thinking that is a bold statement to take $250,000 from Community Policing. Tomorrow we are doing an after school event of playing against Police Officers – that sounds like Community Policing, and it is building relationships with our kids, but ask how many Community Policing dollars we got to do that, none. We are paying to hold the event. Nobody from the police department asked to contribute anything. I find that a problem. Here we are trying to bridge gaps between the police and our community and we get no support. That is a travesty. We are on the front line and we need help so that is what we are asking. We know you have a tough job to distribute funds to the community, but as mentioned, without these funds the administration would have a difficult time having a job, so I am saying we need to take a closer look at where the money is getting utilized. We need some support in our community and if we don't get it you will continue to see violence and adults hopeless and things go in the wrong direction.

7. Veronica Rexford, UECDC/Quality of Life Learning Center. Will use some factual and financial information to draw attention to the lack of commitment to youth. The amount of money allocated to youth programming in the CDBG budget adds up to $93,909. I am excluding the money allocated to the St. Martin Center as it is not to my understanding specifically youth supporting, although worthy. In the General Fund budget Public Safety for Policing reaches a grand total $24 million give or take. An additional $500,000 for Community Policing in the CDBG budget makes it $24,500,000 for enforcement/community policing and $93,909 for youth services, that I would call prevention. The paradigm I am looking at is the PA Youth Survey which is a risk vs. protective factor process. If you look at just the social and emotional health section survey from its most recent report, we have students in the City who dismally are worse than the state average of symptoms of depression, felt depressed or sad most days in the past twelve months, sometimes I think life is not worth it, at times I think I am no good at all, all in all I am inclined to think I am a failure, Suicide risk, very sad or hopeless for at least two weeks, considered suicide, planned suicided, attempted suicide, needed medical treatment for the attempted suicide. When you look at risk and protective factors and look at what's going on in the community, opportunities for pro-social involvement and rewards for pro-social involvement that the community centers and youth supporting agencies here are providing to our youth are very important. Looking back over the last several years at the CDBG accomplishment report that the City prepares and sends to HUD, I will draw your attention to public services – youth services, last year 356 persons benefiting. Contrast that with category underneath Crime Awareness 51,676. The previous year 488 youth impacted, crime awareness 51,676 and on and on. Only 270 youth 2011-2012, 32,448 people benefitted by crime awareness programming. If we want to solve problems, I would argue that the priority should be shifted to a great extent to prevention. I certainly think that policing is important, Randy Bowers is a good guy, it is an important community service, but looking at a tremendous disparity in priorities, I would direct my entire conversation to those on City Council who have the power to make a change. While the timeframe is really short to go back and start changing these numbers, if Citizen Participation is an important priority as well, we need to make time.

This folder I'm leaving you are all the kids registered in our program this year. We have about 200 kids in our system. I serve on average 60-70 meals per day with zero funding from this budget.

8. Tim Althof, HANDS. Wanted to simply reiterate that Matthew had addressed in the first Public Hearing. HANDS very much appreciates the City's HOME Program funding to address affordable housing needs in the City. Midtown is a great example of putting HOME funding to use by reducing blight and increasing housing choice by new construction efforts, we have made great strides in a neighborhood in need of investment. We have given dozens of residents a quality, safe and affordable place to call home. The Freedom Square and Goodrich Housing development near 26th and Peach Street is another example of providing housing needs. When complete later this month the campus will provide 31 affordable apartments to low income, homeless, or at-risk veterans and veteran's families. Not only was the HOME funding critical, but it played a very large role in helping HANDS leverage large-scale funding through PA Housing Finance Agency's low income housing tax credit program. This is a competitive program and pits HANDS against other housing providers throughout the state. These housing developments provide jobs, have positive impacts, and most importantly provide long-term safe and affordable housing choice. The City's help making this incredibly important veteran housing development possible cannot be overstated. Thank you Kim and your staff for your support.

9. Tammy Roche, YMCA Downtown Teen Center. Would like to remind administration and Council that the Downtown YMCA Teen Center is the only dedicated facility within the City exclusively serving our teens. It is very, very important. I had the opportunity to meet with school superintendents in North East, Harborcreek and Iroquois asking the YMCA how we might replicate a similar service in East Erie County as they are struggling with teen issues that teens go through at this age. I believe the City is very fortunate, that many have made the investment in partnership with the Y to open our Teen Center. We have worked very hard over the last several years to manage the Teen Center in a fiscally responsible way, diversifying our funding so that we are not vulnerable to a funding source that is no longer there. We believe that having the resources that we need, including the CDBG funding help us to deliver the impactful programs our teens need, and we welcome and have partnership with many agencies in the room, as well as others outside of the City, because it is all about serving teens, who are underserved, no matter their background, and we are pleased to be an agency that is helping to fill that gap. Approx. 99% of the teens coming are from the City of Erie. I am glad to see Councilwoman Arrington in the room, and welcome her, other council members, and administration to come and learn more about the Teen Center, answer any questions they might have. Councilman Merski did have the opportunity to visit us as well.

10. Dale Barney, concerned citizen. Would like to address Community Policing, and the need for redistribution of funds. I have recently had the opportunity to talk to some of the Centers to see the funding they used to receive and what they receive now. In 1975-1977 JFK received $150,000, now that is a long time ago but that's still a lot of money,

especially in that day. Now they receive $6,000, $8,000, $12,000. It is a joke. Now you are increasing the policing because we need police out there to feel safe. If we give the youth, preteens, like the YMCA Teen program, something to do, then we need less policing. Like Veronica said, if we invest in the teens and centers and youth, give them something to do, giving them hope, there will be less need to have police officers out there. I don't like the term Community Policing and Policing, if you're policing you are policing the Community so it should all be community policing. Get to know each other. Then we have to designate extra money for them to get to know the area they are policing, they should do that on their regular work time – get to know their area. I would like you to find some additional funds to help the centers be productive. I am tired of hearing people say they're not doing anything. You cannot provide services with no funds. But I have to commend their leadership and people running the centers because they're managing to keep the doors open with no funds. Mr. Horton has applied for how many years and hasn't received anything – that's a joke. I have had the opportunity to go to the various centers and see the efforts they are putting in, the programs they would like to run, and are able to run with lack of funds they have. We are not even saying take us back to 1975 and give us $150,000, but even $50,000 . We want results. I am tired to just asking for summer programs because kids need something to do year round. I commend the Y, I know they're doing great things, but everybody can't get to the Y. We've got centers scattered from the west side, center city and east side that provide those same services. If you give them some funds they can. There's more than one way to address the problem, and I believe the centers need help, not peanuts, but some real help. The program was structured to help those that need the help. A police officer with a good paying job doesn't need the overtime and he definitely won't need it if the kids have activities to do in those centers. I would just like you to consider other options.

11. Mark Blunt, private citizen. I work in corrections and co-founded a charter school here in Erie, and I'm not speaking on either of their behalves but I just wanted to share this with you because on one hand I see what happens when people are incarcerated and the other hand I see what happens when people are not educated, and I see what our youth need. What I wanted to say was I read a report earlier last week about a Comprehensive Study in Erie that said there was a disconnect between the leadership and the citizens which it serves. It said that either we could manage the demise of Erie and be like Flint and other cities on the way down, or we can opt to change the things we do. We have been doing this Community Policing thing for I believe the last three years, and I would ask where is the data that says that it works. Where is the data that says cutting back on the preventative side works. I think we should invest more in the preventive side. I am not anti-police, but there is a pension cost that comes with that vs. the savings that could come with investing in the centers. I heard where HUD said we are doing a good job with the funds, again I think that is showing the disconnect because I am hearing we need more funding for on the ground organizations that help these people. Police usually come after the fact, after someone is shot. Community Policing has not stopped these youth from being scared, has not stopped there from being guns. I am not saying cut it all, but I am asking you to cut some of that and invest in some of the organizations, centers, homeless programs, and allow them to work on the ground with the citizens they deal with every day. They say the goal of the Community Policing is for them to get to

know the people in the community. These centers know the community. Quality of Life deals with New Americans, and look how they are investing in the City all over. If you help these people the benefit will far outweigh what we have been doing.

III. CLOSING COMMENTS

Ms. Green thanked everyone for all of the work everyone is doing in the community. We will take all these comments under consideration, and will relay these comments to HUD. She thanks Councilwoman Arrington for being here today. We respect the fact that you are here as one of the Council members. Thank you all very much for coming.

If you would like to make additional comments, please do so to our office and we will make sure those are shared.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Kim Green adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m. The meeting was taped and is available on request in Room 404.

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ATTACHMENT

Annual Plan Media Coverage

Published: June 10. 2016 12:43AM

Erie NAACP meets with HUD over 'unfair' grant funding

By Nico Salvatori
814-870-1714

Erie Times-News

Members of the Erie chapter of the NAACP and other members of the black community raised concerns Thursday about the citizen participation component of a federal grant application Erie City Council approved this week.

They questioned whether the city met federal requirements when it comes to seeking public input in the annual process of applying for a Community Development Block Grant.

The concerns, expressed to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which funds the grant, served as the latest development in a monthlong dispute between some Erie City Council members and Mayor Joe Sinnott's administration about how much CDBG money the area's community centers and social service agencies should receive.

The centers and agencies typically serve minority populations, and Tiffany McCloud, president of the local NAACP chapter, said CDBG money has been unfairly distributed for years in ways that have negatively affected minorities.

The chapter reached out to HUD to prompt it to investigate the way the city develops its CDBG applications and distributes the funds.

McCloud and others laid out their complaints to HUD representatives at a meeting at the St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church.

John E. Tolbert, a director with HUD's Pittsburgh field office, said all that is required of applicants regarding citizen participation is that they make a concerted effort to seek public input.

Kim Green, director of the city's department of economic and community development, said in an interview the city fulfilled that obligation.

She said public meetings were held in 2015 as part of the city's 2015-19 Consolidated Five Year Plan, which informs the CDBG applications. The city used focus groups as well for the same plan.

Two meetings were held this year, in April and May, about the 2016 application, Green said. She regretted that both were held in morning hours, an issue that was raised at the church meeting.

Green would not say if she thought the complaints would delay the application's review. The application, which requests $2.8 million, was submitted to HUD on Thursday. HUD has 45 days to review it.

Typically, the funds are received by the end of June, said Alison Schmidt, deputy director of the economic and community development.

Each year the city uses CDBG funds for a variety of services, such as summer youth programs, police operations, road paving and more.

While the meeting on Thursday did not appease all, the Rev. James Keeton Jr. said he appreciated the opportunity to hear from HUD.

"It was very beneficial," Keeton said. "HUD officials were able to enlighten us on some issues, and give clarity on some issues we didn't know before. I was relieved to hear the officials say that they encourage citizen participation and working together."

NICO SALVATORI can be reached at 870-1714 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNsalvatori.

Erie Chapter of the NAACP threatens lawsuit over CDBG funding

Group seeks answers from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Published 06/09 2016 12:24PM Updated 06/09 2016 06:44PM The Erie Chapter of the NAACP is threatening a lawsuit if they don't get the answers they need from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Erie Chapter of the NAACP and HUD met Thursday at St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church, 236 E. 11th St., and the group wants HUD officials to take a serious look at how the Community Development Block Grants are distributed.

The NAACP, which feels the distribution of the grants are unfair and that the money is not serving its purpose, had its attorney present Thursday.

Erie City Council woman Sonya Arrington said enough is enough and that Erie community centers need help.
Community leaders, pastors and ministers are upset after how the funding plan played out this year.

Council voted 4-0 to reverse a May 4 amendment and upheld the city's original budget proposal, which included $70,000 going toward hiring a new code enforcement officer, during a special meeting Wednesday at City Hall.

A 4-3 vote May 4 approved $48,000 of the CDBG funding to go to community centers.

However, Mayor Joe Sinnott's administration said HUD identified the three African-American council members -- Curtis Jones Jr., Mel Witherspoon and Arrington -- as conflicts of interest for their relationships with some of the organizations which would have received funds from the amendment.

Both HUD and the NAACP said Thursday's meeting was informative.

HUD officials said they learned about concerns that they would have not known if they didn't meet Thursday.

HUD officials said one concern they can address is the lack of citizen participation felt by the city of Erie.

However, HUD said it's the city's responsibility to decided how the money is spent and that HUD simply gives the city broad parameters.

As for the conflicts of interest, HUD officials said they are sticking with their decision.

"We don't go out looking for conflicts," John Tolbert, director of HUD, said. "Every now and then we kinda find them. It is the duty of the entire community to be forthcoming and tell us when there is a conflict of interest situation and that's what happened here."

HUD made them abstain from voting Wednesday or the city would risk losing $2.8 million in funding.
The NAACP hopes Sinnott will listen to its concerns.

If they are not addressed, the NAACP said a civil rights violation lawsuit may result due to their community not being represented in the spending plan.

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Grant money reduced for community centers because of conflicts of interest

By Nico Salvatori
814-870-1714

Erie Times-News

A monthlong dispute between Erie City Council members and Mayor Joe Sinnott's administration concluded this week, at the expense of some social service agencies and community centers in the city.

They will not receive a $48,000 boost in federal grant funds this year because of conflicts that forced three council members to abstain from voting at a special meeting on Wednesday.

The organizations were to receive a larger share of a $2.8 million Community Development Block Grant, which council applied for in May after a 4-3 vote.

City Council on Wednesday rescinded amendments it made to the Sinnott administration's application in May and approved the original plan in a 4-0 vote with three abstentions.

The abstentions belonged to Sonya Arrington, Curtis Jones and Mel Witherspoon, who all have ties to agencies that benefit from CDBG funds. Those ties are considered conflicts of interest by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the agency that administers the grant.

Had they voted, they would have nullified the application and caused the city to forfeit any chance at the $2.8 million grant.

The grant is used each year for a variety of city services, including police overtime, paving and summer recreation programs.

This year it will also pay for an additional code enforcement officer to address blight, which is emphasized in the city's new comprehensive plan.

The new vote with three abstentions was met with exclamations of "shame" from members of the public who were in attendance because the vote approved a version of the application, supported by the Sinnott administration, that allocates fewer dollars for some agencies and none for others, such as the Early Connections Learning Center and the Youth Leadership Institute.

Those agencies, and two others that were removed from the application, typically do not receive CDBG funds, said Kim Green, director of the city department of economic and community development.

Many members of the community attended the meeting to show their support for community centers, including the Booker T. Washington Center and the Martin Luther King Center.

Both would have received additional funding under the amended application if not for the conflicts of interest.

Arrington runs an anti-violence program at the Booker T. Washington Center that is paid for by the county. Jones had to abstain because his brother works for the Downtown YMCA, and Witherspoon abstained because he had recently been a board member for the John F. Kennedy Center. All three organizations receive CDBG funds.

Council members Bob Merski, Jim Winarski and Casimir Kwitowski favored the Sinnott-backed application, while Councilman Dave Brennan said he voted for it only because he did not want to deprive the city of the CDBG grant.

Council members were instructed before Wednesday's meeting that four votes were needed to pass the application.

"I knew the other council members were not going to change their votes, so I couldn't risk holding off the $2.8 million," Brennan said in an interview.

In May, Brennan voted with Arrington, Jones and Witherspoon on an amendment to redirect $48,275 to six social service agencies.

The money was to be taken from a $70,000 allocation the Sinnott administration wanted to use for the additional code enforcement officer.

Witherspoon has said that he, Arrington and Jones were targeted because they are black. City Solicitor Greg Karle told an Erie Times-News reporter last week that the conflict of interest inquiry was not motivated by race.

In an interview and addressing the public, Arrington took issue with the claim of a conflict, describing it as "an ethnic conflict of interest."

In a public comment period, Shantel Hilliard, executive director of the Booker T. Washington Center, told council that it "baffled" him that such a quarrel could occur over allocations that amount to a "drop in the bucket."

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Published: June 08, 2016 12:04PM

Grant money reduced for community centers because of conflicts of interest

By

Erie Times-News

Some Erie community centers will not receive a boost in federal grant funds this year because of conflicts that forced three Erie City Council members to abstain from voting on Wednesday.

The centers were to receive a larger share of the $2.8 million grant, which council applied for in May in a 4-3 vote. However, Mayor Joe Sinnott's administration raised concerns about ties that three council members who voted in favor of the grant may have with the centers.

Those council members are Sonya Arrington, Curtis Jones and Mel Witherspoon.

At a special meeting of city council on Wednesday morning that was convened for a revote, those members said the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which administers the grant, told them it would not accept the application unless all three abstained, putting at risk the entire $2.8 million lot.

The funding, known as a Community Development Block Grant, is used each year for a variety of city services, like police overtime, paving and summer recreation programs.

The 4-0 revote with three abstentions was met with exclamations of "shame" from members of the public who were in attendance because the vote approved a version of the application, supported by the Sinnott administration, that allocates fewer dollars for some of the community centers.

Witherspoon has said that he, Arrington and Jones were targeted because they are black. City Solicitor Greg Karle has argued that the inquiry into the potential conflicts was not motivated by race.

This dispute contributed to a charged atmosphere Wednesday in council chambers, where many members of the community came out to show their support for the centers, including the three at issue: the Booker T. Washington Center, the John F. Kennedy Center and the Downtown YMCA.

Shantel Hilliard, executive director of the Booker T. Washington Center, told council that it "baffled" him that such a quarrel could occur over allocations that amount to a "drop in the bucket."

See Thursday's Erie Times-News and for more coverage.

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Published: June 04. 2016 12:42AM

Erie Council set for revote on grants

By Ed Palattella
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ETNpalattella

Erie Times-News

A big step in the city's attempt to rescue $2.8 million in federal funding will come Wednesday, when Erie City Council meets in a special session.

But that meeting will be far from the only step in the process, which involves the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

City Council members on Wednesday morning will decide whether to rescind a May 4 vote in which it approved an application for $2.8 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funding. Council would then vote on a new application.

Concerns about conflicts of interest among three council members -- Sonya Arrington, Curtis Jones Jr. and Mel Witherspoon -- prompted a request for a revote from the administration of Mayor Joe Sinnott.

The three council members have connections to social service agencies that would receive CDBG money through the city.

HUD runs the CDBG program, and has said the city must fix the conflicts before HUD approves the application for the $2.8 million.

The money is to pay for, among other things, summer recreation programs and police overtime in high-crime areas.

The city's CDBG consultant, Walter Haglund, of Pittsburgh, said HUD told him the three City Council members cannot participate in Wednesday's votes.

"It is a very serious matter," Haglund told council this week. "And HUD is firm in its position."

He said council's four other members can vote.

The city clerk's office on Friday made the final arrangements for Wednesday's 9 a.m. meeting, at which the public can speak.

If a successful revote occurs, the city can later send the new application to HUD for approval. The city had been scheduled to receive the $2.8 million by July 1, but the need for a revote could delay the release of any money for as long as a month, said Kim Green, the city's director of Economic and Community Development.

She said HUD can take up to 45 days to review a CDBG application. She said she hopes the city's review is faster, but said HUD would take a deep look at the city's new application.

"We are going to get more than a once-over," Green said.

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Erie working to fix CDBG problems

ERIE, Pa. -- City Hall is pushing to save $2.8 million in federal funding that Erie had been scheduled to receive by July 1.

Top officials in the administration of Mayor Joe Sinnott said they hope to consult soon with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to address a potential conflict of interest that, if left unresolved, would jeopardize the release of the $2.8 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funding.

Also at risk is an additional $907,713 in HUD funding the city was to receive by July 1 for programs to reduce homelessness and create affordable housing.

The potential conflict of interest involves City Councilwoman Sonya Arrington and the Booker T. Washington Center, which receives CDBG funding and where Arrington runs an anti-violence program for youth. Arrington has said her program -- Leadership, Empowerment, Accountability, Diversity, or L.E.A.D. -- receives no CDBG money, but the city said it has concerns.

City Solicitor Greg Karle said he is waiting on a summary of the potential conflict of interest and any other problematic issues from Kim Green, the city's director of economic and community development.

VIDEO: FINANCING AND GROWING BUSINESS IN CAMBODIA

"I am going to review that with HUD officials and our consultant," Karle said Friday.

The consultant on the HUD application, Walter Haglund, of Urban Design Ventures, in Pittsburgh, declined to comment. Green has been working with the consultant and HUD.

HUD told the city it must resolve the problems before submitting its application, which includes the $2.8 million in CDBG money.

The application was due Tuesday, but HUD extended the deadline to Aug. 16. The city hopes to submit the application, called a Consolidated Action Plan, sooner. The city has earmarked the $2.8 million for, among other things, summer recreation programs, community policing and street paving.

"If the activities in question are contained in a Consolidated Action Plan that is submitted to this office and if the Conflict of Interest requirements have not been met, HUD will unilaterally withhold funding for all ... CDBG activities," John E. Tolbert III, a director with HUD's Pittsburgh field office,

wrote Green on May 10.

If the city fails to submit an application by Aug. 16, Tolbert wrote, the city's CDBG funds and other HUD funding for 2016-2017 "will be lost."

The potential conflict of interest arose at the City Council meeting May 4. Arrington joined a 4-3 vote to amend the city's CDBG application to redirect $48,275 to six social service agencies, including $6,000 for summer recreation at the Booker T. Washington Center.

Council redistributed the money by eliminating $70,000 in CDBG funding the Sinnott administration had allocated for a code enforcement officer, in line with the city's new comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, which emphasizes blight reduction.

Arrington proposed the amendment, and Green at the May 4 meeting cautioned council about the potential conflict of interest. Arrington declined to abstain and has said she "did the right thing" in voting to send more money to the Booker T. Washington Center and the other social service organizations.

Karle said Green "had an obligation" under HUD rules to tell the agency about the potential conflict of interest after the May 4 vote. He said he is exploring whether City Council could resolve the potential conflict by reconsidering the vote.

"That is part of the inquiry," Karle said. "We will discuss it with the federal regulators and our consultant."

Council's next meeting is Wednesday night. A revote was not on the agenda as of Friday.

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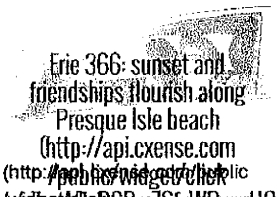

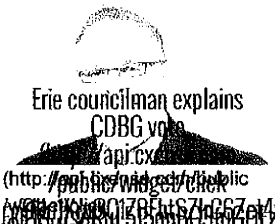

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Published: June 03. 2016 12:42AM

City: Erie CDBG dispute based on ethics rules

By Ed Palattella
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Erie Times-News

Erie City Councilman Mel Witherspoon said the city's federal funding dispute is about race.

Erie City Solicitor Greg Karle said it is about the law.

"It was not a racially motivated inquiry," he said.

Karle said state ethics rules and the requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development are guiding him. He said those regulations led the city and HUD to determine that Witherspoon and two other council members have conflicts of interest in the city's application for $2.8 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funding.

Witherspoon is black, as are the other two council members the city said have conflicts: Sonya Arrington and Curtis Jones Jr. All of the other City Council members are white.

"It appears to me that the three African-Americans were targeted," Witherspoon said Wednesday.

Karle and others in Mayor Joe Sinnott's administration on Wednesday outlined the conflicts of interest. HUD, which administers the CDBG program, has told the city that failing to resolve the conflicts would jeopardize the city's receipt of the $2.8 million, which pays for, among other things, police overtime, paving and summer recreation programs.

City Council on Wednesday tentatively scheduled a June 8 special meeting for a revote on the city's CDBG application to HUD.

Council approved the application May 4. Arrington, Jones and Witherspoon voted for the application and an amendment to it. HUD has said the three cannot participate in the revote because of their conflicts of interest.

Witherspoon, according to the city, has a conflict because he had been a board member for the John F. Kennedy Center, which receives CDBG funding. Witherspoon said he resigned recently, but the city said state ethics rules apply for a year after a person resigns from a board.

Arrington, according to the city, has a conflict because she runs an anti-violence program at the Booker T. Washington Center, which receives CDBG funding, but not for that program. And Jones, according to the city, has a conflict because his brother works at the Downtown YMCA, which receives CDBG funding.

Witherspoon, Arrington and Jones also were in the majority when council voted 4-3 on May 4 to approve an amendment that redirected $48,275 in CDBG funds to six social service agencies, including the Booker T. Washington Center, against the wishes of the Sinnott administration. Witherspoon on Wednesday said the administration was upset over that vote, which he said led to the "targeting" of Arrington, Jones and him.

Karle said the city followed state and HUD rules in determining the conflicts of interest existed.

The administration cautioned Arrington about her potential conflict before the May 4 vote, and the administration later learned of the conflicts with Witherspoon and Jones, Karle said. He said the administration relies on council members to declare they have a conflict of interest, but no self-reporting occurred in this case.

HUD lets a municipality seek an exemption over a conflict of interest. But it requires that the municipality determine the conflict violates no laws.

Karle said he could not make that assurance to HUD regarding Arrington, Jones and Witherspoon. He cited a 2000 finding, called an advice of counsel, from the Pennsylvania Ethics Commission. The finding concerned Rubye Jenkins-Husband, who was then president of Erie City Council, and whether a conflict of interest prohibited her from voting on the city's CDBG application.

The Ethics Commission said a conflict existed because Jenkins-Husband was a paid consultant for a state-funded nonprofit whose board members included representatives from the John F. Kennedy Center, the Booker T. Washington Center and the third community center in the city, the Martin Luther King Jr. Center.

Each of the centers got CDBG funding, through the city's application, in 2000. And though Jenkins-Husband's nonprofit received no money from the centers or the CDBG program, the Ethics Commission said she could not vote on the city's CDBG application because the centers had representatives on her nonprofit's board.

"You specifically would have a conflict of interest as to the Community Development Block Grant Program which funds the Centers," the Ethics Commission's chief counsel wrote in the finding on June 28, 2000.

Karle said the decision means Arrington, Jones and Witherspoon also have conflicts of interest because of their connections to the community centers and the YMCA. He said their connections are stronger than those Jenkins-Husband had with the community centers.

"It is precedential," Karle said of the Ethics Commission finding. "It is right on point."

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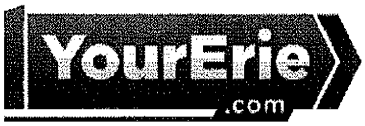

Arrington responds to 'conflicts of interest'

By JESSICA DOUDRICK | jdoudrick@wjettv.com (mailto:jdoudrick@wjettv.com)
Published 06/02 2016 05:39PM Updated 06/02 2016 05:39PM ERIE, Pa.

Erie City Councilwoman Sonya Arrington says she's still angry after Wednesday's meeting with city administrators.

Arrington was labeled as a conflict of interest by HUD and advised not to vote on federal grant money allocations.

Arrington says she was doing the right thing and being the voice of the community when she proposed an amendment to CDBG funds that gave more money to social services.

She says now her and her fellow councilmen are being reprimanded for it for simply voting against what administration wanted.

"We get in trouble for it, and they say our vote doesn't count," Arrington says. "What is the point in even being on Erie City Council when you put your vote forward and when they don't like the way you vote, they try to find someway somehow to pool and resend your phone? That's wrong."

Arrington says the fight isn't over, that it's just begun.

"They can call it what they want, and I will call it what I want," Arrington says. "I'm calling it racial discrimination because out of all seven of us, I'm sure that there is somebody else sitting up there that you could find a conflict of interest with if you really looked for it."

Arrington says she has not decided whether or not she will vote at next Wednesday's special meeting.

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HUD identifies 3 'conflicts of interest'

City Council to hold special meeting on HUD funding

By JESSICA DOUDRICK | jdoudrick@wjettv.com (mailto:jdoudrick@wjettv.com)
Published 06/01 2016 01:00PM Updated 06/01 2016 06:19PM ERIE, Pa.

Erie City Council, city administrators and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development met Wednesday to address the "conflict of interest" issue that is holding back $2.8 million in funding and agreed to hold a special meeting next Wednesday at 9 a.m. for a revote.

According to HUD, there isn't just one, but three possible conflicts of interest in regards to City Council passing the Community Development Block Grant.

City Councilman Mel Witherspoon said himself, along with Sonya Arrington and Curtis Jones Jr., are being identified as conflicts of interest due to their relationships with some of the organizations receiving funds.

Sonya Arrington proposed an amendment to the CDBG funding, which City Council approved in early May with a 4-3 vote.

That amendment included $6,000 for the Booker T. Washington Center, where Arrington's L.E.A.D. organization is housed.

She said her program is funded through the Office of Children and Youth and that the program just happens to be located at the Booker T. Washington Center.

Witherspoon says Arrington and Jones have been advisted not to vote on the CDBG proposal in next Wednesday's meeting.

Witherspoon, who has resigned from the JFK Center Board of Directors, said he is uncertain whether or not he will be able to vote.

Walter Haglund, City Council's consultant, said HUD identified three conflicts of interest and can't accept City Council's CDBG proposal.

Kim Green, Director of Economic and City Development for the City of Erie, said she will prepare the original funding plan for the meeting.

Millions in Funding Held Up For Erie Because of Political Conflicts of Interest

Posted: Jun 01, 2016 5:55 PM EDT Wednesday, June 1, 2016 5:55 PM EDT*Updated: Jun 01, 2016 7:53 PM EDT* Wednesday, June 1, 2016 7:53 PM EDT

By Emily Matson
Email
Connect
ematson@wicu12.com

A heated debate Wednesday at Erie city hall, surrounding millions of dollars of federal funding, that's being held up because of possible political conflicts of interest.

Wednesday morning, a city consultant confirmed that HUD, the agency which distributes block grant funding, found that there is a conflict of interest in the city's application for federal money.

The issue stems from an amendment, which City Councilwoman Sonya Arrington proposed in May.

It diverted nearly $50,000 intended for a code enforcement officer, to several neighborhood centers of her choosing.

The amendment also increased funding for the Booker T. Washington Center, Arrington's non-profit is run out of the Booker T. Washington Center.

And because she didn't abstain from voting, HUD found that to be a conflict of interest.

They also found conflicts involving two other council members, and their connections to non-profits which would get the funds.

This is all holding up 2.8 Million dollars in federal grant money from coming to the city of Erie, and the dozens of organizations which rely on it.

So HUD says, to ensure the city gets the money ASAP, city council must repeal the original amendment and and re-vote on it, with the council members with conflicts, abstaining from the vote, "The name of the game now is getting into compliance with HUD regulations," said City Councilman Bob Merski. "And once we do that, and get this money back in the community, that's the important thing and that's what I'm determined to do," Merski added.

"We're going to move on, we're going to solve the issue some way, we're not going to let the city loose 2.8 Million dollars under any circumstances," said City Councilman Mel Witherspoon.

A council meeting to address this, and take that vote is now set for next Wednesday morning.

–

Published: June 02. 2016 12:31AM

Claim about racial bias flares in Erie CDBG dispute

By **Ed Palattella**
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ETNpalattella

Erie Times-News

The city is moving closer to resolving the dispute that has jeopardized its receipt of more than $2.8 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funding.

But getting to the point of a possible breakthrough -- a tentative Erie City Council revote on June 8 -- has widened the scope of the fight and prompted a complaint of possible racial bias from one member of City Council.

"The situation that we're in, it appears to me that the three African-Americans were targeted because of the way we voted" on the original CDBG plan, Councilman Melvin Witherspoon said.

Witherspoon, who is black, learned from the administration of Mayor Joe Sinnott on Wednesday that he is one of three council members who, in the opinion of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, has a potential conflict of interest over the CDBG funding and should not have voted on the city's CDBG funding application on May 4.

Witherspoon had served on the board of the John F. Kennedy Center, which is to receive CDBG funding, including $12,724 for summer recreation. He said in aninterview his former board service was the issue.

Also on Wednesday, the Sinnott administration informed Councilman Curtis Jones Jr. that HUD says he has a potential conflict of interest, because his brother, Jones said, works at the Downtown YMCA, whose teen center is to receive $50,000 in CDBG funding.

And at the May 4 council meeting, the administration raised concerns about a potential conflict of interest with Councilwoman Sonya Arrington, who runs an anti-violence program at the Booker T.

Washington Center, which is to receive at least $6,000 in CDBG funding for a separate summer recreation program.

Quick Question

Should Erie City Council vote to repeal an amendment that has jeopardized more than $2.8 million in federal Community Block Grant funding?

- No
- Yes
- I'm not sure

Submit

Witherspoon, Jones and Arrington are the only black members on the seven-member City Council. Witherspoon on Wednesday questioned why the administration raised potential conflicts involving only them.

"It seems like it is the three African-Americans ... on the board," Witherspoon said at a City Council committee meeting. "We represent ... African-Americans, in Erie ... the city of Erie and in particular our community."

He echoed his remarks in an interview, in which he said he, Arrington and Jones were being "targeted."

"Anytime we vote together it becomes an issue," he said.

All three on May 4 voted in a 4-3 majority, with Councilman David Brennan, to redistribute $48,275 in CDBG grants to six social service agencies, including an additional $6,000 for summer recreation at the Booker T. Washington Center. The vote did not affect the Downtown YMCA or the JFK Center.

The reallocation eliminated full CDBG funding of $70,000 for an additional code enforcement officer -- a position Sinnott said he requested to address blight to meet the recommendations of the city's new comprehensive plan.

'Very serious matter'

The Sinnott administration officials at Wednesday's meeting -- City Solicitor Greg Karle and Kim Green, the director of the city's Department of Economic and Community Development -- said the city was following HUD guidelines and looked into the potential conflicts of interest as soon as the administration learned of them.

They said the city's authority on the dispute is its CDBG consultant, Walter Haglund, of Urban Design Ventures, in Pittsburgh, who participated in Wednesday's meeting by conference call. That part of the approximately 75-minute meeting was open to the public, though council closed the meeting for about 20 minutes to discuss what it said were potential legal matters in the dispute. The Erie Times-News objected to the executive session.

Haglund told council he did not know the names of the council members with the potential conflicts. But he said he relayed the information about the potential conflicts, which the Sinnott administration compiled, to HUD, which administers the CDBG program. Haglund said HUD told him a successful revote must occur for HUD to approve the city's CDBG application, and that any council member with a potential conflict must abstain from voting.

"What they suggested is the previous vote be rescinded and that a new vote be taken, and (that) the city has the three council people who have a conflict of interest -- that these individuals restrain from any discussion and that they do not vote," Haglund said.

"It is a very serious matter," he said. "And HUD is firm in its position."

He also said of HUD, "They're not looking at a conflict of interest based on any monetary interest, but the fact that people might have relationships ... they have some type of relationship with an agency."

Despite his criticism, Witherspoon said he believes council will end the dispute over the CDBG funding, possibly as early as June 8. Council on Wednesday tentatively scheduled a special meeting on that date to revote on the CDBG funding.

"We think it will be resolved," Witherspoon said.

The city originally was scheduled to receive the CDBG funds -- which also pay for street paving, police overtime, playground improvements and other projects -- by July 1. But delays are likely, even with a June 8 revote.

'The responsible thing'

How council will vote on June 8, including who will abstain, is uncertain.

Witherspoon questioned his potential conflict because he said he no longer serves on the board of the JFK Center. The city said state ethics rules in such a situation are effective for a year after a person resigns from a board.

Arrington declined to comment Wednesday, but has said she saw no conflict because Erie County, rather than the Booker T. Washington Center, funds her anti-violence program. County records show the Booker T. Washington Center receives that money and pays for the program.

Jones said the YMCA hired his brother after the CDBG review process commenced at City Hall earlier this year. He said he understands the city's concerns about potential conflicts, but said he and other council members, such as Witherspoon and Arrington, are active in the community and often serve on boards.

"This stuff isn't personal," he said of the concerns of HUD and the Sinnott administration. "It is business."

With the June 8 vote approaching, Jones said, council must "realize that the whole allocation is at stake."

"The responsible thing," he said, "is to make sure that the whole amount of money is not held back from the community."

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Published: June 01. 2016 12:08PM

Erie City Council to set revote in grant dispute

By Ed Palattella
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ETNpalattella

Erie Times-News

At a heated meeting Wednesday, Erie City Council agreed to hold a special session in a week to vote on whether to repeal an amendment that has jeopardized the release of more than $2.8 million in federal Community Block Grant funding.

The decision came after the administration of Mayor Joe Sinnott told three council members that, based on rules from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, they had potential conflicts of interest when they voted on the CDBG amendment in May. Council approved the amendment 4-3.

The three council members are Sonya Arrington, Curtis Jones Jr. and Melvin Witherspoon. Each has a connection to a social service organization that would receive some CDBG funds. The administration previously said that only Arrington, who runs an anti-violence program at the Booker T. Washington Center, had a potential conflict.

The amendment that Arrington, Witherspoon and Jones approved redistributed about $48,275 in CDBG grants to six social service agencies, including $6,000 for summer recreation at the Booker T. Washington Center.

Jones, Witherspoon and Arrington are the only black members on the seven-member council, an issue Witherspoon raised in pointed remarks Wednesday. Officials with the Sinnott administration said the problems with the CDBG funding were based on HUD rules, and were not personal.

HUD has told the city it will not release any CDBG money to the city unless council resolves the potential conflicts of interest. The money, among other things, pays for summer recreation, police overtime and street paving.

Council discussed the CDBG issue at a finance meeting that followed its regular meeting.

See Thursday's Erie Times-News and GoErie.com for more coverage.

Published: May 26. 2016 12:45PM

City of Erie plans $5.2 million in paving work

By Kevin Flowers
814-870-1693

Erie Times-News

It's street repair time.

Erie Mayor Joe Sinnott and City Engineer Jon Tushak on Thursday morning unveiled the city's $5.2 million summer street repair plan, which includes work performed by both Erie Bureau of Streets crews and outside contractors.

More than 100 individual street repairs are included in the plan.

At a news conference at the city's streets garage near East 21st and French streets, Sinnott said, that despite the mild winter, there is "a lot of damage over the previous years we need to get to" on many city streets.

Much of the work is funded via an $11 million bond plan approved by Erie City Council in May 2015. That bond will fund street repairs -- including milling and asphalt resurfacing; patching; crack sealing; and curb repairs on dozens of city streets -- through 2019.

About $4.3 million worth of street repair work will be handled by outside contractors, with $810,000 worth of work handled by city crews using city equipment, officials said.

"There will likely be two to three more (outside) paving contracts going out within the coming weeks," Tushak said. He added that the work includes "in the neighborhood of 500 to 600 curb ramps that are triggered by this work."

The city in 2015 issued about $8 million in new bonds and refinancing $3 million worth of existing bonds as part of the paving financing plan.

City officials are also using federal Community Development Block Grant funding and liquid fuels money from the state to fund road repairs over the next several years.

A recent dispute between Erie City Council and Sinnott's administration over CDBG funding priorities could jeopardize the release of $2.8 million in block grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for 2016-17. Sinnott on Thursday acknowledged that some of that money is being counted on to fund a portion of the $1 million in curb ramp repairs.

"We're keeping our (funding) plan in place, and if it has be altered in the future we'll do so," Sinnott said.

As the city has done in previous years, streets that need the most work will be addressed first. Some streets are selectively repaired in the most damaged areas, while others will see curb-to-curb improvements in areas where entire blocks are in poor condition.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation will also do repairs on state-owned roads within city limits, officials said.

The city's summer street repair plan cost roughly $4 million in 2015; about $3.3 million in 2014; $3 million in 2013; and $2.6 million in 2012.

KEVIN FLOWERS can be reached at 870-1693 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNflowers.

Tiffany McCloud, seated at right, speaks during a news conference Monday while surrounded by supporters at the St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church, 236 E. 11th St. McCloud, president of the Erie chapter of the NAACP, called for the community to support four Erie City Council members who voted to use a portion of Community Development Block Grant money on community centers. DAVID BRUCE/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

ERIE, Pa. -- Members of Erie's African-American community gathered Monday at a downtown Erie church to demand a meeting with officials with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The community members -- which included African-American clergy and Tiffany McCloud, president of the Erie Chapter of the NAACP -- want to discuss how HUD distributes Community Development Block Grant money.

About 80 people attended the news conference and rally, held at the St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church, 236 E. 11th St.

McCloud and several clergy also spoke in support of four Erie City Council members who voted May 4 to amend the city's CDBG application. The amended application redirects $48,275 to six social-service agencies.

"We know these centers have seen a steady decline in funding over the past 20 years," McCloud said. "There is a correlation between the defunding of these centers and the increase in crime in our community."

Council's vote has placed $2.8 million in CDBG funding in jeopardy, because of a possible conflict of interest involving Erie City Councilwoman Sonya Arrington.

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Council approved the amended application by a 4-3 vote. Arrington, Curtis Jones, Dave Brennan and Mel Witherspoon voted in favor of the amendment.

HUD officials told Kim Green, the city's director of economic and community development, that the agency will withhold funding for all of Erie's CDBG activities unless the conflict of interest is resolved.

Jones, who attended Monday's event, said he believes the community centers can receive their money without the city losing $2.8 million in CDBG money.

"If the community can meet with HUD, and if HUD can see how this funding can help, I think we can resolve this," Jones said. "This issue cannot be ignored."

McCloud and the clergy also called on members of the community to attend Wednesday evening's City Council meeting, which begins at 7:30 in council chambers.

They want the public to oppose any call for council to reconsider voting on the amended CDBG application, and ask for council's help in scheduling a meeting with HUD officials.

"Our hope is that HUD agrees to meet with us and we are able to convince it to conduct an investigation," McCloud said. "Maybe HUD doesn't realize how these community centers have been defunded compared to other programs."

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Published: May 17. 2016 1:31AM

Erie's African-American community wants to meet with HUD officials

By David Bruce
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Erie Times-News

Members of Erie's African-American community gathered Monday at a downtown Erie church to demand a meeting with officials with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The community members -- which included African-American clergy and Tiffany McCloud, president of the Erie Chapter of the NAACP -- want to discuss how HUD distributes Community Development Block Grant money.

About 80 people attended the news conference and rally, held at the St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church, 236 E. 11th St.

McCloud and several clergy also spoke in support of four Erie City Council members who voted May 4 to amend the city's CDBG application. The amended application redirects $48,275 to six social-service agencies.

"We know these centers have seen a steady decline in funding over the past 20 years," McCloud said. "There is a correlation between the defunding of these centers and the increase in crime in our community."

Council's vote has placed $2.8 million in CDBG funding in jeopardy, because of a possible conflict of interest involving Erie City Councilwoman Sonya Arrington.

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Published: May 14. 2016 12:01AM

Erie working to fix CDBG problems

By Ed Palattella
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Erie Times-News

City Hall is pushing to save $2.8 million in federal funding that Erie had been scheduled to receive by July 1.

Top officials in the administration of Mayor Joe Sinnott said they hope to consult soon with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to address a potential conflict of interest that, if left unresolved, would jeopardize the release of the $2.8 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funding.

Also at risk is an additional $907,713 in HUD funding the city was to receive by July 1 for programs to reduce homelessness and create affordable housing.

The potential conflict of interest involves City Councilwoman Sonya Arrington and the Booker T. Washington Center, which receives CDBG funding and where Arrington runs an anti-violence program for youth. Arrington has said her program -- Leadership, Empowerment, Accountability, Diversity, or L.E.A.D. -- receives no CDBG money, but the city said it has concerns.

City Solicitor Greg Karle said he is waiting on a summary of the potential conflict of interest and any other problematic issues from Kim Green, the city's director of economic and community development.

"I am going to review that with HUD officials and our consultant," Karle said Friday.

The consultant on the HUD application, Walter Haglund, of Urban Design Ventures, in Pittsburgh, declined to comment. Green has been working with the consultant and HUD.

HUD told the city it must resolve the problems before submitting its application, which includes the $2.8 million in CDBG money.

The application was due Tuesday, but HUD extended the deadline to Aug. 16. The city hopes to submit the application, called a Consolidated Action Plan, sooner. The city has earmarked the $2.8 million for, among other things, summer recreation programs, community policing and street paving.

"If the activities in question are contained in a Consolidated Action Plan that is submitted to this office and if the Conflict of Interest requirements have not been met, HUD will unilaterally withhold funding for all ... CDBG activities," John E. Tolbert III, a director with HUD's Pittsburgh field office, wrote Green on May 10.

If the city fails to submit an application by Aug, 16, Tolbert wrote, the city's CDBG funds and other HUD funding for 2016-2017 "will be lost."

The potential conflict of interest arose at the City Council meeting May 4. Arrington joined a 4-3 vote to amend the city's CDBG application to redirect $48,275 to six social service agencies, including $6,000 for summer recreation at the Booker T. Washington Center.

Council redistributed the money by eliminating $70,000 in CDBG funding the Sinnott administration had allocated for a code enforcement officer, in line with the city's new comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, which emphasizes blight reduction.

Arrington proposed the amendment, and Green at the May 4 meeting cautioned council about the potential conflict of interest. Arrington declined to abstain and has said she "did the right thing" in voting to send more money to the Booker T. Washington Center and the other social service organizations.

Karle said Green "had an obligation" under HUD rules to tell the agency about the potential conflict of interest after the May 4 vote. He said he is exploring whether City Council could resolve the potential conflict by reconsidering the vote.

"That is part of the inquiry," Karle said. "We will discuss it with the federal regulators and our consultant."

Council's next meeting is Wednesday night. A revote was not on the agenda as of Friday.

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HUD funding debate continues

Published 05/12 2016 05:37PM Updated 05/12 2016 05:37PM ERIE, Pa.

The $2.8 million debate continues over what's being called a conflict of interest.

An Erie City Council Member who voted for the amendment is standing by his vote.

Sonya Arrington proposed an amendment to the HUD CDBG funding which included $6000 for the Booker T. Washington Center where Arrington's organization is housed.

Councilman Dave Brennan says according to the legal definition being discussed and from what Arrington has explained to them about where the money is going, there isn't a conflict of interest.

Brennan says the question is whether or not HUD's definition matches that.

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Published: May 12. 2016 12:02AM

Erie's CDBG dispute affecting funding for homelessness

By **Ed Palattella**
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Erie Times-News

Every year, starting July 1, SafeNet and several other Erie organizations that help the homeless look forward to the release of grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

But the timely release of that money -- a total of $252,664, including $50,533 for SafeNet -- is in jeopardy this year.

The funding is caught up in the dispute over the city's stalled application for $2.8 million from HUD's Community Development Block Grant Program.

The potential for a conflict of interest involving city Councilwoman Sonya Arrington and $6,000 in CDBG funds led the city Tuesday to delay submitting the CDBG application -- a move that could delay the release of the $2.8 million until after the scheduled date of July 1. The $2.8 million is for, among other things, community policing, street paving and summer recreation programs.

The $252,664 funding for homelessness is separate from the CDBG funding, but it is included in the same overall HUD application.

So is $655,049 in other HUD funding the city was to receive after July 1 for housing rehabilitation and construction of affordable housing.

The city must submit its entire HUD application at once, said Kim Green, the city's director of economic and community development. That means the conflict-of-interest dispute, though connected only to the CDBG funding, is affecting the release of money for homelessness and housing.

The delays in the HUD funding would send SafeNet scrambling for money, said Linda Lyons King, the nonprofit's executive director.

HUD, in a separate move, already reduced other homelessness-related funding for SafeNet and other Erie organizations by a total of 72 percent.

The HUD funding SafeNet had expected after July 1 "is extremely important in light of the other cuts," King said.

Other nonprofits due to receive money for homelessness through the city's HUD application are Community Shelter Services, St. Patrick's Haven, the City Mission, the Refuge, Community of Caring, Mercy Center for Women and the Greater Erie Community Action Committee.

The city delayed the submission of its application after HUD said the city first had to resolve the potential conflict of interest, officials said. The potential conflict arose May 4, when City Council voted 4-3 to redirect $48,275 in CDBG funding to six social-service agencies, including $6,000 for summer recreation programs at the Booker T. Washington Center, where Arrington runs an anti-violence program.

Council redistributed the money by eliminating $70,000 in CDBG funding the administration of Mayor Joe Sinnott had allocated for a code enforcement officer, in line with the city's new comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, which emphasizes blight reduction.

Arrington proposed the amendment that redirected the funding, and she voted for it. She said she had no conflict because her program at the Booker T. Washington Center receives no CDBG money.

City officials are trying to resolve the potential conflict, possibly by having City Council reconsider its 4-3 vote, followed by a submission of a revised overall application to HUD.

King said the redirection of the money upset her because it deviated from Erie Refocused.

"I think it is wrong," she said. "We have a plan."

She also said social-service agencies can ask nongovernment sources to address funding needs.

"They have other options," she said.

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Published: May 11. 2016 12:09AM

Erie delays application for federal block grant funds

By Ed Palattella
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Erie Times-News

The dispute over Erie's federal Community Development Block Grant funding is centered on $6,000 that a majority of City Council redirected a week ago to the Booker T. Washington Center.

The dispute is now at risk of affecting the entire city.

The administration of Mayor Joe Sinnott is holding off on submitting its final $2.8 million CDBG application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, citing a potential conflict of interest with the $6,000 and City Councilwoman Sonya Arrington, who runs an anti-violence program at the Booker T. Washington Center.

The city's director of economic and community development, Kim Green, said HUD would not allow the city to submit the application with the potential conflict still an issue.

The delay in submitting the application, which was due to HUD on Tuesday, could postpone HUD's July 1 scheduled release of all the $2.8 million in CDBG funds. The money helps pay for, among other things, summer recreation programs, street paving and overtime for police officers who patrol high-crime areas.

The city's new deadline for submitting the plan is Aug. 16. It can submit the plan before then, but HUD will not release any money until the agency grants final approval.

HUD prohibits the city from borrowing money to pay for programs and paying off the loans with CDBG money, Green said.

"If this drags on, and we can't submit our plan by August, we probably won't be able to use any funds at all this summer," Green said.

She said the city had no choice but to ask for the extension.

"My responsibility is to make sure federal guidelines are followed," Green said. "HUD will not accept the plan from me until that conflict of interest is resolved.

"All of these organizations are good organizations," Green said of the Booker T. Washington Center and other social-service agencies that receive CDBG funding through the city. "That is not the issue at all. At this point, the issue is following HUD's guidelines and regulations and HUD has told us we can't submit the plan because of a potential conflict of interest."

The conflict came up on May 4, when Arrington joined a 4-3 majority to approve her amendment to redirect $6,000 of the CDBG funds to the Booker T. Washington Center. Green, who attended the council meeting, raised Arrington's relationship with the center before the vote and cautioned council about the possibility of a conflict of interest.

Arrington said she gets none of the money for her anti-violence program from CDBG funds, but the city said the relationship presents a potential conflict.

HUD's field office director in Pittsburgh, Jane Miller, confirmed the city risked losing its entire 2016 CDBG entitlement if the city is unable to submit a plan by Aug. 16.

The city "contacted HUD because they believed there was a potential conflict of interest and they knew the plan was due," Miller said. "We gave them the extension so they can review the plan and make a determination of whether or not there is a conflict to our office."

How the city might resolve the potential conflict remains uncertain. City Solicitor Greg Karle said he was researching the options, including having City Council reconsider its 4-3 vote.

"Right now, we don't have any concrete answers," Karle said. "We will see if the mayor can intervene with HUD, and if we can submit the initial application for a revote."

Council President Bob E. Merski voted against redirecting the money to the Booker T. Washington Center and other social service agencies, and before the vote he said any council member could abstain to avoid a conflict. Merski said Tuesday he will work with the Sinnott administration and his colleagues on council to resolve the problems with the CDBG application.

"We are going to do whatever it takes to get the application into compliance," he said.

At the May 4 meeting, Merski said he routinely abstained from voting on any city issues that concerned PNC Bank when his mother-in-law, Marlene Mosco, headed PNC's Erie-based regional operations, though Merski said any benefit to him would have been far from direct.

Merski on Tuesday declined to comment on whether any council members should have abstained from voting on the amended CDBG plan on May 4.

"Every council member votes how they see fit," Merski said.

The May 4 vote on the CDBG application was the first for Arrington, who was elected in 2015.

She said Tuesday her vote presented no conflict because she gets no CDBG funding and because the city's proposed CDBG funding for the Booker T. Washington Center was $6,000 before council approved her amendment and added $6,000.

"I don't see how this is now a conflict," Arrington said. "It can't be a conflict because I added six grand to it."

Council's 4-3 vote redirected a total of $48,275 to six social service agencies, including to the Booker T. Washington Center, which now would get a total of $12,000 in summer recreation funding, and an additional $5,775 to the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, also for a total of $12,000, for summer recreation.

Council redistributed that money by eliminating $70,000 in CDBG funding the Sinnott administration had allocated for a code enforcement officer.

That officer would have addressed blight in the east and west bayfront neighborhoods, in line with the recommendations in the city's new comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused.

Voting with Arrington to redirect the money were David Brennan, Curtis Jones Jr. and Mel Witherspoon.

Arrington said council does not need to vote again.

"We already voted, and we voted the way we wanted to vote, not the way Kim Green wanted us to vote," she said.

"I'm standing my ground. I did the right thing. Out of $2.8 million they're crying over $48,000 that's helping youth in our inner city. What is the big deal? Forty-eight thousand dollars is no money out of $2.8 million."

Asked about the possibility of HUD holding up release of all the CDBG funds for Erie, Arrington said: "This isn't on me. This is on the city.

"I'm doing what's right for the community and the people and youth in the community. It's not right to hold this money up. We've got to keep these kids busy, and keep these kids out of trouble. The community centers need funding in order to do this."

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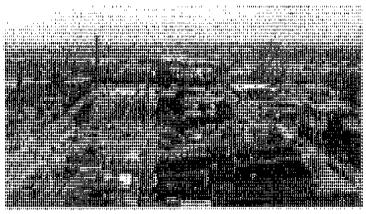
HUD: Erie Cannot Submit Plan for Grant Because of Possible Conflict of Interest

Posted: May 10, 2016 2:02 PM EDT Tuesday, May 10, 2016 2:02 PM EDT*Updated: May 10, 2016 2:29 PM EDT* Tuesday, May 10, 2016 2:29 PM EDT



The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will not let the City of Erie submit its plan for spending $2.8 million in Community Development Block Grants because of a possible conflict of interest.

Today is the deadline to submit that plan.

Erie City Council voted 4-3 Wednesday to go with councilwoman Sonya Arrington's plan to fund community centers using $70,000 from a federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

City administration wanted to use the money to hire a code enforcement officer to help tackle massive amounts of blight throughout the Erie.

It is part of the city's comprehensive plan, which made recommendations to strengthen neighborhoods and eliminate blight. The city paid a consultant $137,000 to develop the plan for the city's future.

Arrington proposed to increase funds by $6,000 for the Booker T. Washington Center, and $5,775 for the MLK center, to $12,000 each. The amendment also provided $36,500 in CDBG funds to four non-profits of her choice. It's new funding for Early Connections, Nurturing Hearts, The Urban Erie Community Development Corporation and the Youth Leadership Institute.

Arrington runs a non-profit out of the Booker T. Washington Center. Some CDBG funds go towards Arrington's Leadership Empowerment Accountability Diversity program, or LEAD. She also has close ties to some of the non-profits which received funding.

For those reasons, Kim Green, the City of Erie's Director of Economic and Community Development had to notify the federal funding agency to ensure it is okay that Arrington proposed the amendment and did not abstain from voting for it.

HUD says city council members should have reported any potential conflicts of interest before the vote.

HUD: City of Erie cannot submit $2.8 million plan

By JESSICA DOUDRICK | jdoudrick@wjettv.com (mailto:jdoudrick@wjettv.com)
Published 05/10 2016 05:42PM Updated 05/10 2016 11:26PM ERIE, Pa.

Erie's plan for spending $2.8 million is rejected by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. They say there is a possible conflict of interest in spending.

The Community Development Block Grant funding plan was due to HUD Tuesday. However, HUD says the City of Erie can't submit that plan because of a possible conflict of interest. The city isn't sure what's going to happen next.

This all comes after an ammendment purposed by city councilwoman Sonya Arrington at last Wednesday's city council meeting. Arrington amended the CDBG funds, taking $70,000 from a code enforcement officer position and instead investing $48,000 of that money into city youth.

Five groups benefit from that amendement, including the Booker T Washington Center, a place where Arrington runs her LEAD program.

City officials called it a conflict of interest, but Arrington disagreed. She says her program is funded through ocy and that the program just happens to be located at the Booker T. Washington Center. Arrington says if it's a conflict of interest now, why wasn't it a conflict of interest when her organization was funded in the first place?

"When we decide to go against what the city wants to go through then it becomes a conflict of interest, and I don't understand that," Arrington said. 'I did the right thing. I stand by what I did. I support the community, and I support our children. This is not on me. This is on the city."

Arrington says it's only $48,000 out of $2.8 million. She says that's nothing in the grand scheme of things.

Kim Green, Director of Economic and City Development for the City of Erie, says she's always seen it as a conflict of interest, and HUD agrees.

"If we are unable to address that conflict of issue issue adequately HUD has the right to withhold our entire allocation for the year," Green says.

The city isn't sure what's going to happen next. They say organizations may not see their funding

by July 1st which will affect the summer rec program, parks; and summer policing to name a few.

The extension runs through August, but Green hopes to solve the problem long before that.

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Published: May 08. 2016 12:02AM

Pat Howard: Funding flap offers preview of hard choices facing Erie

By Pat Howard
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Erie Times-News

A useful, clarifying aura of alarm has taken hold of Erie, fueled by the steady pop of gunfire, the physical and financial deterioration of our community's core, and an overall shortage of economic opportunity.

That alarm, accompanied by the sense that the clock is ticking away borrowed time, amplifies the blunt assessment of the city of Erie's new comprehensive plan. Erie is in clear and present danger of becoming one of those walking dead cities, Erie Refocused warns, another cautionary tale to add to the list.

Snapping Erie out of it will require leaders and residents alike to override the reflexive, lulling instincts of drift and low expectations that have produced the predicament. Last week's flap over a new code enforcement officer for the city provides a glimpse of how hard that will be.

Mayor Joe Sinnott's administration had proposed spending $70,000 of the city's annual federal Community Development Block Grant allocation to hire a new code enforcement officer to focus on the east and west bayfront neighborhoods. The proposal aligns with the comprehensive plan's focus on setting and moving the needle on high-impact priorities rather than muddling along on all fronts.

When Erie City Council gathered Wednesday to consider the CDBG plan, however, four of its members broke with the administration. They voted instead to divvy up most of that $70,000 among two community centers and four other nonprofits.

The vote amounts to an early skirmish over the comprehensive plan, and an early test of council members' focus on it. There will be much harder choices to come, but this sets a tone.

The four council members who balked -- Sonya Arrington, who proposed the amendment, David Brennan, Curtis Jones Jr. and Mel Witherspoon -- argued that the funding boosts for the six agencies were needed to provide support for inner-city youth. Tellingly, a couple of councilmen tried to draw from the counsel of Charles Buki, the lead consultant on Erie Refocused, to provide cover for their votes.

Jones and Brennan cited Buki's criticism of Erie's "default tendency to look to the state or federal governments, or some other outside source, to solve local problems." Using diminishing federal CDBG money to fund additional code enforcement runs afoul of that admonition, the councilmen argued.

That's a stretch, if you read the rest of what Buki had to say on the subject in a pointed letter to city officials at the end of March. But it's a stretch of a sort that could become familiar.

As the city's elected officials wade into implementing Erie Refocused, assuming they do, there will be a temptation to repackage old habits, stubborn assumptions, anecdotal evidence and, inevitably, existing political connections and agendas as lining up with the plan. To shellac the status quo with a thin sheen of change, in other words.

Consider also the first item on the list of "don'ts" Erie Refocused lists on the way to achieving the level of impact that the scale of Erie's problems demands: "Don't diffuse resources."

"Spreading limited resources ensures that nothing receives a truly transformative level of investment," the plan states. "It feels fair, but it is neither sustainable nor effective."

Spreading modest sums among the community centers and the other nonprofits smacks of just that. And in the case of the city's three community centers, even some avid supporters openly agree they are overdue for a thorough restructuring to streamline their operations, coordinate their programming and better compete for and leverage funding in today's environment.

Keep in mind also that one of the centers, the Booker T. Washington Center, earlier this decade was mismanaged to the point that it lost its federal tax exemption for two years, and consequently tens of thousands of dollars in funding. The community centers need their own comprehensive plan.

Some observers, including Brennan, are asking fair questions about whether current code enforcement efforts are being managed and pursued as proactively and rigorously as possible. That's a worthy subject for some Erie Next journalism to come.

Whatever happens on that score, last week's funding switcheroo makes it plain that pursuing the comprehensive plan's methodology and goals with levels of focus and discipline sufficient to Erie's plight will be a very tall order in the political realm. The urge to rationalize, retreat and revert will be insidious and powerful, and will generate its own constituencies.

But make no mistake. Failure will be fatal, if not to our community itself, then to our dreams of seeing it thriving and growing again.

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Published: May 07. 2016 12:15AM

EMTA to offer daily bus service in western Erie County

By Valerie Myers
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Erie Times-News

Erie will be more accessible from western Erie County soon, and vice versa.

The Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority will expand its weekday bus service in Fairview Township, Girard and Lake City in fall. The route is expected to begin and end at Walmart or Fortis Institute on West Ridge Road in Millcreek Township, and link to routes to and from the city from there.

EMTA currently provides service to Fairview, Girard, Lake City and Albion twice a day on Mondays and Thursdays only. Preliminary plans are to offer the new service hourly Mondays through Fridays.

The route has not been finalized but will be a loop around western Erie County. Buses are expected to travel Route 20 and Route 5 between Millcreek and Girard, Route 18 to Lake City and Route 98 to Fairview Business Park, said Meagan Cousins, EMTA community relations and ridership development coordinator.

Western Erie County was selected for public bus service due to its population, customer feedback, and Destination Erie and updated 2010-2012 Erie County Transportation Plan recommendations, Cousins said.

Destination Erie: A Regional Vision, completed in March 2015 as a blueprint for the region through the next 25 years, recommends expanding transportation options and lowering transportation costs throughout the region.

Western Erie County employers also expressed a need for public transportation, to get workers to and from jobs.

"A lot of employers are having issues finding employees due to transportation barriers," Cousins said.

Eleven of 14 Fairview, Girard and Lake City employers surveyed by EMTA, or almost 79 percent, said that the lack of public transportation prevents them from finding and hiring employees from throughout the region.

The new bus service will be EMTA's second expansion of public transportation in Erie County in recent months. The company launched weekday service in Corry in November.

The Corry service, with stops at Corry Memorial Hospital, Corry Industrial Park, Corry Senior Center, shopping centers and housing complexes in the city, is attracting an increasing number of riders, Cousins said.

"Ridership is up 50 percent since this winter."

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Published: May 07. 2016 12:13AM

Erie councilman explains CDBG vote

By **Ed Palattella**
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Erie Times-News

Erie City Councilman David Brennan helped with the city's new comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, which stresses the need to eliminate blight.

But Brennan voted Wednesday against the city using $70,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant money to pay for an additional code enforcement officer to patrol the east and west bayfront neighborhoods.

Brennan joined in a 4-3 vote that redirected the majority of the money -- $48,275 -- to two of the city's community centers and four other nonprofits.

He gave no reason for his vote Wednesday, at a City Council meeting that lasted more than two hours and featured repeated exchanges between council and the city's director of economic and community development, Kim Green.

On Friday, Brennan spoke at length about his decision, the rationale for which he also posted on his Facebook page. He said he supports Erie Refocused -- he served on the technical and advisory committee for the plan, released in April -- and said the city must reduce blight.

But he said he voted against using CDBG money for a new code enforcement officer because he disagrees with the city using a federal grant for such a position, though Mayor Joe Sinnott has said the city could only afford the post if it used CDBG money. The city's total CDBG allocation for the fiscal year that starts July 1 is $2.8 million.

"I fully support Erie Refocused, and having sweeping patrols for code enforcement," said Brennan, an architect. "I'd rather fund this in the general fund. CDBG funding goes down. For this type of person that we need in the city, we need a dedicated funding source."

City Councilman Curtis Jones Jr. raised that same argument at Wednesday's council meeting, which is why Brennan said he did not speak before his vote. To have commented, he said, would have "just been repeating what was already said."

Jones voted with Brennan on the amendment to the CDBG plan that eliminated the code enforcement position and redirected the funding to the nonprofits.

Also voting for the amendment were council members Sonya Arrington, who proposed it, and Mel Witherspoon.

Sinnott said council's vote disappointed him.

"This was our first step in implementing the comprehensive plan, and council didn't support it," he said.

In his Facebook post, Brennan cited part of Erie Refocused to support his position about relying on federal grants. Brennan quoted a letter from Charles Buki, the comprehensive plan's consultant, who wrote that a "counterproductive norm in Erie is the default tendency to look to the state or federal governments, or some other outside source, to solve local problems."

Brennan acknowledged that Erie Refocused also warns against a diffusion of resources -- or "spreading limited resources" across several projects instead of focusing substantial funding on a few critical projects.

With its 4-3 vote, council, among other things, gave the Booker T. Washington Center an additional $6,000 for summer recreation programs, for a total of $12,000, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center an additional $5,775 for summer recreation programs, for a total of $12,000.

Brennan said the community centers need the money as they struggle to remain financially viable. The three centers -- the John F. Kennedy Center is the third -- have discussed merging to save money and survive.

"It is important that they need to come together in the future," Brennan said. But until then, he said, the centers need "money to provide the programs to inner city youth."

Brennan, echoing other council members, said council should "have more conversations" during the CDBG planning process.

The process, which the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development sets forth, starts in December and ends in May.

The city's Department of Economic and Community Development reviews applications for the city's CDBG funding and submits the plan to HUD.

Green, the department's director, told council Wednesday that she welcomes input. She also warned council about changing the city's CDBG plan at a late date.

The plan is due to HUD by Thursday.

"Any decisions made today are without the benefit of (City Council) reviewing all of the applications," Green said.

"It sets a dangerous precedent for how we're going to use this funding to support this community."

Staff writer Gerry Weiss contributed to this report.

ED PALATTELLA can be reached at 870-1813 or by e-mail. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNpalattella.

Published: May 06. 2016 12:25AM

Our view: City Council's funding swap lacks vision

Six worthy organizations -- providers of preschool, youth leadership training and adult learning -- benefited from Erie City Council's last-minute pivot Wednesday on a $70,000 chunk of the proposed $2.8 million 2016 Community Development Block Grant program.

Services offered by two Erie community centers, the Booker T. Washington and Martin Luther King Jr. centers, and the four other nonprofits are much needed in a city raked by job losses, blight and youth violence.

But the $70,000 that four members of council abruptly reallocated via Councilwoman Sonya Arrington's amendment in effect gutted a down payment on a new way of doing business in a city that can't afford to maintain the status quo.

Mayor Joe Sinnott's administration wanted to take the first step to implement the city's recently completed comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, by using the $70,000 to hire a new code enforcement officer for the city's east and west bayfront neighborhoods.

Sinnott said, and we agree, that bolstering bayfront code enforcement made sense because it tied data-driven strategic planning priorities to the work already underway by residents and their institutional partners, especially Erie Insurance Group, UPMC Hamot and Gannon University.

Instead, as Ed Palattella and Gerry Weiss reported, council sliced the $70,000 into peanut-sized allotments and redirected it-- $36,275 to the four nonprofits, and $12,000 between the MLK and Booker T. Washington centers -- leaving $21,975 for code enforcement, not enough to hire an officer.

The city's community centers link residents to life-changing resources, but have seen their CDBG allocations slashed by Congress. The centers need wholesale restructuring, not inconsequential funding boosts, especially when that funding undercuts the city's efforts to implement a research-based strategy to reverse decades of decline.

Erie Refocused consultant Charles Buki, in an unsparing cover letter, described Erie's future if its leadership stays trapped by the past.

"If Erie's near future is characterized by a continuation of the status quo -- beginning with how this draft comprehensive plan is rolled out ... then the city's long-term future can be seen by visiting Camden, N.J., Flint, Mich., Youngstown, Ohio, or Gary, Ind.," he wrote.

The first piece of Erie Refocused's corrective course lay before Arrington and the council members who voted with her Wednesday: David Brennan, Curtis Jones Jr. and Mel Witherspoon.

Let's hope at future crossroads, they steer toward a better Erie and away from the likes of Flint and Gary.

Published: May 05. 2016 1:16AM

Erie City Council cuts federal grant for code enforcement

By **Ed Palattella**
814-870-1813
ETNpalattella

Erie Times-News

Two of Erie's financially ailing community centers are due to get more money this summer for youth programs. But the funding boost will come at a cost.

To help the Booker T. Washington and Martin Luther King Jr. centers and other nonprofits, Erie City Council eliminated funding to address blight -- one of Mayor Joe Sinnott's first initiatives under the city's comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, which was released a month ago.

Council, in a 4-3 vote Wednesday, eliminated Sinnott's proposal to use $70,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant funding to pay for an additional code enforcement officer to focus on the east and west bayfront neighborhoods.

Council, through an amendment, directed administrators to use most of that money -- $48,275 -- to increase funding for the MLK and Booker T. Washington centers and to fund four other organizations. Code enforcement is expected to keep the remaining $21,725.

The amendment was to the $2.8 million CDBG plan the city must send to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by May 12.

Sinnott wanted his administration's CDBG proposal -- which council rarely has altered -- to stay intact, with the $70,000 for the code enforcement officer, who would have been the city's sixth.

"That was our first step in implementing the comprehensive plan, and council didn't support it," Sinnott said.

He said his administration cannot afford to fund the position out of the city's general fund budget, as council suggested. The CDBG funds, which HUD releases every July 1, supplement the city's regular revenue.

"It is not part of our regular budget," Sinnott said.

He said his administration saw the CDBG program "as an opportunity for another source of funding to use to provide for a specific target area -- a specific purpose for dealing with the comprehensive plan."

Those groups who supported the new code enforcement officer include Erie Insurance Group, which has worked to redevelop the lower east side, and Gannon University, which has focused on the lower west side.

Councilwoman Sonya Arrington sponsored the amendment that eliminated funding for the code enforcement officer and redistributed the money. Voting with her were council members David Brennan, Curtis Jones Jr. and Mel Witherspoon.

Voting against the amendment were council President Bob E. Merski and members Casimir Kwitowski and Jim Winarski. Merski also voted against approving the final, amended CDBG proposal, which passed 6-1.

Merski said he recognized the needs of the community organizations, but he said council needed to follow the recommendations of the comprehensive plan, in which consultant Charles Buki warned that the city must reduce blight and other problems to stop decline.

The code enforcement officer, Merski said, would be "not just for hundreds of residents, but thousands. I would like to fund everything, but we can't manage decline in this community any longer."

Arrington, whose son was shot to death in 2010, said the community centers and other organizations need more money immediately to prevent youth violence. The city's three community centers -- the John F. Kennedy Center is the third -- have seen their CDBG allocations slashed over the years as Congress has reduced CDBG funding nationwide.

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Funding Battle Not Over at Erie City Hall

Posted: May 05, 2016 6:16 PM EDT
Updated: May 05, 2016 6:20 PM EDT

By Emily Matson : CONNECT

A funding battle is far from over, at Erie city hall.
This, after the city administration hit a big speed bump, in implementing their plans, which they say will ensure the long-term success of the city of Erie.

The city paid a consultant $137,000 for a comprehensive plan for the city's future.

That plan made recommendations to strengthen neighborhoods and eliminate blight, to address decades of decline.

The first step to make that happen, is hiring a code enforcement officer to help tackle the massive amounts of blight throughout the city.

The administration proposed to do that through using $70,000 from a federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

But those plans were nixed by city council on Wednesday.

They instead, with a 4-3 vote, went with Councilwoman's Sonya Arrington's plan to fund community centers.

Sonya admittedly hasn't read the comprehensive plan, but says she thinks this money would be better spent on summer programs, helping inner-city youth," These community centers need funds, if we keep the kids busy, we'll keep them out of trouble, "said Arrington.

Councilman Bob Merski disagrees, "We need to prioritize what's going to be transformative in the city," said Merski. "You have a youth program that helps 50-100 people, or you can affect thousands of people by transforming entire neighborhoods that the students and the children live in," Merski added.

Arrington proposed to increase funds by $6,000 for the Booker T. Washington Center, and $5,775 for the MLK center, to $12,000 each. The amendment also provided $36,500 in CDBG funds to four non-profits of her choice. It's new funding for Early Connections, Nurturing Hearts, The Urban Erie Community Development Corporation, and the Youth Leadership Institute.

The city says the applications from other community centers who applied for funding were not reviewed as part of Arrington's proposal, "What we gave them, that was crumbs," said Arrington. "That was crumbs that we gave them, and I really don't understand what the issue is, it's going to a great cause," Arrington added.

What it comes down to, it's really a disagreement on how this particular federal grant funding source should be used, "Yes, we have a problem with blighted houses and stuff, but right now, that's the least of our worries," said Arrington. "We need to worry about all these shootings and killings. We have lost a whole generation of young men getting killed over the last 6 or 7 years, and that's more important to me than raggity houses," Arrington continued.

"We can't keep doing business as usual, the centers do great work, but we have to utilize our CBG money to transform the city," said Merski. "And
we can't just keep funding social service agencies that should be funded with private money, and grant money from the private sector. We have to use our public money to transform this community in ways that we haven't done before," Merski added.

In citing consultant Charles Buki in the comprehensive plan report, Merski says, "If we keep doing business as usual, as Buki says right in the report, 'we're just going to manage the slow decline of the city,' and I'm not for that," said Merski.

But is there a conflict of interest?

Arrington runs a non-profit out of the Booker T. Washington Center, and some CDBG funds go towards Arrington's Leadership Empowerment Accountability Diversity program, or LEAD. She also has close ties to some of the non-profits which received funding.

For those reasons, Kim Green, the city's Director of Economic and Community Development, has to notify the federal funding agency, to ensure it's okay that Arrington proposed the amendment, and did not abstain from voting for it.

ALSO ON ERIETVNEWS.COM

Waterford Motorcycle-Tractor Crash Leaves One Dead

Published: May 04. 2016 12:17PM

Erie Council sends more federal money to centers

By **Ed Palattella**
814-870-1813
ETNpalattella

Erie Times-News

Erie City Council today rejected using $70,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant money to pay for an additional code enforcement officer to address blight.

In a 6-1 vote, with council President Bob Merski in the opposition, council directed the administration of Mayor Joe Sinnott to redistribute most of that money to provide additional funding to two of the city's three community centers -- the Martin Luther King Jr. Center and the Booker T. Washington Center -- and other community organizations.

Each of the two centers would get about an additional $6,000, which would raise their CDBG allocations to $12,000 each.

The vote means the Sinnott administration must amend its $2.8 million CDBG plan, which is due to the U.S. Department of Housing and Development by May 12 -- a change that could delay release of all of the city's CDBG money past the regular July 1 release date, according to what officials said at today's meeting.

City Councilwoman Sonya Arrington proposed today's amendment. She said she wants the city to pay for the additional code enforcement officer out of regular funds, and wants more of the CDBG money to go toward youth programs.

Arrington runs an anti-violence program that meets at the Booker T. Washington Center, but said her program receives no CDBG funding.

The city's director of economic and community development, Kim Green, said she needs to look into whether Arrington's program at the Booker T. Washington Center means the city must alert HUD to a possible conflict of interest, which could further delay release of all the CDBG funding.

The city uses the funds to help pay for, among other things, police overtime and summer recreation programs.

See Thursday's Erie Times-News and GoErie.com for more coverage.

Published: May 04. 2016 2:42PM

Erie Council sends more federal money to centers

By **Ed Palattella**
814-870-1813
ETNpalattella

Erie Times-News

Erie City Council today rejected using $70,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant money to pay for an additional code enforcement officer to address blight.

Council then voted to redistribute most of that $70,000 to provide additional funding to two of the city's three community centers -- the Martin Luther King Jr. Center and the Booker T. Washington Center -- and other community organizations.

Each of the two centers would get about an additional $6,000, which would raise their CDBG allocations to $12,000 each.

Council voted 4-3 to approve an amendment to eliminate the code enforcement officer from the city's CDBG plan and redistribute the money, within the plan, to the community centers and elsewhere.

Voting in favor of that amendment were Sonya Arrington, who proposed it; David Brennan; Curtis Jones Jr.; and Mel Witherspoon. Voting against the amendment were council President Bob E. Merski, Casimir Kwitowski and Jim Winarski.

Council then voted 6-1, with Merski in opposition, to approve the amended CDBG plan.

The $2.8 million CDBG plan is due to the U.S. Department of Housing and Development by May 12, and today's changes could delay release of all of the city's CDBG money past the regular July 1 release date, according to what officials said at today's meeting.

"We need to redirect a lot of that CDBG money and help our community, and help our community centers," Arrington said.

Arrington runs an anti-violence program that meets at the Booker T. Washington Center, but she said her program receives no CDBG funding.

The city's director of economic and community development, Kim Green, said she needs to look into whether Arrington's program means the city must alert HUD to a possible conflict of interest, which Green said could delay the release of all the CDBG funding by July 1.

The money helps pay for, among other things, summer recreation programs at the community centers, street paving, playground improvements and overtime for police officers in high-crime areas.

"We will do everything we can to move forward with the priorities that council has set out for us," Green said after Wednesday's vote. "We are going to do everything we can to get this to HUD by May 12, so we don't disrupt any services."

ED PALATTELLA can be reached at 870-1813 or by e-mail. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNpalattella.GERRY WEISS can be reached at 870-1884 or by e-mail. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNweiss.

Redistribution of funds
Six nonprofits will benefit under the amendment to the city's funding plan for the federal Community Development Block Grant Program.
- Booker T. Washington Center -- Additional $6,000 for summer recreation programs; total of $12,000.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Center -- Additional $5,775 for summer recreation programs; total of $12,000.
- Early Connections Learning Center -- $12,000 in new funding.
- Urban Erie Community Development Corp. -- $12,000 in new funding.
- Nurturing Hearts self-esteem program-- $7,500 in new funding.
- Youth Leadership Institute -- $5,000 in new funding.

Councilwoman Sonya Arrington, the amendment's sponsor, said she asked for no funds for the city's third community center, the John F. Kennedy Center, because it is already getting $12,724 for summer recreation.

Arrington said she wants the city to pay for the additional code enforcement officer out of regular funds, and wants more of the CDBG money to go toward youth programs.

Arrington runs an anti-violence program that meets at the Booker T. Washington Center, but said her program receives no CDBG funding.

The city's director of economic and community development, Kim Green, said she needs to look into whether Arrington's program at the Booker T. Washington Center means the city must alert HUD to a possible conflict of interest, which could further delay release of all the CDBG funding.

The city uses the funds to help pay for, among other things, police overtime and summer recreation programs.

See Thursday's Erie Times-News and GoErie.com for more coverage.

Published: April 12. 2016 12:03AM

Erie's CDBG funding subject of public meeting

By Kevin Flowers
814-870-1693

Erie Times-News

Erie Mayor Joe Sinnott's administration wants to hire a new code enforcement officer to focus specifically on the city's east bayfront and west bayfront neighborhoods.

That is among the funding proposals up for discussion this morning at a public hearing on how the city wants to use its most recent allocation of federal Community Development Block Grant dollars.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m. in Bagnoni Council Chambers at City Hall, 626 State St.

The Erie Times-News/GoErie.com reported March 24 that the city's CDBG plan for 2016-17 suggests allocating $420,493 toward code enforcement and of that amount, roughly $70,000 would be available to pay for the yearly salary and benefits for another code enforcement worker.

The city currently employs five code enforcement officers who concentrate on enforcing the housing and building codes for the roughly 38,000 structures within city limits.

Sinnott has said the new code enforcement officer would support revitalization efforts already underway in those areas. Andy Zimmerman, Erie's manager of code enforcement, said that the new employee would allow the other five code enforcement officers to focus more on the rest of the city.

Kim Green, the city's director of economic and community development, said that the city expects to receive $2.6 million in CDBG funding from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year that begins July 1 and runs through June 30, 2017.

The money is used yearly to fund a variety of projects and programs, such as street improvements, public safety, housing rehabilitation and recreation programs. The city also uses CDBG dollars to help fund programs administered by various nonprofits.

Erie City Council must sign off on the overall CDBG plan, including the hiring of a new code enforcement officer.

KEVIN FLOWERS can be reached at 870-1693 or by e-mail. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNflowers.

Published: March 27. 2016 12:08AM

Sinnott: new code enforcement officer would provide 'enhanced presence' on bayfront

By Kevin Flowers
814-870-1693

Erie Times-News

Hiring a code enforcement officer to focus specifically on Erie's east bayfront and west bayfront neighborhoods should support revitalization efforts already underway in those areas.

That is Mayor Joe Sinnott's take on his administration's plan to use Community Development Block Grant dollars to create a new code enforcement position.

"We felt an enhanced presence in those neighborhoods would help the efforts in those areas, and help those entities working in those areas move along more quickly," Sinnott said in an interview last week.

The Erie Times-News reported Thursday that the city's CDBG plan for 2016-17 suggests allocating $420,493 toward code enforcement. Of that amount, roughly $70,000 would be available to pay for the yearly salary and benefits for another code enforcement worker.

There are five code enforcement officers who concentrate on enforcing the housing and building codes for the roughly 38,000 structures within city limits.

Andy Zimmerman, Erie's manager of code enforcement, said the new employee would allow the other five code enforcement officers to focus more on the rest of the city.

City officials want one code enforcement officer to focus on the east and west bayfront neighborhoods for several reasons.

One is that improving bayfront neighborhoods is expected to be a key recommendation in the city's comprehensive, multiyear development plan, which should be completed by Alexandria, Va.-based urban planning firm CZB later this week.

The comprehensive plan will address Erie's future needs in a number of areas, including housing, transportation, land use and economic development.

"One of the (expected) recommendations in the forthcoming comp plan is that (the bayfront) should have attention. It's an opportunity area for us," Sinnott said. "That's why we decided to do the CDBG funding."

Both areas also have active neighborhood organizations working with the city to improve those areas, city officials said.

The Our West Bayfront group focuses on the area west of Sassafras Street, east of the Bayfront Parkway, south of Presque Isle Bay and north of West 12th Street. On the east bayfront, the Bayfront East Side Taskforce focuses on the area between the bayfront and East Sixth Street, from State Street east to Wayne Street.

Further, both Gannon University, on the west bayfront, and Erie Insurance, on the east bayfront, have invested millions in private dollars into those neighborhoods.

Officials from both Gannon and Erie Insurance have said they support the city's proposal to hire a new code enforcement officer.

Erie City Council President Bob E. Merski said he supports the proposal, calling it "a wise investment."

Council must sign off on the overall CDBG plan, including the hiring of a new code enforcement officer. Council has scheduled a public hearing on the plan April 12 at City Hall, 626 State St.

"Partnering with the private sector to enhance our city produces a bigger return on investment if done properly than (if) done in isolation," Merski said.

KEVIN FLOWERS can be reached at 870-1693 or by e-mail. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNflowers.

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ATTACHMENT

Citizen Participation Letters

I moved from 7th & reed because problems with Bed bugs roaches and mice I had Termix coming over to spray and set Traps each month and I did not like the neighborhood

Jeff Kosmatine

12 E. 9th street ~~Apt~~ P.O. Box 1122 Erie Pa. 16512

1712 Mobile Ave Erie, PA 16502
(814) 923-2682

3-7-16

Currently I feel as if housing conditions are outrageous! I currently am in the process of moving to the west side from the east side. During my process of searching for a 2 bedroom house to rent, I looked at too many unaffordable apartments in "bad" neighborhoods. There were rediculous fee's involved with applying to live at these places. It took me two months to locate a house that fit our needs. One thing that played a huge role in making this process hard such as having a small dog. There should be more rentals available and accomating to dogs w/ huge nonrefundable fee's. I think many things need to be changed for housing such as more affordable accomodating, and safe!

thank you
Courtney Fox

I moved in September at this New Apt. The landlord tries to Raise the rent every other month. We dont have no lease. We have cockroaches and bed bugs. he Wont haved it sprayed at all. We pay for Water and sewer every 3 months. Not every 2 months. Its not fair.

Michele Boyle
531 E. 22nd St Apt 2
Erie pa 16503

Charles Williams 3/27/16
1023, Pa, French, ST
Erie, Pa 16501

I am wrighing This Letter for Housein my back round somtime Keep me forl, geting Houseing, What can I do To get some help, we my problem, Right Now I am homeless, And I need Some where To live. It's importand for have susport. I hope This letter help us get better susport with are problems.

Thank very much

GECAC community Action
GREATER ERIE COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE
50 Years of Community Action!

Ronald A. Steele
Chief Executive Officer

Gwendolyn White
Board Chairperson

MAR 28 2016

March 23, 2016

Kim Green, Director
Department of Economic & Community Development
City of Erie
626 State Street, Room 404
Erie, PA 16501

Dear Ms. Green:

We were very disappointed to find that City of Erie's Community Development Block Grant Action Plan for the year beginning July 1, 2016 did not include Aging In-home Services. The funds for this program provided 15,916 units of service for elderly persons who resided in the target areas in the City of Erie in 2015. At least 75 percent of those clients have incomes that are 150 percent of the federal poverty level or below.

These funds represent vital local match that allows GECAC to leverage other State and Federal funds to provide a network of direct services to seniors in Erie. The CDBG funds support our efforts to reduce the number of eligible consumers in the City of Erie who would normally be place on a wait list for services.

We respectfully request that you revisit your budgeting for CDBG to include the Aging In-Home Services so that we may more fully serve the senior citizens of Erie. If you have any questions, please call Georgia Del Freo at (814) 459-4581 ext. 402. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Ronald A. Steele

Ronald A. Steele
Chief Executive Officer

RONALD LORD, CHAIRMAN
GERRY VANDEMERWE, CEO

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Ms. Kim Green
Director, Community and Economic Development
City of Erie
626 State Street
Erie, PA 16501

Dear Kim,

Thank you again for the opportunity to address leadership on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 in support of the Administration and Council's consideration of funding of the Downtown Y Teen Center through CDBG.

The YMCA of Greater Erie is the 2nd oldest nonprofit in Erie County (1860) with a local, state and national reputation for quality and fiscally-sound program delivery based on community needs and impact. With a long-standing commitment to growing youth into the leaders of tomorrow, Y volunteers in 1946 wrote, "there are 18,500 boys in Erie under age 18. What they are to be is determined today, right here. The Erie Y is in this community for through it there is the opportunity to help youth choose wisely, act courageously and get ready for the days ahead." This commitment is true today. Historically a pioneer in delivering community-based programs, the Y boasts a long, proud list of collaborations including decade long year-round collaborations in working with inner-city youth in the City of Erie and Erie Housing Authority as well as a 12 site meals for kids program. Our central 10th & Peach location is on a city bus route and is viewed by teens as neutral territory from gang activity.

The Y's Teen Center provides a comprehensive neutral location offering educational, recreational and cultural programming exclusively for teens. Collaborations with many partners augment our programmatic offerings. The expansion to the 5th floor of the Downtown Y in 2015 provides for opportunities to incubate like-minded non-profits and increase the number of programs that can be accessed by teens in one central location. Currently, we are in conversations with Unified Erie, Blue Coats and Nurturing Hearts.

Since opening in 2008, we have grown from a handful of teens to most recent attendance in February of 190 individual teens, visiting over 600 times and serving more than 1,665 meals.

To achieve this growth, we have had to build our internal capacity to delivering programs of interest and impact. We first ramped up our fundraising efforts generating contributions from the Erie Community Foundation, individuals, local family foundations, business, the United Way and maximizing the neighborhood tax credit program. We raised $515,000 to renovate our new space. We also ramped up our recruitment of volunteers into positions of program delivery.

In 1946, Y leaders wrote, "he made a false start. He had taken off on the wrong foot. A friend thought that the "Y" might hold the solution. For when a boy decides to alter the course of his life, to set new goals and ambitions, he needs the steadying support and strength of sympathetic adult friends . . particularly this is true if he is severing old friendships, avoiding old haunts, and drawing away from questionable activities."

Why does our program work? The simple answer is because we have a long-standing reputation of shaping the young people of the Erie community. A more detailed explanation centers around the Developmental Assets which states young people need to perceive that the community values youth. Successful relationships demand a mutual level of respect and trust. When teens come to the Y, we know little about their circumstances. Job one is to gain their respect and trust; only then, will they open up and become involved.

We recognize the importance of having a strong staff to not only manage the operations of the Teen Center, but to build solid, lasting relationships. We currently have 1 full time director and 6 part time staff that deliver programs, perform administrative duties to fulfill grant requirements, clean, cook, etc. We anticipate adding at least 2 more staff this year.

As you can appreciate our number one job – if we do nothing else is to create a safe space for the teens and to surround them with caring adults. A code of conduct guides behavior at the Y and a zero tolerance policy is enforced. The Downtown Y building is quite large – lots of nooks and crannies – and while a majority of programming happens in the Community Learning Center, an equal amount happens throughout the building – including fitness programs, swimming and recreational programs – meaning that not only do we have to have adults covering the Community Learning Center and delivering the programs there – but, we have to have staff covering the other parts of the building where programs are also taking place.

Staff becomes confidants, advisors, friends, mentors and more – and, the more consistent we can keep our staffing mix, the deeper the relationships we can develop and more impact on their lives.

We also need staff to serve and prepare meals – which is a growing need – and, as summer approaches – food insecurity grows too.

And, transportation – the more we partner with other organizations – and take our kids off site, and bring other kids here -we need to provide a bus driver and a minimum of two staff for every off-site trip. We are fortunate to have a fleet of buses within the Y and can bring this asset to the table when working with others.

We have recently added Saturday hours open currently from 12-5 p.m. – this in addition to our weekday hours of 3-9 p.m. Monday-Friday. We are not aware of any other "center" serving teens with weekend hours.

The program's goal is to develop teens into contributing adult members of the Erie community. "He joined the Y when he was 13. Quickly he became a regular. He's 28 today, still a member and now, an active volunteer. He has taken a keen interest in the youth who are traveling the path he traveled. And, he's taken his place in the community - he's a community asset. He has established a home, a business. When we see this young man today, we believe he is, in part, a product of the Y."

Teens involved are exposed to an increased number of the 40 Developmental Assets which research consistently shows that the more Developmental Assets young people have, the more likely they are to be prepared for life and the less likely they are to engage in a wide range of high-risk behaviors. Teens involved in our program have the chance to demonstrate positive behavior choices and engagement in and value education.

Our approach to programming is a "no ego zone" – where nonprofits and programs join together to leverage assets and deliver programs. Some examples include:

- Life Thru Music – Corey Cook's music program currently housed at East High – is offered 2 times per week – and, in February had 72 participants. We trade space for Corey's expertise.
- Life Thru Dance – partnership, again with Corey Cook – and the Erie Dance Theater at the MLK Center – working on joint performances.
- Young Entrepreneurs Society – Kevin Arrington – teaches college readiness, soft skills for post secondary education. This partnership will expand and include Career Street – we'll be helping to connect our 8th graders to tours - and, paying for the transportation.
- Club Fit – MJ Taylor/Gannon University program at East & Strong Vincent High Schools – to build the relationship with the girls, the Y is sending 1 staff member per week to the Clubs and bringing the girls to the Y – 1 time per week – we are paying for the transportation
- JFK Center – we have about 15 dual enrolled youth – we invite their youth to come to the Y and we go there – share field trips and transportation costs – and, we currently are their fiscal sponsor for their On Track college module software.
- Nurturing Hearts – self-esteem program for girls – currently working on locating her program permanently at the Teen Center.

We believe our uniqueness begins with our mission to serve body, mind and spirit. Beyond our doors, it is only here that youth have the opportunity to interact with people diverse in ethnicity, income, profession and age. Our central/neutral location, with dedicated space just for teens, provides public transportation accessibility. Our hours provide a safe and engaging place for teens long after other centers and schools have closed. An incentive program motivates participation.

While other Centers have become dependent on CDBG funding, we see it as a funding stream to augment our funding mix and a chance to ramp up our staffing model to deliver on the program's outcomes and logic model as long as the funding stream is available.

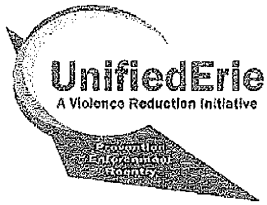
Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tammy Roche
Vice President, Financial Development, Membership and Marketing
YMCA of Greater Erie

Neighborhood Resource Organization

"Empowering the Erie area one neighborhood at a time."



www.nroerie.org

Dave Deter, Executive Director
ddeter@nroerie.org

March 21, 2016

Ms. Debra Smith, Grant Administrator
City of Erie
Department of Economic and Community Development
Room 404
626 State Street
Erie PA 16501

Re: Comments on Community Development Needs – Annual Planning Process

Dear Ms. Smith:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Community Development needs of the City of Erie as your department undertakes the process of developing its FY2016 Annual Plan.

The primary mission of the Neighborhood Resource Organization (NRO) is to build the capacity of neighborhood groups and associations through the provision of training, information, resources and technical assistance to empower them to make positive change in their communities.

I would like to note that the work of the NRO Is aligned with the *Destination Erie* regional master plan's focus on *Vibrant and Safe Communities*, which encourages neighborhood partnerships that assist residents in shaping their community's future by supporting their efforts in developing neighborhood strategic plans and providing technical assistance and resources to address identified priority issues. In addition, the NRO has been identified as a critical stakeholder to implement a second priority of the master plan, which encourages the adoption of a regional strategy that addresses decaying/abandoned properties through data collection, code enforcement and the creation of a Housing Court.

Similarly, the work of the NRO is aligned with the goals outlined in the City's draft Comprehensive Plan for neighborhood strengthening and stabilization by developing individual

neighborhood strategic revitalization plans, improving the residents' sense of security and attachment to community, and addressing blighting influences and improving the appearance of neighborhoods.

The NRO welcomes the opportunity to partner with the City of Erie, and is requesting a modest investment of CDBG funds to support our efforts to build the capacity of neighborhood groups.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide input for this planning process. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

David W. Deter
Executive Director
Neighborhood Resource Organization

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

GRANTEE UNIQUE ATTACHMENTS

2016 Second Annual Action Plan Projects Funded for CDBG, HOME, and ESG

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

Affirmative Marketing Policy

HOME Investment Partnership Recapture Policy and Resale Policy

Emergency Solutions Grant Guidelines

MBE/WBE ordinance

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

GRANTEE UNIQUE
ATTACHMENTS

2016 Second Annual Action Plan Projects funded for CDBG, HOME, and ESG

APPENDIX B
PROPOSED

3/28/2106

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY
ACTION PLAN FOR 2016 - CONSOLIDATED PLAN (CP)
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017
B-16-MC-42-0101

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit L/M Income	Slum & Blight	Urgent Need	Totals
	ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY				$ 39,550
	CD16 -4a, ERA Acquisition		39,550		
	DISPOSITION				$ -
			0		
	PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS				$ 659,098
	CD16-16a, JFK Center - Water Fountains	8,250			
	Park/Playground Improvements				
	CD16 -13, Park/Playground Improvements	25,000			
	Force Account				
	Street Improvements				
	CD-16-2d, Handicapped Curb Cuts	425,848			
	-2 , Streets Resurfacing	200,000			
	CLEARANCE				$ 150,000
	CD16 -5d, City Demolition		150,000		

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit L/M Income	Slum & Blight	Urgent Need	Totals
	PUBLIC SERVICE				$ 618,909
	CD16- 3, Summer Recreation	10,000			
	-3c, JFK Center - Summer	12,724			
	-3d, BTW Center - Summer	6,000			
	-3e, MLK Center - Summer	6,225			
	-3f, Trinity Center - Summer	8,960			
	-119, Community Policing	500,000			
	-139, St. Martin Center	25,000			
	-168, YMCA Downtown Teen Center	50,000			
	REHABILITATION				$ 312,276
	CD16 -4, ERA Housing Rehab	306,276			
	-17e, GECAC Weatherization	6,000			
	CODE ENFORCEMENT				$ 420,493
	CD16 -1, Bureau of Housing	$420,493			
					$ 15,000
	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE				
	CD16-169,Mercyhurst Civic Inst.-Neigh. Res.Org	15,000			
	REHABILITATION - Commercial/Industrial Rehabilitation				$ 57,000
	CD16-86a, ERA Façade Renov./Buildings etc.		57,000		
	SUB-TOTALS	**$2,025,776**	**246,550**		**$ 2,272,326**

Total cost subject to benefit rule is $2,316,050. Expenditures planned to principally benefit low and moderate income persons is $2,025,776 or 89% of the total cost subject to program benefit rules.

CP Code	Activity	Program Benefit LM Income	Slum & Blight	Urgent Need	Totals
	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION				$ 561,350
	CD16-19, DECD	561,350			
	Planning and Capacity Building				
		0			
	SUB-TOTALS				$ 561,350
	TOTAL PROGRAM COST				2,833,676.00
	HUD FY2016 Base Allocation				2,804,599.00
	Program Income				29,077.00
	Reprogramming funds				43,724.47
	total				2,877,400.47
	Difference between Total Program Cost and HUD Alloc.				43,724.47

APPENDIX C
PROPOSED

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program
FY2016 Allocation
5/12/16

ESG Program funds are made available to the City of Erie by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as amended by the Hearth Act of 2009. The program is designed to reduce the incidence of homelessness in Continuum of Care communities by assisting homeless individuals and families in quickly transitioning to self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

Use of funds has the following limitations:

FY2015 Total Allocation	$252,664
Street Out/Emer Shelter may use greater of	
60% of recipient's fiscal year grant or	$151,598
Hold Harmless Need (HHN) derived from FY2010	$147,101

Use of funds by the City of Erie provides for the renovation, operations, delivery of essential services, etc. at the six (6) Emergency Shelters, (3) Transitional Living facilities, and one (1) Rapid Re-Housing Provider. The allocations proposed for the FY2016 program year are as follows:

		FY 2016	Total # of Beds	Prior Year 2015 Allocation	Proposed Allocation	Actual # of beds for 2016 Allocation
Allocation for Emergency Shelter & Transitional Living	(60%)	$151,598				
Emergency Shelter:						
Community Shelter Services			55	$ 28,490	$ 26,632	39
St. Patrick's Haven			21	$ 13,533	12,976	19
SafeNet (Hospitality House)			43	$ 12,820	16,389	24
City Mission			56	$ 34,188	34,144	50
The Refuge			32	$ 13,533	13,657	20
Community of Caring			24	$ 17,094	15,706	23
Transitional Living:						
Mercy Center for Women			27	$ 15,669	$ 15,706	23
SafeNet (Bridge House)			28	$ 9,972	10,926	16
SafeNet (TLC)			12	$ 7,122	5,463	8
GECAC Rapid Re-Housing:	(32.5%)	$ 82,116		$ 82,565	$ 82,116	
Administration	(7.5%)	$ 18,950		$ 19,050	$ 18,949	
Totals	100%	$252,664	298	$254,036	$252,664	222

The allocation of ESG funds is based on the ratio of the daily average number of beds provided per facility to the daily average provided by all facilities, times the amount of ESG funds available for the street outreach/emergency shelter activity. **This year's allocation is based on the 2014 average daily bed count.**

HOME ALLOCATION 2016

3-Jun-16

		Amount
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie	ERA - Housing Rehabilitation	$200,000
*HANDS - Our West Bayfront	New Construction - Rental	$234,783
*HANDS - Mid Town #7	New Construction - Rental	$137,070
HANDS - CHDO Operating	Operating Expenses	$20,923
City Administration	Administration	$65,863
		$658,639

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

GRANTEE UNIQUE
ATTACHMENTS

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
1) The poor condition of much of the housing stock in Erie County affordable to lower-income households limits the array of neighborhoods from which they can choose to live.	**Improve the supply of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households.**	Continue to provide incentives for property owners and investors to build new apartment buildings or substantially rehabilitate existing buildings for occupancy by lower-income families, specifically in non-RCAP areas.	DECD, local developers and non-profit CHDOs	N/A	2015-2019	TBD Based on project requests	On-going through review of applications	The City of Erie remains open to all applications proposing rental developments outside the CD Impact Area Completed Goodrich Apts (6 units) 11/2015 and Freedom Square (24 units) 4/2016 outside of CD Impact Area. Planning in process in CD Impact Area for Center City Apts. Rehab (20 units), Columbus Apts. Rehab (23 units), Two (2) single-family homes in Mid-Town Dev., and two (2) single family homes in Our West Bayfront.
	Improve the supply of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households	Continue outreach efforts to large landlords with units outside of RCAPs. Conduct marketing to recruit additional landlords to accept Section 8 vouchers, in particular those with units in areas south of the City's Target Area.	HACE	Letters sent to landlords	2015-2019	$0	On-going	During HACE Section 8 orientation sessions, voucher holders are given a City of Erie map which delineates the general housing quality found within 30 Census Tracts in the City. Applicants are encouraged to seek housing outside of the traditional CDBG Impact Areas. However, in

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE - CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
Impediment (1) continued from previous page	**See previous page**	See previous page	See previous page	See previous page	See previous page	See previous page	See previous page	many cases, the fair market rents allowed may not be sufficient to support the rents charged for units in these neighborhoods. HACE will continue ongoing outreach efforts to potential Section 8 landlords outside of designated impact areas.
	Improve the supply of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households	Continue to enforce the rental registration program.	City of Erie – Code Enforcement	N/A	2015-2019	$0	On-going	
	Improve the supply of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households	Continue to implement the recommendations of the Blight Strategic Investment Report, including creating an inventory of existing conditions and regulatory systems, program design based on market conditions and consideration of tools such as land banking.	City of Erie – Code Enforcement Vacant Property Review Board Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie	N/A	2015-2019	Fy2016 Salaries of Code Officers $373,218 Redevelopment Authority for Acquisition $39,550	On-going	
	Create an adequate supply of affordable housing accessible to people with mobility disabilities	Encourage developers to apply a minimum set-aside requirement of accessible units to all assisted housing projects, including those financed with non-federal funds.	City of Erie – DECD	N/A	2015-2019	$0	Discussions on-going	

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE - CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
Impediment (1) continued from previous page	**Create an adequate supply of affordable housing accessible to people with mobility disabilities**	Encourage developers to provide new housing units financed with HOME funds to meet visitability standards.	City of Erie – Code Enforcement	N/A	2015-2019 N/A	Resolution adopted 11/21/2007	On-going for all building permits in the City of Erie Code-Enforcement Office	
2) On the whole, household incomes in the last decade did not grow at a pace commensurate with housing costs, and members of the protected classes were more likely to be affected by the worsening mismatch.	**Increase access to home ownership for minority households.**	Continue to financially support the efforts to local fair housing organizations and certified housing counselors to advertise the provision of housing counseling.	City of Erie – DECD St. Martin Center Redevelopment Authority	N/A	2015-2019	On-going through Homebuyer Programs FY2015 HOME $125,000	On-going	
	Increase access to decent, affordable housing for refugees and migrant workers.	To the extent feasible, continue to support financial management education and credit counseling, particularly for refugee and migrant populations, encourage HACE and St. Martin Center to increase the effectiveness of its credit/budget counseling referral program to prepare immigrants and refugees to obtain affordable housing.	HACE	2015-2019	N/A	FY2016 CDBG $25,000	On-going funding to St. Martin Center	

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE - CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
Impediment (2) continued from previous page	**Increase access to homeownership for eligible lower-income households.**	Continue to offer down payment and/or closing cost assistance to qualify lower-income house-holds through subrecipient agencies and local CHDOs	City of Erie – DECD Redevelopment Authority	2015-2019	2015-2019	FY2015 HOME $125,000	On-going	
3) While County land use and planning principles appear to be consistent with fair housing principles and best practices, the real power is exercised by municipalities, whose leaders and staff members may not unequivocally understand why or how to affirmatively further fair housing.	**Ensure that City business is conducted in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing.**	Arrange for new Council members, other elected officials, department heads and persons appointed to Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board to receive training on fair housing rights and responsibilities.	City of Erie – DECD	Completed survey of appointed Board and Commission members.	N/A	$0	Will send out survey on a yearly basis On-going	A survey completed and distributed on 10/9/12. Will send out survey annually
	Remove policy barriers to fair housing choice.	Amend the Zoning Ordinance to (1) define "family" according to function instead of the relationship between members, and (2) include a reasonable accommodation provision instead of a variance.	City of Erie – Zoning	Definition of Family is broadly defined Section 205.17 Reasonable Accommodation Provision provided for Definition of Family	2012-2013	$0	9/26/12	The City believes that the September 26, 2012 City Zoning Ordinance successfully addressed the perceived impediments.

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE - CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
Impediment (3) continued from previous page	**Build flexibility into Zoning Ordinance and map to allow for creative approaches to affordable housing development.**	Consider amending the Zoning Ordinance to add a provision for transit-oriented development and encourage residential uses above ground-floor storefronts in commercial areas.	City of Erie	Not a Zoning Issue	N/A	$0	N/A	
4) The Growing Hispanic population in Erie County, along with other refugee and migrant groups, may face language barriers in becoming aware of, accessing and participating in local housing programs and services.	**Increase meaningful access for persons with limited English proficiency, in particular Erie's migrant worker and refugee populations.**	Continue to provide language services (interpreters, translators, etc.) on an as-needed basis.	City of – DECD	N/A	2015-2019	FY2016 CDBG $3,000	On-going	
5) Some of the policies and procedures of agencies administering federal housing and community development funds could be improved from a fair housing perspective.	**Balance the revitalization of lower-opportunity areas with the creation of affordable housing choices in higher-opportunity areas.**	Eliminate the CD Impact Areas as a geographic basis for CPD program investment; instead, re-evaluate individual neighborhoods citywide to determine where investments by type would be most effective.	City of Erie – DECD	Housing Projects are City-wide	2015-2019	FY2016 $200,000 HOME FY2016 $306,276 CDBG	On-going through Rehab and Homebuyer Programs	
	Ensure that City policies and procedures affirmatively further fair housing	Continue to assess the location of all proposed affordable housing activities during the application review phase to determine if the project will	City of Erie – DECD	N/A	2016	$0	On-going through review of applications	

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE - CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
Impediment (5) continued from previous page	**Continued from previous page**	perpetuate segregation or promote integration; map the addresses of all new affordable housing initiatives as part of the CAPER process.						
	Ensure that City policies and procedures affirmatively further fair housing	Amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow group homes for up to eight residents as a use permitted by right anywhere a single-family home would be similarly treated.	City of Erie – Zoning	Group homes are permitted on special exception in all residential districts. See Definition	Completed	$0	9/26/2012	The City believes that the September 26, 2012 City Zoning Ordinance successfully addressed the perceived impediments.
6) The boundaries of program jurisdictions present obstacles to desegregation that must be addressed collaboratively.	**Ensure that all CDBG entitlement jurisdictions are affirmatively furthering fair housing.**	Formalize regional efforts to address fair housing issues by strengthening the relationships between CDBG grantee municipalities and the HRC. A more formal relationship could provide the basis on which to seek funding for regional actions to address impediments, such as testing, education and outreach.	City of Erie - DECD	On-going partnership with HRC and DECD, including Mayor's Roundtable and Housing Sub-Committee of the Mayor's Roundtable	On-going	2015-2019 Funding	On-going	
7) Limited public transportation options and rising costs of transportation in general limit location options for many lower-income households.	**Improve connections between lower-income population and employment opportunities.**	Continue to participate in EMTA's long-range planning efforts to promote the expansion of public transit service in non-impacted, high growth areas, particularly right-to-work routes	Emerge 2040	2015-2019 EMTA will expand weekday bus service in Fairview Town-ship, Girard and Lake City in Fall 2016	On-going	$0	On-going	

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE - CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
	Improve connections between lower-income population and employment opportunities	Continue to prioritize investment criteria to incentivize affordable housing development on major corridors with public transit service, and in higher opportunity areas.	City of Erie	On-going DECD Market Study and Underwriting Analysis includes assessment of access to transit, employment, and economic opportunity	On-going			
8) Fair housing advocacy agencies in the County require more effective coordination to maximize the extent to which their services collaboratively meet the needs of Erie residents.	**Strengthen the local fair housing infrastructure.**	Use team assembled among CDBG grantees to address need for cooperation among partners on topics including (but not limited to) the system for filing and monitoring discrimination complaints and seeking funding for fair housing efforts.	City of Erie Human Relations Commission St. Martin Center	2015-2019	On-going	$0	On-going	
9) Housing discrimination persists in the private market, according to complaints data received at the federal, state and local levels.	**Increased fair housing awareness among housing providers and residents.**	Support the efforts of local and regional fair housing advocacy organizations in undertaking paired real estate testing, both for rental and sales housing, through continued funding which may be used for testing.	City of Erie Human Relations Commission	Completion of real estate testing at three (3) sites within the City	Completed June, 2015	$10,000	On-going Funding in 2017-2018	
	Increased fair housing awareness among housing providers and residents.	Continue education and outreach efforts related to fair housing, including publication of such material online, in print in County offices, and via other means to the extent feasible.	City of Erie	On-going- Fair Housing posters & literature in DECD office. Enforce- ment of City's Affirm. Marketing Policy & Proced. with HUD grantees	On-going	$0	On-going	

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE - CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
	Increased fair housing awareness among housing providers and residents.	To the extent feasible, effectuate a fair housing outreach and training strategy that is aimed at the most significant need, as determined by testing and tracking the nature of discrimination complaints, with support from local and regional fair housing advocates.	St. Martin Center	Completed Fair Housing Strategy based on real estate testing	2015-2019	FY2016 CDBG $25,000	On-going	Education and outreach is on-going. However the testing component tentatively to be done by ECHRC is in place.
	Increased fair housing awareness among housing providers and residents.	Create a fair housing guide that outlines fair housing rights and responsibilities, post on the City's website.	City of Erie – DECD	Completed Fair Housing guide on website	2011	Staff time	Completed 3/22/12. Posted on City of Erie website	
10) Patterns of disparity continue to exist in private mortgage lending.	**Eliminate mortgage discrimination.**	Continue to connect residents with HUD-certified counselors to target credit repair education through existing advocacy organizations that work extensively with members of the protected classes.	St. Martin Center	On-going	2015-2019	FY2016 CDBG $25,000	On-going	

SUMMARY OF 2016 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – CITY OF ERIE - CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
	Mitigate the impacts of foreclosures on members of the protected classes.	To the extent resources are available, work with organizations such as St. Martin Center, GECAC, and CCCS to support buyer education and counseling, as well as supporting legislative protections for borrowers.	Continue to work with St. Martin Center, MLK Ctr. and the BTW Ctr. to mitigate the impacts of foreclosure by supporting increased buyer education and counseling, as well as supporting legislative protections for borrowers.	St. Martin Center	2015-2019	FY2016 CDBG $25,000	On-going	

SUMMARY OF 2013 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – MARTIN LUTHER KING CENTER

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
13) Foreclosures appear to disproportionately affect minority households in Erie	Mitigation of the impacts of foreclosures on the protected classes	a. Continue to work with St. Martin Center, MLK Center, and the BTW Center to mitigate the impacts of foreclosures by supporting increased buyer education and counseling as well as supporting legislative protections for borrowers.	a. Martin Luther King Center	a. N/A	a. 2011-2014	a. $0	6/30/12	Completed

SUMMARY OF 2013 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – ST. MARTIN'S CENTER

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
3) There exists a continuing need for quality fair housing education, outreach and training, as well as real estate testing.	Increased fair housing awareness among housing providers and residents	b. Effectuate a fair housing outreach and training strategy that is aimed at the most significant need, as determined by testing and tracing the bases and nature of fair housing complaints, with support from local and regional fair housing advocacy organizations.	b. St. Martin's Ctr.	b. Completed fair housing outreach strategy based on real estate testing results by 2014.	b. 2011-2014	b. $240,000	ongoing	Education and outreach is ongoing. However, the testing component tentatively to be done by the ECRHC is not yet in place.
4) Minority households have greater difficulty becoming homeowners in Erie because of lower incomes.	Higher home-ownership rates among minority households.	a. Continue to support the efforts of local fair housing advocates (such as St. Martin's Center) and certified housing counselors to increase homeownership among minorities, residents of LMI census tracts, and LMI residents.	a. St. Martin's Ctr.	a. Ongoing	a. 2011-2014	a. $180,000	ongoing	

SUMMARY OF 2013 FAIR HOUSING GOALS/STRATEGIES – ST. MARTIN'S CENTER – CONTINUED

Impediment to be addressed (List by degree of importance)	Goals (What do you hope to achieve?)	Strategies to meet the goals (How will you achieve your goals?)	Responsible entities assigned to meet goals (Identify the organizations who will be undertaking impediment)	Benchmark (In which year do you plan to achieve this?)	Year to be Completed	Proposed Investment (Amount of money) (Funding Sources)	Date completed	If impediment was not addressed, provide an explanation as to why and when
5) Refugees and migrant workers may have greater difficulty obtaining decent, affordable housing due to little or no credit history and/or references from previous landlords.	Increased access to decent, affordable housing for refugees and migrant workers.	a. Continue to support housing counseling centers and local service providers, such as St. Martins' Center, to provide additional financial management education and credit counseling, in particular for refugees and migrant worker populations.	a. St. Martins' Ctr.	a. Ongoing	a. 2011-2014	a. $180,000	ongoing	
12) Mortgage loan denials and high-cost lending disproportionately affect minority applicants.	Elimination of mortgage discrimination	a. Continue to engage HUD-certified housing counselors to target credit repair education through existing advocacy organizations that work extensively with minorities.	a. St. Martin's Ctr.	a. Ongoing	a. 2011-2014	a. $30,000	ongoing	
13) Foreclosures appear to disproportionately affect minority households in Erie	Mitigation of impacts of foreclosures on the protected classes	a. Continue to work with St. Martin's Ctr, MLK Ctr, and the BTW Ctr. to mitigate the impacts of foreclosure by supporting increased buyer education and counseling, as well as supporting legislative protections for borrowers	a. St. Martin's Ctr.	a. N/A	a. 2011-2014	a. $300,000	ongoing	

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Affirmative Marketing Policy

City of Erie

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS (HOME) PROGRAM
AFFIRMATIVE MARKETING POLICY AND PROCDURES

STATEMENT OF POLICY:

In accordance with the Regulations of the Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program as defined in 24 CFR Part 92 Final Rule dated September 16, 1996 Subpart 92.351, as amended, and as subject to federal regulations, including 2 CFR 200, as may be amended, and in furtherance of the City of Erie commitment to non-discrimination and equal opportunity in housing, the City of Erie establishes procedures to affirmatively market units created under the HOME Program. This policy applies to rental and homeownership development projects containing five (5) or more HOME-assisted units funded through the City of Erie's HOME Program. The procedures are intended to further the objectives of the Federal Fair Housing Act or Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Executive Order 11063, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) final rule entitled *Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity* dated March 5, 2012.

Housing funded by the City of Erie's HOME Program shall not involve discrimination against any individual or family otherwise eligible for HUD-assisted housing, including housing acquired, rented or rehabilitated with HOME funds. Property owners and property managers of HOME funded properties must make housing available without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, national origin, disability and familial status. Property owners and property managers of HUD-assisted housing are prohibited from inquiring into an applicant or occupant's sexual orientation and gender identity for the purpose of determining eligibility or otherwise making housing available.

Family includes, but is not limited to marital status, actual or perceived sexual orientation, or gender identity, the following: (1) A single person, who may be an elderly person, displaced person, disabled person, near-elderly person, or any other single person; or (2) A group of persons residing together, and such group includes, but is not limited to: (a) a family with or without children (a child who is temporarily away from the home because of placement in foster care is considered a member of the family); (b) an elderly family; (c) a near-elderly family; (d) a disabled family; (e) a displaced family; and (f) the remaining member of a tenant family. *Gender identity* means actual or perceived gender-related characteristics. *Sexual orientation* means homosexuality, heterosexuality, or bisexuality.

Property owners/developers selected for participation in the HOME Program must comply with the City of Erie's HOME Affirmative Marketing Policy and Procedure requirements throughout the HOME Affordability Period when developing rental projects and for the period of the initial property conveyance for homebuyer projects. The "Affordability Period" is five years when the amount of HOME funds invested per HOME-Assisted unit is less than $15,000; ten years when the amount is between $15,000 and $40,000; fifteen years when the amount is greater than $40,000; or twenty years if the development project included new construction of rental housing. These requirements are included in the HOME Loan/Grant Agreement in the form of lien or deed restrictions. Failure to carry out the Agreement could make an owner ineligible to participate in the HOME Program with future projects.

The City of Erie is committed to the goals of affirmative marketing which will be implemented as part of the HOME Program through a specific set of steps that the City and participating owners/developers will follow. These goals will be achieved through the following procedures:

1. Informing the public, potential tenants, and owners about Federal fair housing laws and affirmative marketing policy.

The City of Erie will inform the public, potential tenants and homebuyers, and property developers/owners about this policy and Federal fair housing laws as follows:

- Inform the general public about Federal fair housing laws and the City of Erie's HOME Affirmative Marketing Policy by placing information on the City's Website within the Department of Economic and Community Development Webpage that describes the HOME Program.

- Make copies of the HOME Affirmative Marketing Policy and Procedure document available at the City's Economic and Community Development Office.

- Inform potential participants by providing informational flyers about the HOME Program.

- Inform property owners who will participate in the program by mail, e-mail or in person.

2. Requirement for developers/owners to inform the general renter/potential homebuyer public about available rehabilitated or newly constructed units.

It is the City of Erie's policy to require substantial steps by HOME project owners/ developers to carry out affirmative marketing. Owners/developers should provide for costs associated with these requirements in their planned development budgets and/or operating budgets.

Developers/owners must include the Equal Housing Opportunity logo, or slogan ("Equal Housing Opportunity"), in all marketing/advertising materials and/or notices posted and/or sent to community organizations.

If it is feasible to advertise in advance of selecting a tenant/homebuyer, without holding units off the market, property owners will be required to provide information on the availability of units known through:

- Advertisements in the local newspapers, if the owner ordinarily advertises available rentals/homeownership units in news media. (In addition to hard copy newspaper advertisements, owners may choose to use the Internet by advertising in the *rent.com* website for available rental units and by advertising in the *realtor.com* website for available homeownership units. <u>However, the use of Internet advertising shall not replace the use of advertising in the local newspapers.</u>

- Notifying the Housing Authority of the City of Erie and requesting that staff inform applicants on its waiting list about upcoming units.

3. Special Outreach

In order to inform as well as solicit applications from persons in the housing market area who are not likely to apply for units without special outreach, the City of Erie has established methods property developers/owners must use in order to reach this objective. The City of Erie has identified three segments of its housing population who might not apply for units without special outreach. They are Hispanics, refugees and migrant workers.

Having identified these three segments of our population, we require that owners/ developers use special outreach methods as follows:

- Owners who do not ordinarily advertise in the news media must contact, at a minimum, one of the following organizations in the City of Erie that have rental/homeownership unit information available to clients:

International Institute
of Erie
517 East 26th Street
Erie, PA 16504
(814) 452-3935
www.refugees.org

St. Martin Center
1701 Parade Street
Erie, PA 16503
(814) 452-6113
www.stmartincenter.org

7E7
7 East 7th Street
Erie, PA 16501
(814) 453-3333
www.7E7-erie.org

Multicultural
Resource Center
554 East 10th Street
Erie, PA 16503
(814) 453-2363
www.mcrcerie.org

Multi-Cultural Health
Evaluation Delivery
Systems, Inc.(MHEDS)
2928 Peach Street
Erie, PA 16508
(814) 453-6229
www.mheds.org

4. Recordkeeping

The City of Erie will require that owners keep records on:

1. The sex, race and ethnicity characteristics of tenants and applicants during the initial post-construction lease up period and for all rental vacancies thereafter throughout the HOME Affordability Period.

2. The sex, race and ethnicity of homebuyers and applicants during the construction period and thereafter until all homebuyer units are sold.

3. Activities they undertake to inform the general public, specifically.

- Advertisements in local newspapers, if the owner ordinarily advertises available units in news media.
- The placement of flyers describing the availability of units in various Career Link Offices and Housing Authority of the City of Erie offices, since lower income persons who may seek housing often use the services of these agencies.
- Notifying the Housing Authority of the City of Erie and requesting that staff inform applicants on its waiting list about upcoming units.

4. Activities they undertake for special outreach, specifically:

- Copies of advertisements placed in the newspaper.
- Date of contacts with copies of letters/notices/emails to the local **NAACP,** the **City of Erie** Fair Housing Officer, and the **Housing Authority of the City of Erie** and corrective action.

5. Performance Assessment

The affirmative marketing efforts of property developers/owners will be assessed annually by the City of Erie Fair Housing Officer as follows:

1. To determine if good faith efforts have been made on the part of the owner, the City will examine affirmative marketing records that owners are required to maintain in accordance with this policy.
2. To determine results, the City will assess property owner's affirmative marketing efforts in relation to whether or not persons from the variety of racial and ethnic groups in our area, and in particular African Americans, Whites and Hispanics, have in fact applied for and/or become tenants/homeowners in the rehabilitated/ newly constructed units.

If the representation of racial/ethnic groups is not broad or the identified groups are not represented, the City will review the affirmative marketing procedures to determine what changes, if any, might be made to make the affirmative marketing efforts more effective in informing persons in all groups about rental and homeownership opportunities.

Property owners, the Housing Authority of the City of Erie, and staff of the Erie Redevelopment Authority will also ask property developers/owners for their analysis and suggestions concerning our affirmative marketing policy and procedure requirements.

6. Corrective Action

The City of Erie will take corrective action if we find that an owner fails to carry out the required procedures or fails to maintain the records on tenants/homeowners and applicants in accordance with this policy. (24 CFR 92.351).

If problems are identified, the City will discuss ways to improve owner's efforts prior to taking corrective actions.

As an initial step, the City may require owners with rental vacancies to notify the City of Erie's Housing and Property Management Division immediately upon learning that a unit will become vacant. Owners may be asked to provide this information as close to 30 days prior to the upcoming vacancy as possible. The Housing and Property Management Division staff will then be able to verify on a "spot check" basis if these owners are following the prescribed procedures.

The City will carry out its assessment activities, and prepare a written assessment of affirmative marketing efforts to submit a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to HUD.

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HOME Investment Partnership Recapture Policy and Resale Policy

CITY OF ERIE, PA
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HOME Program)
RESALE/RECAPTURE POLICY

The City of Erie, PA provides HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds for various eligible HOME activities on an annual basis in order to provide for the sale of housing units to income qualified homebuyers in the City. Listed below is the City's Resale/Recapture Policy under the HOME program. This policy complies with the HOME Program regulations at 24 CFR Part 92.254.

Under the HOME Program, there are certain requirements that must be placed on the properties by means of deed restrictions or a recorded note and mortgage. **The City formally chooses, as required by the HOME Program regulations, to enforce the HOME period of affordability via the recapture method.** The recapture policy will be in effect for a time frame equal to the period of affordability as described by the HOME Program regulations at 24 CFR Part 92.254(a)(5). Homebuyers who receive under $15,000 in HOME funds will have a minimum affordability of five (5) years. Homebuyers who receive $15,000 to $40,000 in HOME funds will have a minimum affordability period of ten (10) years, and homebuyers who receive over $40,000 in HOME funds will have a minimum affordability period of fifteen (15) years. The effective date of the beginning of the required period is the date all completed data is entered into IDIS and as documented by a fully-executed HUD-1 homebuyers and/or homeowner's file or mortgage loan.

The federal assistance will be provided in the form of a 1% interest per annum, compounded deferred payment loan (DPL), and will be secured by a HOME Written Agreement, fully executed and dated by all applicable parties and a Promissory Note which will be recorded in the Recorded Deeds records of Erie County. Under "**Recapture**", if the home is **SOLD** prior to the end of the required affordability period [the homebuyer or the property owner may sell to any willing buyer at any price] a portion of the net sales proceeds from the sale, if any, will be returned to the city to be used for other HOME-eligible activities.

The form of recapture to be used by the City shall be "a sharing of net proceeds." Sharing of net proceeds is defined as the sales price of the property LESS the outstanding mortgage debt owed to the primary lender LESS the homeowner's contribution of the initial down payment. Net proceeds will be shared between the City of Erie and the homeowner based on an annual pro-rata share during the term of affordability if the title of the property is changed before the period of affordability. For example, if the property were to sell in year 1 of the affordability period, and the affordability period was 5 years, then the City would receive 100% of the net proceeds of the HOME funds invested, and the homeowner would receive any balance. If the property were sold in year 2, the City would receive 80% and homeowner would receive 20%. If the property were sold in year 3, the City would receive 60% and homeowner would receive 40%. If the property were sold in year 4, the City would receive 40% and homeowner would receive 60%. If the property were sold in year 5, the City would receive 20% and homeowner would receive 80%. Hence, for a project that has an affordability period of 5 years, after year 5 there would be no sharing of net proceeds. The homeowner would keep 100% of the sale proceeds. These provisions will be enforced through a recorded note and mortgage on the property at the time of the HOME investment into the project. See example on last page.

In HOME-assisted homebuyer projects, the affordability restrictions imposed by deed restrictions, covenants running with the land, or other similar mechanisms may terminate upon foreclosure, transfer in lieu of foreclosure or assignment of an FHA insured mortgage to HUD. The City may use purchase options, rights of first refusal or other preemptive rights to purchase the housing before foreclosure to preserve affordability. However, the affordability restrictions must be revived according to the original terms if, during the original affordability period, the owner of record before the termination event, obtains an ownership interest in the housing.

In addition, the termination of the affordability restrictions in the event of foreclosure, transfer in lieu of foreclosure or assignment of an FHA insured mortgage to HUD, does not satisfy the requirement that the property remains qualified as affordable housing under §92.254 for the period of affordability. Consequently, the following rules apply to HOME-assisted homebuyer projects in the event of foreclosure, transfer in lieu of foreclosure or assignment of an FHA insured mortgage to HUD.

1. Resale Policy [24 CFR 92.254(a)(5)(i)]

The resale deed restriction will be utilized for HOME-assisted units which: (1) the homebuyer does not receive direct downpayment, closing cost, principal buydown assistance, or a reduction of the sales price to make the unit(s) affordable from the City or other entity, or (2) the City has elected to use the "Resale Provisions" instead of the "Recapture Provisions".

The **Resale Provision** ensures that a HOME-assisted property remains affordable during the **entire** affordability period. The affordability period is based on the amount of HOME funds invested as a development subsidy, as applicable, by the 1st mortgage. The City has elected to use "Resale" rather than "Recapture" to assure the unit is affordable to a household at or below 80% of AMI for the Erie metropolitan statistical area. The effective date of the beginning of the required period of affordability is the **date all completion data is entered into IDIS**, and as documented by the fully executed HUD 1, a copy of which has been placed in each homebuyer's or homeowner's file (project owner's file, if a rental). If there are instances where a HUD-1 is not executed (e.g., the 1st mortgage loan is being carried by the City or other entity), the second soft mortgage replacing the HUD-1. The homebuyer or homeowner may sell the property after the expiration of the required affordability period without any restrictions.

The **"Resale Provision"** goes into effect when the home is sold during the affordability period. At the time of sale, the following provisions will be in effect:

i. In instances where the home has been rented or leased, refinanced, or the initial homebuyer (or homeowner) is no longer physically occupying the property as his/her/their principal residence, the **entire amount of the HOME assistance provided** shall be immediately due and payable to the City.

ii. If the property does not meet the affordability requirements for the compliance period, the **entire amount of the HOME Investment** must be repaid to the City **HOME Treasury Account. [24 CFR 92.504(b)(1); and HOMEfires – Vol. 5 No. 2, June 2003; Section 219(b) of the HOME Statute; and §92.503(b)(1)].**

In the event there is no Direct Subsidy and the city must use the Resale Provision, the housing must be made available to an income-qualified buyer who will use the property as their primary

residence. The price at resale must provide a fair return on investment to the owner. The fair return on investment will include a percentage change equal to the percentage change in the median sales prices over the period of ownership. If no change has occurred, but rehabilitation, improvements, and/or capital investments have been made to the housing, the value of the improvements will be determined by the Erie County Bureau of Assessment and shall be accounted for in the net proceeds to the seller.

2. Recapture

Homebuyer housing with a recapture agreement is not subject to the affordability requirements after the City has recaptured the HOME funds in accordance with its written agreement. If the ownership of the housing is conveyed pursuant to a foreclosure or other involuntary sale, the City will attempt to recoup any net proceeds that may be available through the foreclosure sale. Because all recapture provisions must be limited to net proceeds, the City's repayment obligation is limited to the amount of the HOME subsidy, if any, that it is able to recover.

Refinancing

The City of Erie will only consider refinancing of the mortgage if the amount to be refinanced is the amount that was originally borrowed, and the interest rate is lower.

Investment of Additional HOME Funds

The HOME rule at §92.254(a)(9) of the HOME rule provides the City with the flexibility to invest additional HOME funds in homebuyer projects to preserve affordability. As noted above, when faced with foreclosure, The City may use additional HOME funds to acquire the housing through a purchase option, right of first refusal, or other preemptive right to ensure affordability is preserved. The City may also use HOME funds to rehabilitate any housing acquired through foreclosure. If the City will charge such costs as eligible project costs in accordance with §92.206, the total amount of the original HOME investment, plus any additional HOME investment, cannot exceed the maximum per-unit subsidy limit in §92.250.

The City also has the option of charging acquisition, rehabilitation, and holding costs as a reasonable HOME administrative cost in accordance with §92.207 of the HOME rule. If the City charges these costs as reasonable administrative expenses, the investment of additional HOME funds is not subject to the maximum per-unit subsidy limit, and the City can reimburse its administrative account, in whole or in part, once the housing is sold to a new eligible homebuyer.

Additional HOME funds may also be used to provide assistance to another eligible homebuyer following either the City's acquisition of a foreclosed unit or a sale of a unit under resale or recapture provisions during the period of affordability. If the City provides HOME assistance to another eligible HOME buyer, the additional HOME investment must be treated as an amendment to the original project. Consequently, the additional HOME investment may extend the original period of affordability. For example, if the original HOME investment was $10,000 and resulted in a five year period of affordability, the addition of another $10,000 to a subsequent homebuyer would extend the period of affordability to ten years. As noted above, the original HOME investment plus any additional HOME investment cannot exceed the maximum per unit subsidy since the cost of assisting a subsequent homebuyer is a project-specific cost.

At the City's option, it may choose to use the resale options provided in 24 CFR 94.254(a)(5).

EXAMPLE: ***Shared Net Proceeds***

In this option, the HOME rule states that if the net proceeds are not sufficient to recapture the entire HOME investment or a reduced amount as described above, plus enable the homebuyer to recover the amount of the downpayment and any investment in the form of capital improvements made by the homebuyer since purchase, the City may share the net proceeds. In practice, this approach has been the most widely used model and has been applied to all recapture situations, not just insufficient net proceeds. Shared net proceeds, in combination with the pro rata reduction over time, is the most commonly used approach.

- To calculate the amount of net proceeds (or shared appreciation) to be returned to the City:

$$\frac{\text{Direct HOME Subsidy}}{\text{Direct HOME Subsidy + Homebuyer Investment}} \times \text{Net Proceeds} = \text{HOME Recapture}$$

- To calculate the amount of net proceeds (or shared appreciation) available to the homebuyer:
  - Divide the homebuyer's investment by the sum of the direct HOME subsidy and the homebuyer's investment.
  - Multiply by the net proceeds to calculate the amount of homebuyer investment to return to the homebuyer.

$$\frac{\text{Homebuyer Investment}}{\text{Direct HOME Subsidy + Homebuyer Investment}} \times \text{Net Proceeds} = \text{Amount to Homebuyer}$$

A homebuyer received $10,000 in HOME downpayment assistance and provided $2,000 of her own funds for the downpayment. She invested another $3,000 on capital improvements to the property and is selling the home after two years. The City structured its recapture provisions to share the net proceeds with the HOME-assisted homebuyer. In this example, the net proceeds of the sale are $5,000. Using the two formulas above, the amount of the net proceeds to be recaptured by the City is $3,333.

$$\frac{\$10{,}000}{(\$10{,}000 + \$5{,}000)} \times \$5{,}000 = \$3{,}333$$

The amount of the net proceeds to be recovered by the homebuyer is $1,667.

$$\frac{\$5{,}000}{(\$10{,}000 + \$5{,}000)} \times \$5{,}000 = \$1{,}667$$

All subrecipients, CHDO's or other Entities who will be providing Homebuyer Assistance will adhere to the City of Erie's Resale/Recapture Policy.

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Emergency Solutions Grant Guidelines

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT GUIDELINES

Updated 6/30/2016

(WRITTEN STANDARDS FOR PROVIDING ASSISTANCE)

Introduction

The City of Erie is a direct entitlement under the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) as established under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition Housing Act of 2009.

The City distributed Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding to the following Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing facility providers:

Community Shelter Services
SafeNet
Mercy Center for Women
City Mission
The Refuge
Community of Caring
St. Patrick's Haven

The City has built partnerships with these providers over the past 20+ years and requests each provider apply for continued funding annually. Applications are by request only.

The City also selected a Rapid Re-housing provider that has ample experience delivering case management services and disbursing financial assistance to clients.

All subrecipients are required to be members of the CoC.

Currently, the City allocates funding to the Emergency Shelter/Transitional facility providers based upon the ratio of the daily average number of beds provided per facility to the daily average provided by all facilities, times the amount of ESG funds available for emergency shelter activities.

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EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT
WRITTEN STANDARDS

I. Evaluation of Eligibility

Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Homeless Assistance

Individual shelters and transitional facilities will develop their own intake guidelines for applicants. However, at a minimum, their guidelines must ensure conditions stated in this section.

In order to receive Emergency Solutions (ESG) assistance at Emergency Shelters or Transitional Facilities, agencies must complete the following steps:

1) The subrecipient must conduct an initial evaluation to determine if each individual or family is eligible for ESG assistance and what amount and type of assistance the individual or family needs to regain stability in permanent housing. These evaluations must be conducted in accordance with the centralized or coordinated assessment requirements set forth under §576.400(d) and the written standards established under §576.400(e). 24 CFR 576.4 makes the following requirements:
    - Subrecipient must use the standards of the community-wide HMIS reporting tool for participants. (Providers for victims exempt).
    - Subrecipients must consistently apply the same standards for all program participants.
    - Subrecipients must follow all written standards listed in this section in accordance with regulations.

2) The subrecipient must obtain the appropriate required **homeless documentation** and the appropriate required **income documentation** to determine the participant's initial income. Income may not exceed 30% of the area median income. (See Section II for required homeless documentation.)

3) Additionally, individual subrecipients will assess and prioritize the essential needs of all clients and must make the appropriate recommendations and/or referrals. (See Section V, Coordination among Agencies.)

Rapid Re-Housing Recipients

Rapid Re-Housing recipients must be referred to the Rapid Re-Housing provider by Continuum of Care (CoC) agencies. In order to be referred, the CoC referring agency must complete the following steps:

1.) Secure participant's required source documentation for income,
2.) Secure required source documentation for homelessness,
3.) Obtain required demographics,
4.) Complete the appropriate required income form to ensure participant is at or below 30% of area median income, and

5.) Secure the required Release of Information between Rapid Re-Housing Partnering Agencies form for client.

Rapid Re-Housing assistance will be used to assist homeless individuals/families. Clients must have not received assistance within the past twelve months and meet one or more of the HUD ESG definitions below:

1) A family or individual that lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

   (i) The primary nighttime residence is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;

   (ii) Living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements; or

   (iii) An individual exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.

2) Any individual or family who: (i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence; (ii) Has no other residence; and (iii) Lacks the resources or support networks, *e.g.,* family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.

If a client has received services within the past 12 months, but their situation has changed and their CoC caseworker feels they now will benefit from the rapid re-housing service, a waiver must be approved by three CoC executive committee members of which one member must be the Erie County representative and one member must be the City of Erie representative.

Note: Funding MAY NOT be used to keep participants in their current housing. It must be used to pay a portion of the security deposit and up to three months' rent on a new housing unit. Any deviation from this standard will require a waiver from three CoC executive committee members of which one member must be the Erie County representative and one member must be the City of Erie representative.

If the participant meets all of the requirements above, the referring agency may then refer client to the rapid re-housing provider and share information with that provider. Documentation for each client must be maintained for a minimum of five years after the grant term has expired.

For the Rapid Re-Housing Program, regulations require subrecipients re-evaluate participant's eligibility and the types and amounts of assistance the participant needs not less than once every 12 months. Re-evaluation must establish that:

- The participant does not have an annual income that exceeds 30 percent of median family income for the area.

- The participant lacks sufficient resources and support networks necessary to retain housing.

Note: This will not affect most participants as assistance is limited to a security deposit and the first three months rent.

The subrecipient may require each rapid re-housing participant to notify the subrecipient regarding changes in their income or other circumstances that affect the need for assistance. When notified of a relevant change, the subrecipient must re-evaluate the participant's eligibility.

All recipients of rapid re-housing funding must provide a lease agreement to the rapid re-housing provider.

II. Documentation of Homelessness

Subrecipients are required to maintain documentation of the applicant's homelessness status in order to determine their eligibility. The documentation is typically obtained from a third party at the time of referral, entry, intake or orientation. The documentation should be maintained for a minimum of five (5) years after the grant period has expired.

The applicant must be homeless. A person is considered homeless only when he/she resides in one of the places described below:

- In places not meant for human habitation such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, on the street;
- In transitional or supportive housing for homeless persons who *originally* came from the streets or emergency shelters;
- In any of the above places but is spending a short time (up to 90 consecutive days) in a hospital or other institution;
- Is being evicted within a week *and* the person lacks the resources to obtain housing;
- Is being discharged within a week from an institution in which the person has been a resident for more than 30 consecutive days *and* the person lacks the resources and support to obtain housing;
- Is fleeing a domestic violence housing situation *and* lacks the resources and support networks to obtain housing.

The order of priority for obtaining evidence of homeless status is the following: 1) third-party documentation, 2) intake worker observations, and 3) certification from the person seeking assistance. However, lack of third-party documentation must not prevent an individual or family from being immediately admitted to emergency shelter or receiving services by a victim service provider. Records contained in an HMIS or comparable database used by victim or legal service providers are acceptable evidence of third-party documentation. Intake worker observations are also acceptable if the HMIS retains an auditable history of all entries.

The following homeless documentation must be maintained in the client's file:

<u>For a person living on the street or in short-term emergency shelter:</u>

- Names of organizations or outreach workers who have assisted them in the past.
- General assistance checks and where the checks are delivered, if applicable.
- Any other information regarding the participant's activities in the recent past that might provide documentation.
- If unable to verify that the person is living on the street, the participant or staff person may prepare a short written statement about the participant's previous living place and have participant sign and date.

<u>For a person coming from transitional housing for homeless persons</u>:

- Written verification from the transitional housing staff signed and dated by the referring agency personnel.

<u>For a person being evicted from a private dwelling</u>:

- Formal eviction notice (within a week).
- Information on the participant's income and efforts made to obtain housing.

- If family evicting, a statement describing the reason for the eviction must be signed by the family member and dated. If this is not available, then subrecipient must obtain a signed and dated statement from the participant describing the situation. Subrecipients must make efforts to confirm.

For a person from a short-term stay (up to 30 consecutive days) in an institution who previously resided on the street or in an emergency shelter:

- Written verification from the institution's staff that participant has been residing in the institution for less than 31 days, and information on previous living situation.

For a person being discharged from a longer stay in an institution:

- Evidence of discharge within a week from the institution's staff.
- Income of the participant, what efforts were made to obtain housing and why, without the assistance, the participant would be living on the street or in a shelter.

For a person fleeing domestic violence:

- Written verification from the participant that he/she is fleeing a domestic violence situation, signed and dated.

III. Street Outreach

The City will not provide funding for Street Outreach Services.

IV. Referral, Length of Stay

Referrals

Subrecipients must assist each program participant, as needed, to obtain:

- Appropriate supportive services, including assistance in obtaining permanent housing, medical health treatment, mental health treatment, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living, and
- Other Federal, State, local and private assistance available to assist the participant in obtaining housing stability, including:
    1) Medicaid
    2) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (7 CFR Parts 271-283)
    3) Women, Infants and Children (WIC) (7 CFR Part 246)
    4) Federal-State Unemployment Insurance Program (20 CFR Parts 601-603, 606, 609, 614-617, 625, 640, 650)
    5) Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) (20 CFR Part 404)
    6) Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (20 CFR Part 416)
    7) Child and Adult Care Food Program (42 U.S.C. 1766(t)(7 CFR Part 226))
    8) Other assistance available under the programs listed in §576.400(c)

Subrecipients must coordinate, to the maximum extent practical, with other programs targeted to homeless people to provide a strategic, community-wide system to prevent and end homelessness. These programs include:

- Shelter Care Plus
- Supportive Housing Programs
- Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program for Single Room Occupancy for Homeless Individuals
- Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
- Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grants
- Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals
- Healthcare for the Homeless
- Programs for Runaway and Homeless Youth
- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness
- Services in Supportive Housing Grants
- Emergency Food and Shelter Programs
- Transitional Housing for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Programs
- Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program
- Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans Program
- VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program
- Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program
- Homeless Veterans Dental Program
- Supportive Services for Veterans' Families Programs
- Veterans Justice Outreach Initiatives
- Public Housing
- Tenant-based or Project-based Housing Assistance Programs
- TANF
- Head Start
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grants
- Workforce Investment Act Services

Additionally, policies and procedures must be consistent with the definitions of homelessness at 24 CFR 576.2 and the recordkeeping requirements of 24 CFR 576.500 (b), (c), (d), and (e).

Length of Stay

Subrecipients must ensure program participants continually work toward securing permanent housing. Under no circumstances shall a client exceed the two-year maximum stay period. Individual subrecipients will set their own discharge policies and procedures. However, all subrecipients must have a grievance process and written procedures in place. Program participants must be informed of the grievance procedures.

V. Coordination Among Agencies

ESG recipients are required to be members in and actively participate in the CoC.

For Rapid Re-Housing, coordination among agencies will be directed by the Erie CoC. Referrals for services must come from CoC members. In order to obtain services, **clients must sign a release of information** form so the referring agency may release files to the Rapid Re-housing provider. Members that refer clients must continue providing the services they were providing at the time of the referral up until the client secures housing. CoC members will evaluate the affects of the program and report problems or concerns at the CoC general membership meeting which meets every other month.

Coordination with the CoC membership integrates the proposed program with other homeless programs and mainstream housing and service providers listed in 576.400 (b) and (c) through its diverse membership.

For discussions regarding all ESG Guideline changes, the City will consult the CoC Executive Committee or the General Membership. The City will continue to require a homeless or a formerly homeless CoC member review all updates.

Should that individual be absent from a review by any of the CoC committees, the City will seek this individual's input in addition to the CoC input.

VI. Determining Participants to Receive Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Services

The City of Erie has elected not to provide Homeless Prevention Services at this time. Additionally, Rapid Re-Housing Services will be provided to those homeless participants that are referred to the Rapid Re-Housing provider by CoC members.

The Rapid Re-Housing provider will make the determination as to the rapid re-housing funding to be distributed to the participant. Participants may receive a portion of the security deposit and first three months rent.

VII. Amount of Financial Assistance

The maximum amount a program participant can receive is $2,000, however this amount should not be considered the normal amount. The Rapid Re-Housing caseworker must review the amount of the required security deposit and accompanying three months rent for cost reasonableness.

Clients must provide $100 of the security deposit in order to receive assistance. The program will pay the balance of the security deposit and up to three month's rent for the participant. The portion of the rent to be paid will be determined by the rapid re-housing provider staff. Factors to consider in determining the amount of rent to be paid will be as follows:

- The monthly rent amount
- The client's current assets
- The client's current monthly income
- Any changes in the client's income, employment, status while receiving assistance
- The overall demand of the program
- Other assistance the participant is receiving (total monthly assistance the participant is receiving from all sources shall never exceed the total monthly rent)

Clients will be required to inform the rapid re-housing provider if their status changes, and additional evaluations may be requested. Typically, clients receive one evaluation only, as none will exceed the regulatory one-year period.

Participants may receive funding for the partial payment of a security deposit and up to three months rent one time. Once the participant receives funding for a security deposit, he/she is ineligible to receive funding for another security deposit or rent on a different unit. The participant can receive a waiver one time to this requirement if he/she did not secure or remain in housing though no fault of their own. This condition will require a waiver from three CoC executive committee members of which one member must be the Erie County representative and one member must be the City of Erie representative.

The City of Erie will use these written standards as initial guidelines for the ESG grant and will continue to refine these standards as the community, and in particular the CoC, adapts and further develops strategies and new best practices.

VIII. Reporting and Retention of Records

Subrecipients will be required to submit monthly Direct Benefit Reports by the 5th of every month and year-end final reports by July 15th of each year to the City of Erie Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

Client files and program records must be maintained for a minimum of five (5) years after the grant period has expired.

Subrecipients must make records available to the Grantee as requested for monitoring purposes.

IX. Performance and HMIS Standards

The City developed performance standards that everyone should have safe, decent housing and living conditions. These standards were discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on March 5, 2012, and the Home Team Meeting on March 8, 2012. These standards were approved at the March 8, 2012 meeting.

Subrecipients will track the following performance standards:

1. The number of individuals and families that secure housing through the use of the rapid re-housing partial security deposit and first three months rent.
2. The number of months that the individual/family was homeless before receiving the rapid re-housing funding.
3. The number of exceptions to the rules granted by the executive committee and the conditions/reasons for the exception.

Funding for the operation and administration of HMIS will entail what is required for reporting purposes in quarterly e-snaps reports, Action Plan and CAPER. Project Hope Outreach is the designated component connected with management information for Erie County. The outreach workers maintain up-to-date information on social services available to the homeless.

Erie County's Homeless Management Information System is an electronic web-based database application. The HMIS-Erie system is administered by the Executive Director and the IT Manager of the Erie United Methodist Alliance. The system is accessible to all participating homeless service providers and other community-based programs that have been issued authorized log-ons and have participated in one-on-one user training. The system provides data collection, client tracking, bed availability, identification of gaps or duplications in services, unduplicated counts of homeless individuals and families (including the compilation of chronic individuals), and formulates reports required by funding sources and community planning.

X. Termination/Grievance

Subrecipients may terminate assistance provided by ESG-funded activities to participants who violate program requirements.

Subrecipients must have termination and grievance policies and procedures that describe the program requirements, termination process, and grievance procedure.

Subrecipients must effectively communicate the termination and grievance procedures to participants and ensure that the procedures are fully understood, either with written information or by posting the policy in a public place.

CITY OF ERIE
2016 SECOND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan

GRANTEE UNIQUE
ATTACHMENTS

MBE/WBE ordinance

C I T Y C O U N C I L O F E R I E

INTRODUCED BY: Miss Joyce A. Savocchio

COUNCIL FILE NO. 13,505 OFFICIAL ORDINANCE NO. 63-1985

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE

An ordinance establishing goals for the participation of bona fide Minority and Female owned businesses in the awarding of City contracts, for public works construction, equipment, materials, supplies and services expanding the duties of the Contract Compliance Officer; providing procedures and penalties to monitor and enforce compliance.

WHEREAS, the City of Erie is committed to a policy of providing equal employment opportunity on public contracts and prohibiting discrimination based on race, religion, color, sex or national origin or ancestry; and

WHEREAS, the population of the City of Erie consists of people of every race, color, religion, and national origin or ancestry; and

WHEREAS, the City has a vital and compelling interest in initiating positive practices in the expenditure of public funds to promote the general welfare of the City and to make possible the achievement of these laudable purposes; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Erie share a committment to the eradication of present manifestations of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the City of Erie declares that it serves a public purpose and is of benefit to the City to promote and encourage minority business concerns;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ERIE:

Section I. Definitions:

a) The words "discriminate", "discriminates", and "discrimination" wherever used in this ordinance are hereby defined as distinguish, differentiate, separate or segregate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, national origin or ancestry.

b) The word "contractor" wherever used in this ordinance is hereby defined as any person, partnership, corporation, association, or joint venture which has been awarded a public contract, and includes every subcontractor on such a contract.

c) the word "subcontractor" wherever used in this ordinance is hereby defined as any person, partnership, corporation, association, or joint venture which supplies any of the work, labor, supplies, equipment, materials or any combination of the foregoing under a contract with the contractor on a public contract.

d) The words "public contract" wherever used in this ordinance are hereby defined as any contract awarded by the City whereby the City is committed to expend or does expend public funds in return for work, labor, services, supplies, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing, or any lease, lease by way of concession agreement, permit or permit agreement whereby the City leases, grants or demises property of the City of Erie or otherwise grants a right or privileges to occupy or use property of the City of Erie.

e) The term "construction contract" wherever used in this ordinance means any public contract for the construction, rehabilitation, alteration, conversion, extension, or repair of buildings, streets, or other improvements to real property.

f) A bona fide Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) shall mean a business enterprise, whether a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, association or joint venture:

1) wherein at least fifty-one (51%) percent of which is owned by minority group members and no part of its ownership, operation and control is in the hands of the respective prime contractor of the relevant City contract;

2) wherein minority group members share in the risks and profits of the enterprise to the extent of their individual holdings;

3) wherein minority group members participation in the business is active, as opposed to passive, and such participation is not dependant on the consent of non-minority group members who may also have holdings in the business enterprise; and

4) wherein the business enterprise has experience in the area to which it claims expertise.

g) A bona fide Female Business Enterprise (FBE) shall mean

1) a sole proprietorship where the sole proprietor is a female; or

2) a business corporation where fifty-one (51%) of the interests in such corporation are beneficially owned by females and females occupy the majority of management and Board positions and control all decisions concerning the corporation; or

3) a partnership where fifty-one (51%) of the partnership interests in such partnership are owned by females and females occupy the majority of management and partnership positions and control all decisions concerning the entity; or

4) any other business or professional entity where fifty-one percent (51%) of the interests are owned by females and females occupy the majority of management and Board positions and control all decisions concerning the entity.

h) The term "minority" shall include Blacks, Hispanic-Americans, Asian-Americans, American Indians and American Aleuts.

i) The word "bidder" wherever used in this ordinance is hereby defined as any person, partnership, corporation, association, or joint venture seeking to be awarded a public contract and/or construction contract.

j) The word "City" wherever used in this ordinance refers to the City of Erie.

k) The words "public funds" wherever used in this ordinance shall mean any monies expended by the City of Erie from its own general funds or from State or Federal sources.

Section II. Application:

This ordinance shall apply to contracts, contractors and subcontractors who perform City of Erie contracts in an amount of Ten Thousand ($10,000.00) Dollars or more.

Section III. Contract Compliance Officer:

In addition to his/her current duties the City's Contract Compliance Officer shall have the authority and responsibility to:

a) ascertain, within ninety (90) days of the enactment of this ordinance, the total number of bona fide minority owned businesses in the Erie Metropolitan Statistical area.

b) establish within ninety (90) days of the enactment of this ordinance minimum target goals within each department for bona fide owned business participation to meet the City goals established below:

c) devise within ninety (90) days of the enactment of this ordinance appropriate policies, regulations and procedures for insuring the participation of bona fide minority owned businesses in various City contracts.

d) establish procedures for monitoring and enforcing compliance with this ordinance in cooperation with the Office of the City Solicitor.

e) submit a written semi-annual report to the Mayor and City Council indicating the progress made toward achieving the goals set out below. Said report shall include, but not be limited to a summary of departmental and City contracts let during the relevant periods, and the extent and percentage of minority participation, and recommendations as to appropriate future goals.

f) make all determinations as to compliance with the Minority Business Enterprise Program, and shall meet with said contracting parties for said purposes.

Section IV. Equal Employment Opportunity Clause:

All public contracts hereinafter entered into by the City of Erie shall incorporate an Equal Employment Opportunity Clause, which shall read as follows:

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

1) the contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex or national origin. The contractor shall take affirmative action to insure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, religion, color, sex, or national origin. As used herein, the word "treated" shall mean and include, without limitation, the following: recruited, whether advertising or other means; compensated, whether in the form of rates of pay, or other forms of compensation; selected for training, including apprenticeship; promoted; upgraded; demoted; downgraded; transferred; laid off; and terminated. The contractor agrees to and shall post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the contracting officers setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

2) The contractor shall in all solicitations or advertisements for employees place by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, sex or national origin.

3) The contractor shall send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice advising the labor union or worker's representative of the contractor's committment under the Equal Employment Opportunity Clause of the City of Erie and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

4) The contractor shall furnish all information and reports required by the Contract Compliance Officer and shall permit access to his books, records and accounts by the contracting agency and by the Contract Compliance Officer for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with the program.

5) The contractor shall take such action with respect to any subcontractor as the City may direct as a means of enforcing the provisions of paragraphs 1 through 8 herein, including penalties and sanctions for noncompliance, provided, however, that in the event the contractor becomes involved in or is threatened with liltigation as the result of such direction by the City, the City will enter into such litigation as is necessary to protect the interests of the City to effectuate the City's Equal Employment Opportunity Program and in the case of contracts receiving Federal assistance, the contractor or the City may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

6) The contractor shall file and shall cause his subcontractors, if any, to file compliance reports with the City in the form and to the extent prescribed by the Contract Compliance Officer of the City of Erie. Compliance reports filed at such times as directed shall contain information as to the employment practices, policies, programs and statistics of the contractor and his subcontractors.

7) The contractor shall include the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (8) of this Equal Employment Opportunity clause in every subcontract or purchase order so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

8) Refusal by the contractor or subcontractor to comply with any portion of this program as herein stated and described will subject the offending party to any and all of the following penalties:

(a) Withholding of all future payments under the involved public contract to the contractor in violation until it is determined that the contractor or subcontractor is in compliance with the provisions of the contract;

(b) Refusal of all future bids for any public contract with the City of Erie or any of its departments or divisions until such time as the contractor or subcontractor demonstrates that he has established and shall carry out the policies of the program as herein outlined;

(c) Cancellation of the public contract and declaration of forfeiture of the performance bond;

(d) In cases in which there is substantial or material violation or the threat of substantial or material violation of the compliance procedure or as may be provided for by contract, appropriate proceedings may be brought to enforce those provisions, including the enjoining, within applicable law, of contractors subcontractors, or other organizations, individuals or groups who prevent directly, indirectly, or seek to prevent directly or indirectly, compliance with the policy, as herein outlined.

9) The above outlined procedures shall not apply to any contract already in existence or let out for bid prior to the enactment of this ordinance.

Section V. Contract Compliance Requirements:

All notices to prospective bidders published on behalf of the City shall include as a part of the contract specifications the condition that all bidders will be required to comply with Erie Minority Female Business Enterprise Compliance Program regarding equal employment opportunity.

All reports required herein shall be submitted in duplicate to the department, division or other agency letting the contract.

Each bidder shall file as part of bid documents, contract employment reports with the city contracting agency or as may be directed by the Contract Compliance Officer. Such contract employment reports shall include such information as to the employment practices, policies, programs, and statistics of the contractor, and shall be in such form as the Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Officer may prescribe. Subcontractors shall also submit such contract employment reports to the City before approval by the City as subcontractor.

Section VI. Pre-Award Conference:

Following receipt and review of the employment information submitted by the bidders, and prior to award of a contract, the apparent successful bidder and his known major subcontractor shall be required to attend a pre-award conference if called by the Contract Compliance Officer, at which time such bidder and major subcontractors shall submit affirmative action programs to promote equal opportunity in employment.

The Minority Contract Compliance Officer shall determine whether or not the apparent bidder has complied with this ordinance and shall submit his determination and recommendation thereon to the Mayor or the Director of the department involved.

Section VII. Goals:

The following goals for Minority and Female owned Business participation shall serve as initial goals for the City of Erie to persue during the first full fiscal year. These goals shall not be construed as absolute upper limits on the amount of City contracts such entities are able to participate in. These goals shall be applicable to all types of City contracts. The goals shall be as follows:

Dollar Amount	MBE Goal	FBE Goal
10,000.00 to 20,000.00	5%	1%
20,000.00 to 25,000.00	10%	3%
25,000.00 and up	15%	5%

Section VIII. Severability:

If any section, subsection, clause, sentence or phrase of this Chapter is found to be unlawful by reason of other superior laws of the United States or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, such a determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Chapter. The applicable law in determining the parties rights and liabilities under this Chapter are the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section IX. Conflicting Ordinances:

That all ordinances or parts thereof conflicting herewith shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

Section X. Effective Date:

That this ordinance shall become effective twenty (20) days from final passage and approval by the Mayor.

We do hereby certify that the above ordinance was finally passed by the City Council on October 23, 1985.

SIGNED October 23, 1985

Attest: October 23, 1985

Gerald F. Mifsud
President of Council

James Klemm
City Clerk

THIS ORDINANCE APPROVED THIS 24th DAY OF October, 1985.

Louis J. Tullio
Mayor